

Independent Examination of Solihull Council Local Development Framework Solihull Local Plan

Inspector: Stephen J Pratt BA(Hons) MRTPI

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5 April 2013

Dear Sir / Madam

Solihull Local Plan - Inspector's Interim Conclusions and Forthcoming Revocation of the West Midlands Regional Strategy

The Inspector has now completed his initial assessment of the submitted Solihull Local Plan in terms of compliance with the legal requirements and soundness, as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF; ¶ 182). This report considers the legal requirements, including the Duty to Co-operate, the housing strategy and the Main Modifications put forward by the Council. Having considered the plan and supporting evidence, along with the main issues raised in the representations, discussions, statements and responses made at the hearing sessions and in writing, the Inspector has now issued his Interim Conclusions on the legal compliance and soundness of the Solihull Local Plan.

The Council will now consider these interim conclusions, with a view to preparing a Schedule of Proposed Changes (including Main Modifications to ensure the soundness of the plan) to address his concerns. This Schedule will then be formally published, and will be subject to a 6-week period of public consultation. Before reaching his final conclusions and preparing his report to the Council, the Inspector will consider any representations and responses on the Schedule of Proposed Changes (Main Modifications), along with those made during earlier stages of the examination process. The Inspector points out that these interim conclusions do not cover all the matters and issues identified for examination, and the full reasoning for all his conclusions will be included in his final report to the Council.

Apart from requesting the Council to consider making the necessary amendments to the plan, the Inspector's Interim Conclusions are made available to other participants for information only. Participants will be able to make any further representations on the Schedule of Proposed Changes when it is published for public consultation.

The Inspector has also asked me to draw to your attention the announcement made by the Secretary of State on 27 March 2013 confirming that the Government will shortly make an Order to formally revoke the West Midlands Regional Strategy. If you wish to make a

representation on a matter you consider will be affected by the forthcoming revocation of the Regional Strategy, as far as it relates to the Solihull Local Plan examination, please let me have your comments **by 29 April 2013**. The Inspector has also asked the Council to consider any implications of the forthcoming revocation for the Solihull Local Plan, including any amendments to the text or policies of the plan, which can be included in the forthcoming Schedule of Proposed Changes.

I will let you know when the Council's Schedule of Proposed Changes has been published, but in the meantime, if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melanie Owen-Roberts". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Melanie Owen-Roberts
Programme Officer