

## Examination of the New East Devon Local Plan 2006-26

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By email only

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Dear Mr Freeman,

Thank you for your letter of 30 March.

Given that there was always going to be a consultation exercise relating to the new evidence you have produced and resulting suggested changes to the Local Plan, it makes sense to include all the other proposed changes. Should we proceed to Main Modifications, I envisage only consulting on any further significant changes or amendments to the significant changes<sup>1</sup> set out in the Schedule of Plan Changes<sup>2</sup>. That is because I will have seen all the representations made to the Schedule and it will not be necessary to consult on Main Modifications that have not changed.

Mr Dickins and I have exchanged emails discussing how best to proceed. As promised, to expedite matters and avoid the need for further statements from participants at Hearings that will be held to discuss the evidence relating to housing need and the needs of gypsies and travellers and the proposed new or amended allocations, I have produced a list of questions to guide representors and which will form the basis for the agendas for those hearings.

Mr Dickins suggests producing a separate form for each of my questions. I would be happy with this or with a separate form for each topic. The draft form produced by Mr Dickins includes a box for representors to add comments on other proposed changes. I suggest you also produce a form those who do not wish to comment on the new evidence but do wish to respond to the other changes you propose. Subject to it being amended to reflect this and to ensure that representors understand that the consultation relates only to the Council's proposed changes, I am happy with the proposed guidance note produced by Mr Dickins.

At this stage I envisage only holding further hearings to discuss the new evidence relating to housing, gypsies and travellers and any new allocations or amended allocations. There may also be a hearing to consider the proposed changes to the CIL charging schedule for which I have also written a question to guide representors.

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<sup>1</sup> Main Modifications are changes that must be made to the Local Plan to make it sound. Not all of the suggested changes would be Main Modifications.

<sup>2</sup> Exam Doc: PSD2015b

I agree that it is sensible to extend the consultation period to 8 weeks in light of the upcoming General Election.

Yours faithfully

*A Thickett*

Inspector