

Ms Lissa Higby  
Council Offices  
South Street  
Rochford  
Essex  
SS4 1BW

31 January 2011

DC/08/256/01  
BY POST & EMAIL

Dear Ms Higby,

**ROCHFORD SUBMISSION CORE STRATEGY – EXAMINATION IN PUBLIC  
RESPONSE TO CORRESPONDENCE RE PROPOSED REVOCATION OF THE EAST OF ENGLAND PLAN**

Thank you for your letter of 31 January.

Clearly we are disappointed that the Inspector has confirmed she is not minded to allow an opportunity for further submissions to be made on the evidence presented in the letter of Cllr John Mason.

In the context of the criticisms of the timings of the request, we can confirm that the letter from Cllr John Mason was dated 26 June 2010, two days before the deadline for submissions on the Housing Audit Trail, and was not made available on the Council's website until after the deadline for comments had passed. It was inconceivable that we could have known about the meeting for the reasons made clear in Cllr John Mason's letter.

As such, any such request would have come after the deadline had passed.

In this instance, the request for information was made following the series of events that followed the consultation on the Housing Audit Trail, including the decision on Coombes Farm (22 July 2010); the submission of the Coombes S.288 challenge (27 August 2010); the judgement on the Cala Homes hearing (10 November 2010) and the various related correspondence; and the publication of the Proposed Changes to the Core Strategy and the response of Colonnade to the consultation (25 November 2010). Each of these steps brought new material to light and culminated in a comprehensive request for information.

As we feel that this matter has the potential to go to the heart of the soundness of the Core Strategy, we sought to notify the Inspector in the interests of ensuring the Core Strategy is sufficiently sound.

Yours sincerely,

David Churchill  
DIRECTOR

cc. Andrew Yeardeley – Stratland Management Limited, p.p. Colonnade Land LLP