

BABERGH AND MID SUFFOLK JOINT LOCAL PLAN EXAMINATION

Inspectors: Malcolm Rivett BA(Hons) MSc MRTPI
Alison Partington BA (Hons) MA MRTPI

Programme Officer: Annette Feeney

Email: Annette.Feeney@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk

Tel: 07775 771026

Tom Barker
Assistant Director – Planning and Building
Control
Babergh and Mid Suffolk Councils

16 September 2022

Dear Mr Barker

Babergh and Mid Suffolk Joint Local Plan Examination

1. In line with our letter of 28 April 2022 you provided us with a first draft of the proposed main modifications to the plan in June this year. As you know our comments on it identified the need for further work on the modifications and we understand that this, including a “track change” version of the plan, will be submitted to us for our consideration shortly, although further work will still be required on the proposed changes to the Policies Map.
2. The proposed modifications will then need to be subject to Sustainability Appraisal and (insofar as is necessary) Habitats Regulations Assessment, before public consultation on them can take place. Our last letter envisaged that public consultation would take place in the Autumn, although it now seems that late Autumn is the earliest realistic timeframe for this. Depending upon the outcome of the consultation further hearing sessions may then be necessary in 2023.
3. We have previously indicated that we do not propose to set any formal deadlines for submission of the work to us; it is the Councils’ plan and that the work on the proposed modifications is comprehensive and of a high quality is ultimately more important than the date on which it is received. Nevertheless,

as the examination reaches its two year point the potential for its supporting evidence to become outdated inevitably becomes increasingly likely.

4. Once again, please keep in touch with us via Annette on the progress you are making and please arrange for this letter to be posted on the examination website in order that other participants are aware of the progress being made towards adoption of the plan.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Rivett and Alison Partington

INSPECTORS