

Date: 16 April 2014
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Mr A Thickett
East Devon Local Plan Inspector
C/O Amanda Polley
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East Devon District Council
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Dear Mr Thickett

East Devon Local Plan

I write further to your letter of 31 March 2014 and can advise that we are giving careful consideration to the points that you raise. We plan to provide a feedback report on your letter to our Development Management Committee in early May 2014 and after the Committee meeting I would hope to be in a position to provide you with further information.

Amongst other matters we will be reporting that a new Strategic Housing Market Assessment, covering the period from 2014 to 2033 for the Exeter Housing Market Area (taken at this stage to be centred on East Devon, Exeter, Teignbridge and Mid Devon) has been commissioned and we expect the report to be completed in June 2014. We have also commissioned a Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment with other Devon authorities that we are advised by the Consultants should be completed in July 2014.

In order to secure a sound plan we would hope that oral hearing sessions could recommence as soon as realistically possible.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew Dickins".

Matthew Dickins
Planning Policy Manager

Examination of the New East Devon Local Plan 2006-26

Mr M Dickins
Planning Policy Manager
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By email only

**Inspector: Anthony Thickett BA(Hons) BTP
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Dear Mr Dickins,

Thank you for your letter of 15 April. When you write to me again after the Development Management Committee in May it would be useful if you could provide a timetable setting out when the work you outline will be completed and, if that leads you to consider that the Plan needs to be changed, the processes for doing so.

If, having assessed the new evidence, you consider that significant changes are required, those should be subject to fresh consultation (and you should consider whether further SA work is required). In order to aid that process, save time and avoid the need for separate hearing statements, I could draft questions to guide representors.

Should you consider that no changes are required, it will still be necessary, in the interests of natural justice, to give interested parties an opportunity to comment on the new evidence. Further, it would seem likely that a further hearing would be required relating to housing matters at least.

As you know I have been appointed to examine other plans and the production of a timetable is critical to ensure that we can progress the examination and programme any further hearings.

Yours faithfully

A Thickett

Inspector