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Date: 23rd April 2024

Your Ref: PINS/W3710/429/6

The Planning Inspectorate
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol, BS1 6PN

FAO: Inspector M Worden BA (Hons) DipTP MTRPI and
Inspector B Wilders BA (Hons) PgDURP MRTPI

Update on matters relating to housing land supply

Following on from the letter we sent on 10th April 2023 we wanted to apprise you in relation to the timescales for preparing the update to the Overall Development Needs and Supply Background Paper (CD15) and Housing Trajectory (CD16).

As you are aware the Council have recently undertaken two planning inquiries where housing land supply has been in dispute with the final inquiry scheduled to commenced on 30th April 2024. As a result of this process and due to updates from sites and planning applications coming forwards, the Council are reviewing the trajectory and are in the process of instructing a consultant to review these documents and ensure that they are in accordance with national policy and guidance. This is so that we can provide sufficient clear evidence to demonstrate a five year supply. The consultants are just ensuring there are no conflict of interest prior to commencing this review.

We want to ensure the information we resubmit is robust and up to date and thus we need to ensure the timescales we provide you with are realistic, therefore apologies for not being in a position to provide these sooner.

We consider that taking account of capacity, resourcing and annual leave commitments, it is unlikely that we would be in a position to provide you with a robust update before June. On this basis, we also consider therefore, it would be appropriate to also incorporate the monitoring data from 2023/24 into this update once it is available. We acknowledge that this may have implications on timescales

moving forward. On this basis, if you are agreeable, we would request that we continue to gather the relevant data and submit an updated position incorporating the 2023/24 monitoring data as soon as it is available.

Again we apologise for the delay but as you can appreciate the Appeals have taken up considerable Officer time and led us to review the information that we have.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Programme Officer - Helen Wilson if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Matile

Sarah Matile on behalf of
Maria Bailey (Assistant Director - Planning)