

## ***File note***

### **Maldon District Council and DCLG meeting 22 June 2015**

#### **Summary of the meeting**

MDC Officers met with the DCLG project lead in order for DCLG to hear the immediate questions MDC had about the process following the Secretary of State's intervention in the Local Development Plan.

#### Process

DCLG will be reviewing the work to date on examining the Local Plan. As this is the first use of intervention powers in this way a process to move the plan forward will need to be designed. DCLG confirmed that the process must be fair, open and transparent to those with an interest.

While DCLG cannot provide firm guidance on timing, DCLG indicated that they are putting every effort into considering the Maldon District Local Plan as a priority and will keep the authority and others informed of the process and timing.

MDC wished to know who will be responsible for the process and whether a new planning inspector will be appointed to re-examine the Plan. DCLG understood that the previous inspector was due to retire shortly so should the decision be taken to appoint someone to examine the plan the previous inspector would not be available.

MDC indicated that it has concluded new retail and employment studies in response to queries raised by the previous planning inspector and is also working to produce material to support the additional DPDs proposed by the authority, covering Rural Allocations and Gypsies and Travellers pitches.

#### Communications

It was agreed that MDC would advise DCLG of the more frequent areas of questioning from the public and others about the Secretary of State's intervention and that DCLG would provide a short Q&A (when appropriate) to answer any immediate questions the public may have.

#### Finance

MDC wished to know what, if any, costs may fall to the authority going forward. DCLG confirmed that they will share information on cost as and when it becomes available so that the authority could plan accordingly.

#### CIL schedule

The CIL schedule was submitted for examination in September 2014 and the same inspector appointed to examine the schedule as was appointed to examine the Local Plan. MDC would welcome advice on how to proceed with this. DCLG indicated that MDC should seek advice directly from the Planning Inspectorate.

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