

Ian Kemp  
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Jonathan Dibble  
JCS Programme Manager  
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6<sup>th</sup> October 2016

Dear Mr Dibble,

Thank you for your letters of 19 and 23 September 2016 on behalf of the Leaders of the Joint Core Strategy Authorities. I have considered your comments and my response is set out below.

I have recommended a 5% uplift on the objectively assessed housing need based on the evidence before me and national planning policy and guidance. If you wished for this matter to be re-opened, it would need to be done through a hearing session to ensure that natural justice prevailed and participants had an opportunity to make comment in response.

With respect to participation, I intend to hold hearing sessions on the main modifications to the Joint Core Strategy. An opportunity will be given to speak at those sessions to those people who respond to the main modifications consultation.

With respect to not allocating Fiddington, as Tewkesbury District is unable to meet its housing requirement and is seeking assistance from Wychavon, the reasons for omitting Fiddington should be sound and properly evidenced.

I have the same comment for Twigworth. Furthermore, because Twigworth makes a lesser contribution to the Green Belt than some other strategic allocations around Gloucester and appears to be equally as sustainable, there may be soundness issues if no good land use planning reasons are put forward for its omission.

I note the position on the new household projections and the update regarding Wychavon District Council and thank you for this.

Through my programme officer I have been in contact with JCS planning officers about the main modifications and supporting documents and I understand that a modified version of the JCS will shortly be submitted to you for consideration prior to public consultation.

I would also add that I am committed to progressing this examination as far as possible towards what I hope will be a sound conclusion.

Yours sincerely,

*Elizabeth C. Ord*

Inspector