

BY POST AND EMAIL

The Programme Officer
Rochford District Council
Council Offices
South Street
Rochford
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SS4 1BW

For the attention of Ms Lissa Higby

18293/A3/IP

28 June 2010

Dear Madam

ROCHFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL CORE STRATEGY EXAMINATION
SECRETARY OF STATE'S LETTER DATED 27 MAY 2010

I write in response to your letter dated 14th June regarding the above. The Inspector has requested the views of participants as to the implications of the Secretary of State's stated intention to abolish RSS.


I understand that further guidance is expected from the Secretary of State before the summer recess, which may extend to interim guidelines. The Inspector has already extended the hearings to September to accommodate a discussion in respect of affordable housing and indicated that further sessions may be arranged to discuss the Council's response to her questions in respect of 'vision' and 'audit trail'. In addition, I note the contents of the PINS advice notes to Inspectors.

There are a number of matters raised by the Secretary of State's letter, not least the weight to be attached to the letter, the future likely level and policy basis of any revised housing requirement, the timetable for review and interim arrangements.

Rather than rehearse such matters now, may I respectfully suggest that a further hearing session is scheduled for September when we should have the benefit of further guidance from the Secretary of State, with statements to be submitted in advance.

Yours faithfully



 **IAIN PAINTING**
Partner

Certificate No. FS 29637



18293/A3/100625 The Programme Officer

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