

Charnwood Local Plan Examination

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Dr L Evans MP
House of Commons
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29 July 2022

Dear Dr Evans,

Charnwood Local Plan Examination

Thank you for your letter of 19 July 2022.

We are aware that there is a current planning application Reference P/22/1031/2 at Field Head, Markfield, but that will be subject to determination by Charnwood Borough Council as the local planning authority.

The current position with the Local Plan Examination is that it is at an early stage and is currently adjourned to enable further public consultation on the Leicester and Leicestershire Statement of Common Ground relating to Housing and Employment Land Needs (SoCG). The Council and the other Leicester and Leicestershire local planning authorities are parties to the SoCG and it apportions Leicester's unmet need for housing and employment across the planning authorities, including Charnwood.

The first week of the hearing sessions which took place from 28 – 30 June 2022 covered the Duty to Cooperate and legal requirements, the Plan's vision and objectives and the settlement hierarchy and the environment. The resumed hearing sessions will be covering other matters including the development strategy, housing land supply and site allocations. The arrangements for the resumption of the adjourned hearing sessions will be made available on the Examination website, but these will not be taking place until after the consultation on unmet need.

A number of written representations about Markfield were submitted at the Pre Submission consultation stage (PSLP 544, 577, 619 and 622). The Plan's settlement hierarchy was covered at the hearing session on 29 June 2022, and we will be considering those representations alongside the discussion at the hearing session. However, at this stage no main modifications are proposed in respect of paragraph 2.30 of the Plan which acknowledges the presence of services and facilities within Markfield consistent with the role of a Service Centre. There are no site allocations proposed within the area in Charnwood Borough as part of the submitted Plan. If any main modifications are proposed which change that position, they would be subject to public consultation in due course.

It is unclear from your letter whether any of your constituents made representations objecting to this issue at the Pre Submission consultation stage of the Plan (Regulation 19) and therefore have a right to be heard by us. If so, then we would advise them to keep up to date with the Examination website and if they have any further queries, they should contact the Programme Officer.

The respective Councils are responsible for the spending of developer contributions secured through section 106 planning obligations relating to any specific development and that is not a matter on which we can make further comments.

Please let us know via the Examination Programme Officer Mr Ian Kemp if there are any further queries.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Housden and Hayden Baugh Jones

INSPECTORS