

## **North Somerset Council**

### **Site Allocations Plan**

#### **Examination Document CD3**

##### **Responding to the housing site assessment process**

1. The Inspector wrote to the Council on 26 June (ID4) providing guidance on the delivery of housing through the Site Allocations Plan and the need to test the provision of additional housing sites for up to 2,500 homes. The Council provided an interim response on 20 July 2017 (CD2). This additional note provides further clarification on how interested parties are able to make representations and how it relates to the ongoing examination process.
2. The first part of the Council's interim response set out the proposed methodology and timetable for the assessment of additional housing sites. The timetable includes an opportunity for interested parties to comment on the process and the outcomes of the site assessment work by 21 August and NSC will take into account any comments received before formally responding to the Inspector following Executive Committee on 5 September.
3. It is recognised that having undertaken the site assessments, the question will arise as to whether the quantum of any additional housing supply identified is 'sufficient'. The purpose of the comments in the second part of the interim letter was to outline the Council's initial thoughts as to the scale of any contingency which needs to be identified, to emphasise that 2,500 dwellings was not a target and that there was a debate to be had as to what the appropriate response in the plan should be. The Council will come to a view as to whether sufficient supply has been identified as part of our formal response to the Inspector.
4. Once the Inspector has received the Council's formal response, she will invite interested parties to comment on the NSC submission in terms of the methodology and conclusions and, following consideration of any responses received, arrange hearings as appropriate.
5. Any changes to the Site Allocations Plan required as a consequence of this process will be formally consulted upon as part of the Proposed Modifications stage and all responses received taken into account by the Inspector prior to finalisation of the Inspector's Report.

Michael Reep  
Planning Policy Manager

25 July 2017