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Shropshire Council. Examination of Shropshire Local Plan 2016-2038

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31 March 2023

Dear Mr West

Thank you for your letter dated 9 March 2023 in reply to our earlier letter.

We note that you propose to respond in full to our letter by 30 June 2023 and understand your keenness to progress to stage 2 hearings as soon as possible. Please be assured that we share this goal.

Turning now to appendix 1 of your letter, Mrs Dillon and I have looked at this and given it a great deal of thought. Our view is that whilst you can retain policies in your existing plan you cannot save parts of them by striking through text as there is no mechanism for this. To do this you would have to replicate all of the amended policies in an appendices to the emerging plan. This would make the emerging plan very long and difficult for future users to navigate. Moreover, these policies as you know are not before this examination.

Our advice would be to refer to the policies in appendix 2 of the emerging plan as is the case at present, but then add some wording into emerging Policy SP2 to make it clear that the housing and employment land requirement is made up of sites in the emerging plan and sites in appendix 2. You could also consider adding some wording to the beginning of the Place Plans section of the emerging plan as 'supplementary text' in order to provide further context to the policy situation for allocations within the Place Plan areas.

We would be interested to hear your thoughts on this way forward. It may be helpful to have a short hearing session on the matter when we reach stage 2 hearings to discuss the matter further. By then we would expect that there would be a firm proposal for dealing with this matter before us.

Louise Crosby, Carole Dillon and Nick Palmer

Examining Inspectors