



11 September 2018

Sent by email: [Programme.Officer@reading.gov.uk](mailto:Programme.Officer@reading.gov.uk)

**Planning Policy**

Development and Planning  
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Dear Sir/Madam,

**Reading Borough Council Local Plan Examination – Matters and Issues for Examination**

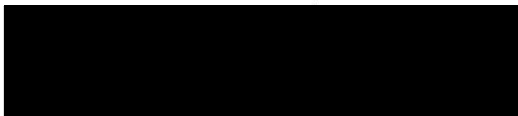
Thank you for inviting West Berkshire District Council to submit statements in respect of the Inspector's matters and issues for the examination of the Reading Local Plan. We have the following comments in respect of Issue 2: Is the housing requirement justified and deliverable and has it been calculated in accordance with national policy and guidance?

***Q4a. Are the requirements of Policy H1 relating to working with neighbouring authorities sufficiently robust?***

Policy H1 identifies that Reading Borough Council will need to continue to work with neighbouring authorities within the Western Berkshire Housing Market Area (HMA) to ensure that the small potential shortfall of 644 dwellings that cannot be provided within Reading will be met over the plan period.

The Berkshire Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) indicates a higher level of housing need for West Berkshire than is provided for in the current Local Plan. Therefore, similar to Reading, West Berkshire will need to consider allocating additional housing in its new Local Plan. West Berkshire will seek to work collaboratively with neighbouring authorities, particularly those within the Western Berkshire HMA, to seek to meet its identified housing requirement in the new Local Plan. As part of this work any unmet need identified in the HMA will also be considered.

Yours faithfully,



Bryan Lyttle  
Planning and Transport Policy Manager