

Inspector Note

Yesterday the Government published the draft of the new National Planning Policy Framework. The Inspector considers that the opportunity should be afforded to anyone to comment on the significance or otherwise of this draft for the soundness of the Core Strategy. Given that the Council will be undertaking a consultation on possible changes in the Autumn, the Inspector considers that this will also be the most appropriate time to invite comments on the implications of the draft NPPF and the Council should make this clear in the consultation in due course.

The Council should, however, consider carefully now the potential implications of the draft NPPF in determining what possible changes might be appropriate. The Council should bear in mind that at the time when the Inspector is completing the Examination and making his recommendations, the NPPF may have been published in its final form and have replaced existing policy advice. Whilst any such change will have to be addressed appropriately at the time, the Council may wish to consider now the implications for the soundness of the Core Strategy if what is set out in the draft NPPF does become national policy.

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