

Dear Ms. Higby,

The Essex Chamber of Commerce has already written to you on this matter as follows which we endorse.

“The recent Ministerial Statement ‘Planning for Growth’ issued by Greg Clark MP, Minister of State make the reforms of the planning system focus on promoting sustainable economic growth and jobs; expect Local Authorities to deal promptly and favourably with applications; and also to press ahead without delay in preparing up-to-date development plans and be proactive

In light of this it is considered imperative that the Core Strategy stipulates that Rochford District Council produces its Transport Strategy Supplementary Planning Document urgently and in full consultation with the Business Community. Currently the Core Strategy describes this as being completed within five years [presumably by 2014], but given the fundamental importance of such a Strategy being in place to help promote sustainable economic growth greater emphasis and a shorter timescale for it’s completion should be incorporated within the Core Strategy.

Without this shorter timescale, greater emphasis and full consultation, it is considered that the Core Strategy, as it stands, is unsound”

In addition, it is our view that many of the housing and commercial allocations have been selected on the basis of existing congested infrastructure regardless of landscape effect. A detailed future road strategy, in partnership with adjacent authorities, would have produced the soundness required.

Yours sincerely,

Susan Harper

Secretary to Rochford & District Chamber of Trade and Commerce

Could you please acknowledge receipt of this email and confirmation that it will be forwarded on to the Inspector.

