

BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET - CORE STRATEGY EXAMINATION

INPSECTOR'S NOTE: Central Area boundary and sports stadium

This note summarises how I envisage progressing the issues raised at the hearing on Friday 20th.

As a result of the discussion, I indicated that I have some concern about the clarity and effectiveness of the plan in relation to these matters, without coming to any firm conclusion. I considered that the matter was best progressed by some further reflection by the Council and the subsequent opportunity for interested parties to comment on any further possible changes arising from that reflection.

The main points are:

- Whether the plan properly reflects the Council's current intentions.
- Whether the inclusion of the whole of the Recreation Ground within the central area dotted boundary on diagram 7 is justified and intended, given that there is no suggestion that the whole of the Recreation Ground should be the subject of redevelopment or major change.
- Whether the reference to a *sports stadium* and the additional wording introduced by PC28 (CD5/22) is the most appropriate description of what is now intended by the Council.
- Whether the plan should acknowledge the unique legal issues concerning development at the Recreation Ground (in so far as they may remained unresolved at time of adoption of the plan).
- Whether the reference to *active riverside frontage* in PC28 is too spite specific for this proposal bearing in mind that a site specific allocation is not intended. (Could *active riverside frontage* be an intention for any redevelopment anywhere adjoining the river).

Interested parties may wish to share now with the Council any alternative wording, but I appreciate that there may be too great a difference in view for there to be agreement on this matter. The parties who attended the hearing on this matter will be notified by the Programme Officer when there is a further statement from the Council and given at least 2 weeks to comment.

I confirm that my focus is on the soundness of the submitted plan and I will not be drawn into the wider debate arising from specific proposals at the Recreation Ground which would need to be considered via a planning application and other statutory processes.

Simon Emerson
Inspector
23 January 2012.