

From the Councils: Response to the Inspector's Question regarding the Government Consultation "Planning for the right homes in the right places: consultation proposals (14 September 2017)"

Examination into the soundness of the Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan 2014 -2034

Planning for the right homes in the right places: consultation proposals (14 September 2017)

The Inspectors' have asked the Councils the following question:

"The consultation document "Planning for the right homes in the right places" sets out a proposed approach to calculating local housing need, on which the Government is seeking further views. It also sets out proposed transitional arrangements for applying that approach. For plans at the examination stage, the proposed transitional arrangement is to progress with the examination using the current approach. In this context, do the Councils consider that there are any implications for the current examination of the Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan?

We would be grateful for a response by the 31 October 2017."

In response to this question, the Councils have regard to Table I and paragraph 55 of the consultation document "Planning for the right homes in the right places". Table I and paragraph 55 make it clear that the proposed standardised method for housing need has no bearing on the examination, nor on the future 5 year land supply position and decision making post adoption of the Joint Local Plan. The proposed approach to calculating local housing need can only be considered when next reviewing or updating the plan, or should the plan be found unsound or withdrawn.

The Councils see no reason why the examination into the Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan should not progress as set out in Table I of the consultation document. The Councils are therefore of the view that the examination should progress using the current approach to establishing housing need as set out in the evidence base supporting the Joint Local Plan.