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## **Examination of Wolverhampton Local Plan**

**Inspectors:** Louise Crosby MA MRTPI & Laura Bartle BA (Hons) MSc MRTPI

**Programme Officer:** Ian Kemp

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Ms Ross  
Planning Policy  
City of Wolverhampton Council  
Civic Centre  
St Peter's Square  
Wolverhampton  
WV1 1SH

6th October 2026

Dear Ms Ross

### **Examination of the Wolverhampton Local Plan**

1. The Stage 1 hearing sessions were held between 22 and 28 September 2026. Over these four days we heard discussion on legal compliance; effective cooperation; the spatial strategy and site selection methodology; housing needs, requirement and overall supply; gypsies and traveller policies; employment land needs, requirement and supply; and infrastructure and delivery.
2. However, at this stage, we do have some serious concerns in relation to soundness. We need to reflect further on these issues before writing to you setting out our thoughts in more detail.
3. Because of this it would not be a good use of anyone's time for the next hearing sessions to go ahead at this stage. Accordingly, we have asked Ian Kemp, the programme officer, to cancel the hearings in week commencing 20 October 2026 and to notify those registered to attend. A new date will be set for the submission of statements, if the hearings are to be resumed.
4. We understand how important it is for the Council to be able to move forward to get an up-to-date local plan in place, and that you will be disappointed with what we are saying here. Please be assured that we will aim to provide our detailed

letter as soon as possible. We will not then reach a final position until you have had the opportunity to consider and respond to that letter.

5. In the meantime, can a copy of this letter be placed on the examination website please.

Yours sincerely

*Louise Crosby and Laura Bartle*

Examining Inspectors