

Examination of the Sheffield Plan: Our City, Our Future

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19 October 2023

Dear Mr Betts

Response to your letter regarding the Sheffield Draft Local Plan dated September 2023

- 1. Thank you for your letter regarding consultation and site-specific constraints for the proposed site allocation at site SES03 Land to the east of Eckington Way within the Sheffield Plan: Our City, Our Future (the Plan).
- We have recently been appointed by the Secretary of State to examine the soundness of the Plan. We are still at an early stage in our preparation and reading for the Examination. However, we expect to be holding hearing sessions from early 2024 onwards.
- 3. Due to the nature of strategic and non-strategic matters and site allocations, it is likely that the hearings will be programmed in stages. The site allocation for SES03 is therefore expected to be addressed during the stage 2 hearings on site allocations, while strategic employment and housing matters would be dealt with in stage 1 hearings. At least six weeks' notice will be given of the hearing sessions and those who made representations to the Regulation 19 consultation on the Publication Draft Local Plan between 9 January and 20 February 2023 will be eligible to participate in those hearings.
- 4. In advance of the publication of guidance notes; our Matters, Issues, and Questions; and the draft hearing programme, please note that we do not wish to receive any further evidence from future participants in

the hearings at this stage. As a matter of procedural fairness, our Programme Officer will generally return any unsolicited further evidence. If submitting further information in support of your representation, this should be done as part of a hearing statement to the Examination in due course.

- 5. In order to understand the timing of hearing sessions and keep up-todate with news on the progress of the Examination, please refer to the Examination website (see the letterhead) which will be updated as and when necessary. Once dates for hearing sessions are finalised, participants will also be notified by the Programme Officer.
- 6. We trust that this letter is useful in clarifying the current position regarding the Examination. In the meantime, should you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact us via the Programme Officer.

Yours sincerely

J Gilbert R Morgan D Troy

Inspectors