

Highways England

At the 'Matter 4 Transport' hearing for the Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan on 1 Feb 2018, Highways England asked the Inspector's advice as to whether a minor modification should be made to Policy Dev 31 to include "*Planning permission will be granted only where the impact of development is not considered to be severe*". We feel that this may provide more confidence that planned development would not be able to proceed unfettered in advance of the timely provision of the transport infrastructure required to safely accommodate its impact on the Strategic Road Network.

We note that in our experience across the South West region, a number of other Plans have included a version of the suggested text within Plan policy to provide a clear policy position in the subsequent development management process e.g. Cheltenham, Gloucester and Tewkesbury Joint Core Strategy policy INF1 Transport Network (point 2).

We understand that the Inspector was going to consider whether it was necessary to include the above suggested text in the Policy, or whether the wording of paragraph 32 of NPPF (which refers to "should" rather than "will") makes this an implicit policy requirement in all Local Plans.

We look forward to receiving the outcome of the Inspector's considerations.

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