

---

**Inspector's Matters, Issues and Questions**

**Supplementary Questions for Matters 14 & 15 (Week Four)**

---

Following consideration of the written hearing statements for Matters 14 and 15, the Inspector will wish to consider the following supplementary questions at the relevant hearing sessions. The Council should provide written responses by **midday on Friday 17 November 2017**. If any participants also wish to respond in writing they should do so by the same deadline.

***Issue 14.5: Local Green Space***

*In order to provide a context for consideration of policy EN3 relating to Local Green Space, it is necessary to consider how the Plan deals with open spaces more generally.*

*The NPPF advises that existing open space of public value, including playing fields, should not be built on unless an assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space to be surplus to requirements, or the loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location<sup>1</sup>.*

*Policy INF2 seeks to protect "local community facilities and services". The Plan's Glossary lists some examples, but these are all forms of built development. Policy INF7 deals with Green Infrastructure, and the Glossary refers to parks, open spaces and playing fields amongst other areas. However, the policy seems to be primarily concerned with ensuring that development contributes towards improving the network of Green Infrastructure rather than setting criteria for assessing proposals that would result in the loss of open space.*

Q192A. Is the Plan consistent with NPPF paragraphs 73 and 74 regarding building on existing open spaces?

Q192B. If a site is protected by other designations and/or policies, what additional local benefit is provided by identifying it as Local Green Space?

---

<sup>1</sup> NPPF Glossary and paragraphs 73 and 74.

**Issue 15.3: Renewable Energy**

*Planning plays a key role in supporting the delivery of renewable and low carbon energy and associated infrastructure, and that local planning authorities should adopt a proactive strategy and consider identifying suitable areas for renewable and low carbon energy sources and supporting infrastructure where this would help secure development of such sources<sup>2</sup>. Identifying areas suitable for renewable energy in plans gives greater certainty as to where such development will be permitted, and that whilst there are no hard and fast rules about how suitable areas for renewable energy should be identified, account needs to be taken of the requirements of the technology, the potential impacts (including cumulative) on the local environment, and the views of the local community<sup>3</sup>. Maps showing wind resource as favourable to wind turbines or similar will not be sufficient<sup>4</sup>.*

197A. Did the Council give consideration to identifying areas suitable for wind energy development in the Plan?

197B. Is the text added to paragraph 11.7.17 by FC092 regarding wind energy development "policy" rather than "reasoned justification"?

*William Fieldhouse*

Inspector

6 November 2017

---

<sup>2</sup> NPPF paragraphs 93, 94 and 97.

<sup>3</sup> PPG ID-5-005-150618.

<sup>4</sup> PPG ID-5-032-150618.