

From: Joanne Russell
Sent: 28 November 2014 09:02
To: Katharine Makant
Subject: RE: Basingstoke Local Plan Examination - Exploratory Meeting SEGRO

Dear Katharine

Further to our email correspondence, please find below the question I would like to make to the Pre Lim Meeting:

The Inspector asks at 2.2b how the Local Plan figures relate to the Framework's aims to boost economic growth (and housing growth) and the need for contingency provision. Focussing on employment, we consider that the Plan restricts growth, contrary to the provisions of the NPPF (in particular paragraphs 6-7,17, 18-22, 151 and 160-161), and is contrary to the evidence base, notably the Employment Land Review. Tables 3.2 and 3.3 of the ELR note the importance of the logistics sector, which coupled with the presence of the M3, and accessibility to ports within the south east, and the Local Plan that has not been positively prepared having regard to this evidence base. The absence of new B8 sites that are attractive to the market, fails to respond to market demands, and equally, no contingency is made within the Plan that would allow for a site to come forward if an inward investor were to look towards the area for relocation or expansion.

We would ask the Council to examine why the Plan has failed to plan positively for employment growth, notably within the logistics sector, and secondly why there is no contingency plan in place for attracting additional inward investment, given the evidence points to there being an absence of suitable, attractive land and units being available ?

Regards

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