

**Reply from Rochford District Council dated 11 May 2011**

I write to inform you that Rochford District Council wish to carry out additional work on the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the Rochford District Core Strategy, to review the SA in light of recent developments in the field of sustainability appraisals.

As such, and in order to enable this additional work to be appropriately fed into the decision-making process, we respectfully request that the issuing of the Inspector's report be postponed. We appreciate that additional work on the SA will necessitate a delay in the examination process to allow for the additional work to be drafted, consulted upon, and the results fed into the plan-making process as appropriate. Furthermore, we are mindful that the Inspector may wish to hold further hearing sessions to consider the results of the additional SA work.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or require clarification on any of the above.

Yours sincerely,

Samuel Hollingworth  
Planning Policy Team Leader  
Rochford District Council