Dear Ms Parker

FORMAL REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

I refer to your letter dated 3 March requesting, on behalf of the Inspector, the following information:

1. Has the Council complied with the Duty to Co-operate?

The Duty to Co-operate was introduced through the Localism Act, 2011 by which time preparation of the Sites and Policies DPD (SPDPD) was already underway. However, the Council is satisfied that it has complied with the Duty as evidenced by its Duty to Co-operate statement [LCD03, LCD04]

2. Has the DPD been prepared in accordance with the Local Development Scheme?

The SPDPD has been prepared in accordance with the current Local Development Scheme (6th Review, approved December 2012) [LCD01].

3. Has the DPD been subjected to Sustainability Appraisal?

A Sustainability Appraisal Report [SUB06] has been prepared in respect of, and submitted alongside, the SPDPD. It has formed an integral part of plan preparation, showing how various options perform at key stages of plan preparation and has informed the selection of various policies and proposals contained within the DPD.
4. Has a Habitat Regulations Assessment been prepared?

A Habitat Regulations Assessment [SUB07] has been prepared in respect of, and submitted alongside, the SPDPD. The work has been undertaken in accordance with Article 6(3) and Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats of Wild Flora and Fauna and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010.

5. Does the DPD comply with the 2004 Act (as amended), the localism Act (2011) and the 2012 Regulations and all other legislation and regulations?

The Council is satisfied that in preparing the SPDPD the relevant legislation and regulations have been complied with. Compliance information is set out in the Legal Compliance Checklist [LCD07]

6. Does the Council wish the Inspector to make recommendations, in the event that he finds the plan or any part of it unsound but also considers that it could be made sound through modifications?

The Council would wish the Inspector to make recommendations in the event that he feels that the Plan would be unsound, in full or part, but where it could be made sound through modifications.

Yours sincerely

GARY BELL
Chief Planner