

Land at Toton, Broxtowe Borough

The time for making representations and further representations on the Greater Nottingham Aligned Core Strategies Plan has expired. Hearings for those with duly made representations who indicated that they wanted to participate in a debate on matters arising took place in October and November 2013.

In response to those who have expressed concern at this late stage about the Local Plan's policy for Toton, I reply as follows:

The Schedule of Proposed Changes and Modifications to the Aligned Core Strategies Publication Version June 2013 includes proposed changes to Policy 2 of the Plan to add a reference to a strategic location for growth in the vicinity of the proposed HS2 station at Toton. The Inspector has to investigate what is intended by this ie. the likely scale and type of any new development.

At the Pre-Hearing Meeting explaining procedures for examination of the Plan in July 2013, and in my issued Guidance Notes, I made clear that I would be examining the Councils' Proposed Changes to the Plan in addition to the Publication Version of the Local Plan.

I have not yet reached decisions about the future of the land at Toton or other locations identified in the Local Plan as suitable for future development in Broxtowe Borough. The process of examination is still underway.

In examining the Plan, I take account of all duly made written representations, as well as the representations made verbally at the hearings. From a very quick review of the representations received, I see that Toton Environment Protection Society (TEPS) (Mr & Mrs Fazey) submitted representations to the Borough Council in July 2012. TEPS wrote to the Council again in March 2013 (No. 571/3550) when a further consultation exercise was undertaken on the proposed changes to the Aligned Core Strategies document in respect of the land at Toton. These representations will be considered when I report on the Plan.

After the Pre-Hearing Meeting in July 2013 and before the hearings were opened in October, all representors were asked to contact the examination's Programme Officer and confirm their wish to attend the hearing sessions. The majority of people were content to reply on their written comments, or joined together to appoint a single spokesperson. Those who wished to speak were allocated to an appropriate session. Those who did not respond were assumed to be satisfied to rely on their written representations.