



29 June 2011

Dear Mr Scrutton

Re: Core Strategy Sustainability Appraisal Addendum

I write on behalf of the Hawkwell Action Group, which you will by now be familiar with, in reply to your letter of 13 June 2011 inviting comments on the above document.

Firstly, we cannot find in the document any analysis of the effect of major building in the area on the local environment for example important locations such as Hockley Woods. There is also no mention of the pollution which would naturally follow with so many extra cars in the area. In fact there is no mention of traffic flows at all, a MAJOR concern to the residents of Hawkwell as you know.

The Council wants new housing growth spread across the District so that each Parish shares the loss of Green Belt, instead of conducting a proper appraisal of sites to choose the very best locations for development.

Also, it must make sense that people in Social housing would want to live near urban centres such as Hockley and Rochford with bus links, railway stations, secondary schools, dentists, banks and other services. Why then has Hockley had its numbers reduced from 100 to 50 and Hawkwell has 175, it just does not make any sense and therefore the Core Strategy is unsound? Where, anywhere, does it say that the semi rural location of Hawkwell has a housing need of 175 houses?

Having read the full document it is clear that South Hawkwell (Hawkwell West) has not been compared to ALL alternatives in the District, only those in Hawkwell and Hockley and surely this approach is not right. The people of Hawkwell demand that you undertake a complete approach to the comparison of sites because the way you have gone about it is to make the evidence fit pre-determined proposals and this the Inspector has warned you not to do. This makes the choice of sites unsound.

Even the report expresses concern over the impact on wildlife and the loss of woodland area in Hawkwell and yet, regardless of this, Hawkwell remains included for a massive 175 houses.

The residents of Hawkwell want to see clear evidence that South Hawkwell has been compared against ALL other sites in the District and that it is the VERY BEST location for 175 houses, this is NOT clear from the report!



Spokesperson for the Hawkwell Action Group