

## **SUSPENSION OF EXAMINATION - PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

1. The examination has been suspended to allow the Council to address the following three topics, as set out in the Inspector's Ruling:
  - (i) The strategic approach to Green Belt releases;
  - (ii) The scale of housing and employment development proposed for Tadcaster and the implications for the Green Belt;
  - (iii) The overall scale of housing development over the plan period.

The Council will carry out a consultation directly with participants on the changes to the Core Strategy arising from its consideration of these three topics. This will take place in accordance with the revised timetable submitted to the examination on 30 September.

2. Subject to a few outstanding matters (see below), the examination into the other "Matters and Issues" identified by the Inspector has been completed. All parties have had the opportunity to participate in the hearing sessions and the Inspector has the information necessary to enable him to prepare his report. Consequently no further evidence should be submitted to the examination at this stage; any further evidence received by the Programme Officer is likely to be returned.
3. There was insufficient time at the additional hearing session on Friday 30 September to address the schedules of "Proposed Editorial Changes and Minor Amendments" prepared by the Council, though some matters were covered during earlier sessions. Where necessary, any discussion on these changes will take place when the hearings resume in Spring 2012. As it is difficult to keep track of changes which are incorporated into the four schedules published to date, the Inspector has asked the Council to prepare a Composite document which lists, in plan order, all the proposed minor changes. He has also asked the Council to identify any changes which might be regarded by some participants as more than just minor changes (in that they change the scope or meaning of a policy). Participants will have the opportunity to comment on all the Council's proposed changes in the consultation exercise to be carried out in early 2012.
4. It is possible that there will be some significant national policy changes, or changes to the local evidence base, that will have to be addressed when the examination resumes in Spring 2012. As an example, the forthcoming North Yorkshire Strategic Housing Market Assessment may provide up-to-date evidence which has a bearing on the overall scale of housing development. The Inspector asks the parties to bring any such matters to his attention (through the Programme Officer); he will decide how they should be dealt with prior to the resumption of the examination next year.
5. When the examination resumes, hearing sessions will be arranged which will focus solely on the above matters. As already stated, the

suspension should not be used as an opportunity to revisit matters which have been fully considered during the September 2011 hearing sessions.

6. Participants are advised to consult the Core Strategy Examination page of the Council's website where an up-to-date timetable will be displayed. In addition, the Programme Officer will formally advise participants of the detailed programme for resumption of the Examination once the Council has formally approved its course of action – this will probably be in March 2012.

#### Outstanding Matters from September Hearings

7. A number of documents requested by the Inspector and/or promised by participants at the hearings are still awaited. These include:
  - An agreed statement between Selby DC and Fairburn representatives regarding bus services and other services and facilities at Fairburn.
  - An agreed statement between Selby DC and Tadcaster/Sherburn-in-Elmet representatives regarding bus and train services at the two towns.
  - SSOBT and the Council's agreed statement regarding the Interim Housing Policies Statement.

**The Inspector asks for these documents to be submitted to the Programme Officer by 20 October at the latest.**

8. Most of the new documents produced during the Hearings were circulated at the appropriate sessions and participants had the opportunity to respond. However, a number were submitted after the particular topic had been discussed; the Inspector considers that the relevant participants should be given the opportunity to comment on these new documents (though in many cases further comment may not be necessary).
9. The purpose of the suspension is to allow the Council to re-assess its approach to the Green Belt, growth at Tadcaster and overall housing numbers. The Inspector sees little merit in inviting comments on new documents pertaining to these matters as participants will have the opportunity to respond to the Council's revised approach during the further consultation exercise next year. Consequently the Inspector will accept comments on the following documents<sup>1</sup>:

**SDC/3 – Yorkshire Water. Request for information on Waste Water & Sewerage Infrastructure. (28.9.2011)**

**SDC/5 – Position Statement: Treatment of Barlby/Osgodby, Brayton & Thorpe Willoughby in the Settlement Hierarchy. (28.9.2011)**

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<sup>1</sup> All documents submitted at the Hearing sessions are listed separately from the Core Documents and can be viewed on the Examination page of the Council's website.

**SDC/10** – Further Information on Matter 5: Specific Housing Needs (30.9.2011)

**SSOB/2** – Summary of background & history of Samuel Smith Old Brewery (Tadcaster)'s action to implement the "Vision of Tadcaster" and Volume of Appendices. (28.9.2011)

**SSOB/3** – Statement of Common Ground between TTHC/Cunnane Town Planning on behalf of Samuel Smith Old Brewery & Selby District Council in connection with the bus services between Appleton Roebuck and York.

**PHRH/1** – Sherburn in Elmet – Proposed additional Residential Development Off-site Highway Capacity Statement. (21.9.2011)

**EA/1** – Environment Agency Position Statement. (27.9.2011)

**IH/2** – E-mail and map of Barlby Bridge. (27.9.2011)

**BOCM/3** – Olympia Park Strategic Development site – cost and valuation clarification. (28.9.2011)

**GPE/1** – E-mail from Carter Jonas and Schedule listing the principal scheduled services available to/ from higher order centres from the main transport nodes. (29.9.2011)

Comments on the three statements still awaited (as listed in paragraph 7) will also be accepted.

10. It is important that participants only respond to the new matters addressed in these documents – it is not appropriate to repeat arguments already made. Some participants have already submitted responses and further comment should not be necessary.

**All comments should be submitted to the Programme Officer by 30 October 2011.**

*Martin Pike*

Inspector

14 October 2011