

Rochford Core Strategy

Matters and Issues for the resumed examination, February 2011.

Inspector's Note to representors.

Where the identified issues refer to the revised Core Strategy, that should be taken to mean the Core Strategy as proposed to be amended by the Council's Schedule of Proposed Changes.

Time constraints mean that there will not be an opportunity for the Inspector to consider comments on this list of matters and issues. In the circumstances, an 'open' matter has been listed to enable statements to reflect any other concerns that representors view as particularly important. However, representors should confine their statements to matters arising from the Council's Schedule of Proposed Changes. The February hearings are not to be regarded as an opportunity to restate representations that have already been made, either in writing or orally, in response to the previous matters and issues. The Inspector may decline to hear oral submissions which are repetitious, or which fail to address the Proposed Changes.

1) General

- a) Given that the East of England Plan remains in place as part of the development plan, in what ways and to what extent would the proposed changes result in the Core Strategy failing to meet the requirement to be in general conformity with the East of England Plan, and are there any local circumstances that would justify any lack of conformity?
- b) What weight should be given to the Secretary of State's intention to abolish Regional Spatial Strategies, and what are the implications for the Inspector's consideration of the proposed changes?

NB. This issue may be informed by the High Court judgement on the Cala Homes case, which is expected in January. For further information see

www.planning-inspectorate.gov.uk/pins/news_notices/whats_new/cala_homes.html.

*The Inspector may be prepared to receive updates to written statements **on this matter only**, following the Court judgement. Please check the Council's website in mid January for further information.*

2) Location and supply of new homes

- a) Would the revised CS meet the requirements of PPS3, having particular regard to paragraph 33 and paragraphs 52 – 61?
- b) Is there sufficient justification for using the Option 1 Figures from the EoE Plan 2031?
- c) Would the revised CS comply with the requirement in PPG2 that Green Belt boundaries should be revised only in exceptional circumstances?

- d) To the extent that the revised CS allows for the potential release of Green Belt land to meet housing needs, is there sufficient clarity on when and how such land would be released, for example what would trigger the need to review the Green Belt boundary?
- e) Would the revised CS provide sufficient flexibility and a continuous supply of housing land?

3) *Sustainability*

- a) Would the proposed changes have a positive or negative impact on sustainability, and would the revised CS strike the right balance between meeting development needs and environmental considerations?

4) *Any other matters arising from the Proposed Changes*

15 December 2010