



Charnwood

Inspector Mr K Ward
c/o The Programme Officer

Southfield Road, Loughborough,
Leicestershire. LE11 2TN
Ask for: Mr Richard Bennett

15th July 2014

Dear Mr Ward

**CHARNWOOD LOCAL PLAN CORE STRATEGY EXAMINATION
STRATEGIC HOUSING MARKET AREA ASSESSMENT AND HMA HOUSING LAND
CAPACITY**

I write further to our correspondence regarding the new Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Housing Market Area Assessment (SHMA) and work to understand the housing capacity of the Housing Market Area (HMA).

The SHMA has now been completed and contains an Objective Assessment of Need. The number of homes identified for Charnwood is broadly similar to that proposed by the submitted Core Strategy. The number of homes identified for the Housing Market Area is also similar to that identified by the now revoked East Midlands Regional Plan. A copy of the SHMA is attached.

We have also been working with our HMA partners to prepare evidence on the housing capacity for each of the Local Authority areas and the HMA as a whole. Each partner has now completed an update of their Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA). A summary of the available capacity to 2031 is enclosed. The summary also compares the available capacity to the objectively assessed need for housing taken from the SHMA.

The SHMA was endorsed as a key piece of evidence to support local plans by the Leicester and Leicestershire Member Advisory Group (MAG) at its meeting on 26th June 2014. The MAG also agreed to convey agreement on the levels of growth to 2028 and work to be carried out to support plans beyond 2028 by way of a Memorandum of Understanding to be brought to the MAG meeting on 24th July 2014 for agreement.

Continued....

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The completion of SHMA and capacity work and request for an MOU to agree growth shows the significant progress that has been made on the matters identified through the initial hearings of the Charnwood Examination. The evidence prepared by the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing Market Area partners shows that there is capacity to meet the individual, and therefore collective, needs of Leicester and Leicestershire to 2028. The Memorandum of Understanding is expected to reflect that agreement between the partners and the detailed timetable for sign off will also be considered at the MAG meeting in July.

Given the evidence, advice from MAG and strong likelihood of a signed MOU that reflects that evidence we would be pleased to receive your thoughts on the next steps for resuming the Hearings.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Yours sincerely

Richard Bennett
Head of Planning & Regeneration