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5<sup>th</sup> August 2025

Your contact is: Mark Worringham, Planning Section

Dear Sir/Madam,

### **Examination of the Reading Borough Local Plan Partial Update: Stage 1 Hearings**

I am writing to you as you submitted a representation on the Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan Partial Update, a consultation on which was held under Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 during November and December 2024.

The Local Plan Partial Update (LPPU) was submitted to the Secretary of State on 9<sup>th</sup> May. Following submission, Planning Inspector Joanna Gilbert MA (Hons) MTP MRTPI was appointed to carry out the independent examination of the LPPU.

The Inspector has decided to initially hold Stage 1 hearings, to cover the following matters:

- Matter 1: Legal requirements and procedural matters; and
- Matter 2: Housing need and requirement.

The provisional timetable is as follows:

- Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at 9.30 AM – Matter 1
- Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at 9.30 AM – Matter 2.

The hearings will be held virtually using Microsoft Teams, and it is intended that it will also be broadcast live to the public. Details on how to join and participate in the meeting will be provided to participants closer to the time.

The following documents have been added to the LPPU examination webpage today at [Local plan examination - Reading Borough Council](#):

- Inspector's Matters, Issues and Questions for the Stage 1 Hearings (EX010);
- Guidance Notes for participation (EX011); and
- Draft Hearings Programme for the Stage 1 Hearings (EX012).

Please ensure that you refer to the Local Plan examination page linked above for the most recent documents relating to the examination. Any changes to the timetable or arrangements will be published on that page.

If you wish to participate in the Stage 1 hearings, please contact the Programme Officer, Jane Greenway, on [Programme.Officer@reading.gov.uk](mailto:Programme.Officer@reading.gov.uk) or 0118 937 4029 by 5<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

The deadline for hearing statements for the Stage 1 hearings is 14<sup>th</sup> October 2025.

Please note that arrangements for Stage 2 hearings covering other matters have not yet been made, and you will be advised of these in due course.

If you have any questions about arrangements for the hearings not covered in the Guidance Notes, please contact the Programme Officer using the details above. If you have any questions about the Local Plan Partial Update itself, please contact the Planning Policy team at [planningpolicy@reading.gov.uk](mailto:planningpolicy@reading.gov.uk).

Yours sincerely

Mark Worringham  
Planning Policy Manager