Charnwood Local Plan Examination

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21 August 2023

Dear Mr Bennett,

Charnwood Local Plan Examination

Thank you for your letter of 14 August 2023.

The Council's commitment to progressing the local plan is noted and welcomed. As you have indicated, the next step is to consult on the documents as are set out in your letter –the proposed approach to increasing land supply (Exam 56 with updates to housing land supply data), the Sustainability Appraisal Addendum (Exam 57), and the updated completions and housing land supply monitoring data.

As you are aware, Leicestershire County Council has sent us a document entitled 'Transport Strategies to Enable Growth in the Borough of Charnwood'. That has been done in response to the request in our letter of 23 May 2023, that the broad contents of, and the framework for, the Transport Strategies for the Loughborough Urban Centre, Shepshed Urban Area, North of Leicester and Soar Valley should be identified and submitted to the Examination.

We consider that the document sets out a clear approach to the development of the strategies and the next steps in their development are clearly identified. The level of detail is proportionate in relation to the level of evidence required for the examination, and for the consultation. The mechanism for, and documentation behind, the requirement for developer contributions is a matter for the authorities to resolve in due course, however we note the Council's position that a decision on that matter will be made in conjunction with the adoption of the plan.

We note the scope of, and timescale for, the update to the viability report to incorporate EXAM 32 and 32a and to reflect the implications of increased school build costs and the indicative costs of the Transport Strategies.

We will continue to liaise with you via Mr Kemp to progress the timescale and arrangements for consultation on the above documents. If there are any questions in the meantime, please let us know.

A copy of this letter should be put onto the Examination website.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Housden and Hayden Baugh Jones

INSPECTORS