



11 September 2018

Sent by email: Programme.Officer@reading.gov.uk

Planning Policy

Development and Planning
West Berkshire District Council
Market Street, Newbury
Berkshire, RG14 5LD

Please ask for: Planning Policy Team

Direct dial: 01635 519 111

Fax: 01635 519 408

e-mail: planningpolicy@westberks.gov.uk

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 11: Are the policies for South Reading justified, deliverable and consistent with national policy?

Q5. Is there robust evidence for the way in which the potential development at Grazeley is approached within the LP? What is the justification for not referring to other potential development sites in adjoining authorities other than at Grazeley?

A 'West of Berkshire Housing Strategy' has been prepared on behalf of the authorities within the Western Berkshire HMA. This non-statutory strategic planning framework has been published as a first step to identifying potential options for accommodating the objectively assessed housing needs in the HMA. The second part of the process is the production of the new Local Plans for each authority.

As a co-author of the West of Berkshire Housing Strategy, West Berkshire District Council agrees that the housing requirement of Reading, Bracknell Forest, Wokingham and West Berkshire should be met within this spatial area.

Work is progressing on the West Berkshire Local Plan Review to 2036, and progress is running to schedule.

Q5a. How should the decision maker react to proposals coming forward ahead of its inclusion within other Local Plans, and what would be the effect on Policy SR4f?

With caution. The amount of land in Reading Borough that is South of the M4 and within the potential area of development for Grazeley is very small, however, it is possible that this land might be required for infrastructure improvements.

Policy SR4f is therefore both positively and appropriately worded.

Yours faithfully,



Bryan Lyttle
Planning and Transport Policy Manager