Dear Will Edmonds

After considering your letter of 29 November 2017, the Inspectors have asked me to pass on the following reply on their behalf –

"The starting point in examining the JLP is the understanding that the Councils consider that the plan is sound and that the plan’s strategy is the most appropriate considered against reasonable alternatives. As previously stated, at this stage of the examination and for the hearings the Inspectors are examining the evidence to consider whether the Councils’ proposals for the JLP strategy meet the test of soundness and whether proposals for the housing and employment sites which they consider would fulfil that strategy are sound. Alternative uses for the Plymouth airport site are not referred to in Policy PLY42. Such alternative uses therefore do not form part of the development strategy that is being tested for soundness. As such consideration of alternatives would be as an omission site. The Inspectors have previously clarified that they will not be considering the relative merits of alternative or omission sites as part of the hearings.

In relation to other matters raised in your letter, the draft timetable clearly sets out that the Woolwell sustainable extension and community park (Policy PLY44) will be discussed under Matter 7 Derriford and Northern Corridor Area session on the morning of Wed 7 February 2018.

The Inspectors can also confirm that no preliminary views on the JLP have been expressed to the Councils or anyone else. All communication to and from the Inspectors is only through the Programme Officer.”

Please note that in keeping with examination procedure, your letter will be added to the examination library as document EXC11 along with this response EXC11A.

Also, please be aware that from today I will be away until Friday 5 January.

Regards, Robert Young
Programme Officer
Plymouth & South West Devon Joint Local Plan examination