

EX39
RECONVENED EXAMINATION HEARINGS – JUNE 2015

PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF FURTHER HEARINGS

1. Consultation on the Council's proposed Main Modifications to the KLPCS was carried out between 19 September and 14 November 2014. Because this attracted much greater public response than at previous stages of plan preparation, the Inspector and the Council have decided that the examination hearings should be reconvened to address certain matters.
2. The main purpose is to hear from new representors who have not previously participated in the examination. Most of these object to the major housing sites proposed to be released from the Green Belt, most notably the longer term 'safeguarded site' at Knowsley Village but also the specific allocations (Sustainable Urban Extensions - SUEs) at other locations. Substantial evidence has already been given for the SUEs and the Inspector asks those interested in these sites to familiarise themselves with the written evidence on the Examination pages of the Council's website so as to minimise the repetition of arguments previously made.
3. **New representors are also advised to familiarise themselves with the examination process by studying the Inspector's "Guidance Note for Participants" (document [EX04](#)) and the "Matters, Issues and Questions" document ([EX06](#)).** The latter sets out the questions prepared by the Inspector at the beginning of the examination and has formed the basis of subsequent hearings. All these documents are also available in hard copy at the Council offices.
4. If large numbers of people wish to speak on the same topic, they are encouraged to appoint one or a few people to present the generally held views. Representors who have previously participated in the hearings can attend the reconvened hearings if they wish and will have the opportunity to respond to any new matters raised.
5. The second purpose of the reconvened hearings is to consider relevant new matters that have arisen since the hearings were adjourned in July 2014. The Government has made a number of Ministerial announcements and revisions to the Planning Practice Guidance and the implications of these for the KLPCS will have to be examined. The most relevant of these changes are set out in the attached Annex, though the list is not exhaustive. Another significant matter is the publication of new household projections in February 2015; the Council has helpfully provided a factual summary of these projections in document [AD60](#).
6. Two Agendas have been published alongside this Note which set out how the reconvened hearings will proceed. The new matters will be discussed first; because these are likely to take up most of Tuesday 2 June, and to assist those who only wish to participate in the discussion of Green Belt

sites, all site-specific matters will commence on Wednesday 3 June. If necessary, the hearings will continue on Thursday 4 June. **If you wish to participate in the hearings, please could you advise the Programme Officer by Friday 15 May of the day(s) you will be attending.**

7. All representors have the opportunity to submit brief statements, if they wish, in response to the questions set out in the Agendas. **However, as the Guidance Note (EX04) explains, there is no need to repeat arguments previously made.** The Inspector will give full weight to written representations received at Proposed Submission stage (autumn 2012) and during the KLPCS examination, including the responses to the Council's latest consultation exercise. **Statements should be submitted to the Programme Officer by 5pm on Friday 15 May**, and follow the format set out in the Appendix to the Guidance Note (four hard copies are required and, if possible, an electronic version in Word or pdf format). Statements will be placed on the examination website and all participants at the hearings are asked to familiarise themselves with the documents relevant to the sessions they attend.
8. As stated in the Guidance Note, the **Programme Officer (Paul Morris)** is the first point of contact for all participants. Paul can be contacted on 0151 443 3077 or by email at programme.officer@knowsley.gov.uk. The postal address for correspondence is Paul Morris, Programme Officer, Knowsley Local Plan Core Strategy Examination, Municipal Buildings, Archway Road, Huyton, Merseyside, L36 9YU.

Martin Pike

INSPECTOR

10 April 2015

ANNEX

Listed below are some of the recently published Ministerial announcements and DCLG updates relevant to the Knowsley Local Plan: Core Strategy. Other revisions may also be relevant.

WRITTEN MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Small-scale developers – 28 November 2014

Sustainable drainage systems – 18 December 2014

Planning Update March 2015 – 25 March 2015

MINISTERIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Councils must protect our precious Green Belt land – Press release, 4 October 2014

BUILDING REGULATION

Technical housing standards review – Updated 27 March 2015

REVISIONS TO PLANNING PRACTICE GUIDANCE

Climate change

<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/revisions/6/009/>

Housing and economic development needs assessments

<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/revisions/2a/016/>
<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/revisions/2a/021/>
<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/revisions/2a/007/>

Housing and economic land availability assessment

<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/revisions/3/044/>
<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/revisions/3/045/>
<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/revisions/3/033/>
<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/revisions/3/034/>
<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/revisions/3/037/>

Housing – Optional Technical Standards

<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/housing-optional-technical-standards/>

Local Plans

<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/revisions/12/006/>

Planning obligations

<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/revisions/23b/001/>
<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/revisions/23b/003/>
<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/revisions/23b/012/>
<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/revisions/23b/013/>
<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/revisions/23b/014/>
<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/revisions/23b/015/>
<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/revisions/23b/016/>
<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/revisions/2a/017/>
<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/revisions/23b/019/>
<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/revisions/23b/020/>

Flood Risk and Coastal Change

Water supply, wastewater and water quality

<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/revisions/7/045/>
<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/revisions/7/051/>
<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/revisions/7/079/>
<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/revisions/7/080/>
<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/revisions/7/081/>
<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/revisions/7/082/>
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<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/revisions/7/084/>
<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/revisions/7/085/>
<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/revisions/7/086/>
<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/revisions/34/006/>

In relation to the above, DEFRA has published Non-Statutory Technical Standards for Sustainable Drainage Systems:

[Non-statutory technical standards for sustainable drainage systems](#)