

MID SUSSEX DISTRICT PLAN EXAMINATION

Inspector: Jonathan Bore, MRTPI

c/o 260 Collingwood Road
Sutton
Surrey, SM1 2NX

Programme Officer: Pauline Butcher

Tel: 07823 494353

Email: ldfprogrammeofficer@tiscali.co.uk

Chris Tunnell
Acting Head of Planning
Mid Sussex District Council
Oaklands Road
Haywards Heath
West Sussex
RH16 1SS

February 2017

Dear Mr Tunnell

Mid Sussex District Plan 2014-2031

Thank you for your letter of 22 February.

My letter of 20 February reaches firm conclusions on the OAN and on the housing requirement and is intended to establish the basis for the Council to undertake the further work necessary to ensure that the plan is made sound. The Council now needs to consider the steps required to carry out that work, and the timetable for it. The purpose of the hearing next Friday, 3 March, is to discuss those steps.

In answer to your three questions:

(1) Before reaching my final conclusions I will consider further evidence arising from work on site and land identification, delivery rates, the 5 year supply and the housing trajectory. However, it is unlikely that my overall conclusion on the housing requirement will change to any notable degree; it is based on a large volume of evidence. I hope you will forgive me for making the rather obvious point that the objective of the Council's further work should be the attainment of the housing requirement rather than the advancement of more reasons why it cannot be met. It will not be appropriate to spend Examination time on matters already covered.

(2) The various elements that make up the objectively assessed need for housing have been thoroughly covered in the Examination so I do not envisage further discussions about the OAN, unless a relevant new material consideration arises that is likely to affect the outcome: for example, substantially revised official projections, a relevant government policy change or new government advice on a relevant methodology.

(3) As mentioned above, the Council will need to consider delivery rates, the methodology for the 5 year housing supply, and an appropriate trajectory, as an integral part of its work on how it is to deliver the housing requirement, and I would be happy to have a discussion on these subjects once the work has been carried out and before reaching my final conclusions on soundness.

When the work has been done, I will consider the main modifications that the Council is proposing. These will be subject to public consultation and I will take the results of that consultation into account in my final report.

I hope this helps to clarify matters.

Yours sincerely,

Jonathan Bore

INSPECTOR