



SOUTH SOMERSET LOCAL PLAN: FURTHER MAIN MODIFICATIONS

INSPECTOR'S PRELIMINARY FINDINGS FOLLOWING THE RESUMED HEARING SESSIONS

Main Modifications (MM) to the South Somerset Local Plan were published in March 2014. Following a period of public consultation these were the subject of hearing sessions between 10th and 13th June 2014.

This note is without prejudice to any final Report that I may prepare but based on the evidence that I have read and heard I consider there remain a small number of shortcomings in the document, relating to soundness, which the Council should address through the agreement of Main Modifications (MMs). They all relate to issues that were discussed at the resumed hearings and are summarised in the table below. In the interests of consistency I have continued the numbering as set out in the March 2014 Main Modifications.

| | | Modification | Soundness reason |
|------|---|--|---|
| MM9 | Policy YV2 | The inclusion of detail on landscape mitigation measures at the North East Yeovil SUE | Justified and consistent with national policy |
| MM10 | Policy YV3 | Deletion of the East Coker and North Coker buffer zone | Justified |
| MM11 | Policy SS3, Table 1 and supporting text | Deletion of a specific employment land figure for rural settlements, with the inclusion of an explanation of the Council's approach to such proposals in these settlements | Justified |
| MM12 | Policy SS5 and supporting text | Amendment to improve clarity regarding housing delivery in Crewkerne and Wincanton and reference in an appropriate section of the LP to an early review of housing and employment provision at Wincanton | Justified |

On this basis I am therefore inviting the Council to make a formal request under section 20(7C) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) for me to recommend Modifications to the plan that would make it sound.

Following consultation on the MMs the Council should send me a copy of the submissions received; a brief response to those submissions and a short commentary on any implications of the MMs in terms of the sustainability appraisal.

David Hogger

Inspector

16 July 2014