

**Matter 2
Issue 1, Q1, (k)
Representor No 6426
Persimmon Homes
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BATH PLACEMAKING PLAN EXAMINATION

August 2016

Statements for the Bath Placemaking Plan Examination

Matter 2 – Overall Approach

Issue 1: Whether the changes to the Core Strategy are necessary and appropriate having regard to the policies contained in the Placemaking Plan and its purpose.

Q1. Is the nature and scale of the any of the proposed changes to the Core Strategy such that they materially change the strategic approach and strategy established in the Core Strategy? If so, which ones?

Rural Economy

- (k) Does the deletion of paragraph 509 relate to major existing development sites in the Green Belt represent a shift in strategic policy?

The deletion of paragraph 509 results in a number of inconsistencies in the treatment of Green Belt Policy. We note that National Guidance in NPPF paragraph 89 relates to major existing developed sites in the Green Belt so it could be argued the issue is still covered in policy terms even if paragraph 509 is deleted. However, Policy GB3 includes policy on extensions and alterations of buildings in the Green Belt which is also covered in NPPF 89 and yet that is retained. Therefore the approach to treatment of detailed policies for the Green Belt is inconsistent.

In addition, whilst it might be appropriate also to delete paragraph 509 due to the reference of a deleted Local Plan reference, the previous paragraph, 508, still refers to Local Plan Policy ET9, which has been deleted by Policy RE6. Therefore this seems to confirm that the change is motivated not by a review of superseded Local Plan policies but to highlight a change of emphasis in the plan. However there is another inconsistency because paragraph 510 still summaries NPPF Policy for rural economies. Therefore for consistency and completeness both paragraphs 509 and 510 should be either retained or deleted.

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