

Gedling Local Planning Document Part 2 Local Plan (the Plan)

INSPECTOR'S RESUMED HEARINGS GUIDANCE NOTE

Note - This guidance is in addition to the Inspector's Examination Guidance Note [EX/20] issued prior to the start of the Hearing sessions.

Document References in [square brackets] are to the **Examination Library List** which can be viewed on the Examination web page or obtained from the Programme Officer.

Items in bold italics are for particular note or action.

Key Dates:

Advise Programme Officer of any changes to participation	<i>Friday 17 November 2017</i>
Resumption of Hearing Sessions	<i>Tuesday 28 November 2017</i>

Purpose of the Guidance Note

1. This note provides guidance to participants on the procedural and administrative arrangements for the resumed Hearings.

Dates for Resumed Hearing Sessions

2. The Hearing sessions will resume on ***Tuesday 28 November 2017*** and will last for **3 days**. They will be held at:

Civic Centre, Arnot Hill Park, Arnold, Nottingham NG5 6LU

3. The Hearings will be split into **4 sessions**, with **full day sessions** held on **Tuesday 28 November 2017** and **Wednesday 29 November 2017**, beginning at 1000hrs, and **2 half day sessions** held on **Thursday 30 November 2017**, beginning at 1000hrs and 1400hrs. A short break will usually be taken mid-morning and mid-afternoon, with lunch being taken between 1300hrs and 1400hrs.

Agendas

4. I have prepared an agenda for each session, which will be published on the Examination website alongside this note. As I have done previously, I have set out a list of questions for each session to focus on and identified which speaker may be invited to open discussion on any given points.
5. The agendas are being circulated at the earliest opportunity, given that many of the questions posed have not been set out previously in the Inspector's Schedule of Matters, Issues and Questions [EX/19], in order to ensure that participants have sufficient time in which to prepare.

Scope of the Resumed Hearings

6. The resumed Hearings will deal with matters and issues arising from the recent consultation exercise carried out by the Council on the following documents:
 - Extract of Local Planning Document Housing Allocation Policies (Part 2 Local Plan), September 2017 [EX/126];
 - Sustainability Appraisal Addendum 4: Review of SA Assessment on Policy LPD 63 (now LPD 64) and Additional Site Allocations for Housing, Local Planning Document, September 2017 [EX/127];
 - Addendum to Habitats Regulations Assessment – Local Planning Document: Additional Housing Allocations, September 2017 [EX/128]; and,
 - Addendum to Equality Impact Assessment – Local Planning Document: Additional Housing Allocations, September 2017 [EX/129];

along with a number of evidence documents [LPD/REG/20], [EX/12], [EX/62], [EX/98], [EX/130], [EX/131], [EX/132] and [EX/133].

7. These documents were all subject to a public consultation exercise between 18 September and 30 October 2017. All of these documents are available on the Examination website.

Alternative or 'Omission' Sites

8. As stated in the Inspector's Examination Guidance Note, it is **not** for the Inspector to recommend specific alternative sites. There will accordingly be no oral sessions on 'omission sites'. In the event that the Plan were to be found unsound with the sites it allocates, the Council would be asked to consider and propose additional or alternative sites as *Main Modifications* to the Plan for further consultation.
9. Nevertheless, Representors promoting sites not allocated in the Plan have a right to be heard in support of a duly made objection. However, an objection to the 'omission' of a site is, in effect, an objection to the site selection process, or the Plan requirement, or the deliverability of development land or the Plan strategy and will be redirected and heard, as such, in the appropriate sessions reserved for those issues or, if necessary, in a general session.

Progressing your Representations on the Plan

10. Only those seeking to change the plan have a right to participate in the Hearing sessions.¹ However, the sessions are open for anyone to observe.
11. Those who have made representations have indicated whether their views should be dealt with in a written form or whether they feel that they need to come and discuss them orally at a Hearing session. Both methods will carry the same weight and I shall have equal regard to views put at a Hearing or in writing. Attendance at a Hearing session will only be useful and helpful to me if you wish to participate in the discussion.
12. Before deciding whether to appear, Representors should study the Council's Additional Housing Allocations Report of Responses (November 2017) [EX/138], to

¹ S20(6) of the PCPA 2004

note how the Council may intend to deal with their concerns. Those Representors who have already indicated a wish to appear have been allocated to a relevant Hearing session or sessions. Please contact the Programme Officer by **Friday 17 November 2017** if any changes to participation need to be made.

13. Where several people or organisations wish to speak on the same issue, you should consider appointing a single spokesperson or persons. The Programme Officer will assist in such arrangements.
14. It will be for individual participants to check the progress of the Hearings, either on the website or with the Programme Officer, and to ensure that they are present at the right time.
15. ***Where Representors have raised a matter of soundness not identified by the Inspector but still wish to appear, a suitable item will be added to an appropriate Hearing session.*** If any Representor considers that an additional item is required, this should be raised with the Programme Officer at the earliest opportunity.

The Hearing Sessions

16. The Hearings will take the form of a roundtable discussion which I shall lead. They will not involve the formal presentation of cases by participants or cross-examination. There will be a lot to cover and all contributions should be focussed.
17. ***When invited to take part in a Hearing session, participants on arrival are asked to find their nameplate and take their place at the table. During the discussion, the nameplate can be stood on end to indicate a wish to speak. Only one seat is provided per Representor but participants may change round during the proceedings according to their subject of interest. In view of their particular position in covering the whole Plan, two or sometimes more Council representatives may sit at the table, depending on the subject under discussion.***
18. ***Representors are requested to keep in touch with the Programme Officer or the Council Examination web page regarding the programme, which may be subject to change.***
19. Please let the Programme Officer know as soon as possible if you have any specific needs in relation to attendance and participation at the Hearing sessions.
20. Members of the public not involved in the Hearings may of course attend to observe.

Hearing Position Statements

21. Unlike the previous Hearing sessions, I am **not** inviting participants to prepare Hearing statements. This is because of the short period of time between the public consultation exercise and the resumption of the Hearings and the focussed nature of the debates that will take place. Representors may of course respond orally to the Council's Additional Housing Allocations Report of Responses (November 2017) [EX/138], where necessary. However, the Hearings ***must not be taken as an opportunity to submit new responses or fresh evidence.*** Reliance must be placed essentially on the response made during the recent public

consultation exercise, which is taken as the complete case for the Representor.

The Examination Library

22. The Council has prepared an online Examination Library which can be found on the Examination Website at <http://www.gedling.gov.uk/lpdexamination>.
23. This contains the Council's evidence and documents which have been produced during the Examination. If you have difficulties accessing the Library please contact the Programme Officer.

Site Visits and Close of the Examination

24. Insofar as I consider it necessary to my assessment of the soundness of the Plan, I shall visit sites and areas referred to in the representations before, during, or after the Hearings. I will do these on an unaccompanied basis unless I find that I need to go onto private land.
25. The Examination will remain open until my Report has been submitted to the Council. However, I will not accept any further representations or evidence after the Hearing sessions have ended unless I specifically request it. Late or unsolicited material may be returned.

The Programme Officer

26. The Programme Officer for the Examination is Carmel Edwards. Carmel is working under my direction and is independent of the Council. She can be contacted as follows:

Ms Carmel Edwards
Local Plan Programme Officer
c/o Gedling Borough Council,
Civic Centre,
Arnot Hill Park,
Arnold,
Nottingham
NG5 6LU
Email: carmel.edwards@gedling.gov.uk
Phone: 07969 631930

Any procedural questions or other matters that you wish to raise with me prior to the resumption of the Hearing sessions should be made through the Programme Officer.

Karen L Baker

INSPECTOR

13 November 2017