

Tewkesbury Borough Plan Examination

Matt Barker
Planning Policy Manager
Tewkesbury Borough Council
Gloucester Road
Tewkesbury
GL20 5TT

7 September 2020

Dear Mr Barker

TEWKESBURY BOROUGH PLAN EXAMINATION

As you are aware, I have been appointed to examine the Tewkesbury Borough Plan (TBP) and have commenced initial preparation after some delay due to other commitments. Thank you for supplying hard copies of the representations and various other documents, I shall make requests for any further documents through the programme officer.

At this stage I am seeking to clarify some initial points to help inform the matters, issues and questions document which will follow in due course. I am also able to flag up the need for some further work to update the housing figures for the benefit of the examination.

1. Could you please clarify the latest position regarding the immediate review of the Joint Core Strategy (JCS) following its adoption in December 2017. This is intended to address the shortfall in identified housing provision in the JCS in relation to Tewkesbury (and Gloucester). What is the current work programme for the next stages of the review and when is it likely to be adopted? Is there any information in this regard in the public domain, and does the Council have any plans to update the Local Development Scheme to confirm this timetable?
2. Have any JCS monitoring reports been published as envisaged by JCS paragraph 7.1.8?
3. Please advise the progress that has been made in delivering the anticipated 500 dwellings to meet Tewkesbury's needs at Mitton. Is this provision agreed with Wychavon?
4. Please arrange for the August 2019 housing land supply statement and monitoring report documents to be updated to 1 April 2020. I am aware for example that planning permission was granted for 850 dwellings at Fiddington during the year and there may be others. I would propose the examination works from these updated April 2020 figures.
5. Please also arrange for a supplement to the five year supply statement to look ahead beyond 5 years to the remainder of the plan period to set out projected completions site by site so that an up to date trajectory along the lines of JCS pages 113/114 can be drawn up. This should be prepared (a) without TBP allocated sites and (b) with TBP allocated sites to demonstrate the contribution that the TBP will make. This will also illustrate the remaining shortfall for the JCS review to address.
6. As part of establishing the position as at April 2020 the figures in paragraphs 14.1, 15.1, Table 10 and Appendix J of the Housing Background Paper should be updated.

7. Can the Council point me to any document that gives the definition of a 'non-strategic site' eligible for allocation in the TBP as opposed to 'strategic sites' which are within the remit of the JCS? Or is this a matter of site by site planning judgement?

When you have had a chance to consider this letter it would helpful if you could give an indication via the programme officer when you might be able to respond.

In order to maintain transparency and potentially assist other participants, please place a copy of this letter and your response(s) on the examination website.

I shall provide a list of matters, issues and questions for the examination in due course.

Thank you for your assistance.

Yours sincerely

David Reed

INSPECTOR