



Director

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We write further to the Inspector's interim findings ("Report") dated 29 August 2018.

AVDC is grateful for the Inspector's confirmation that he remains of the opinion that VALP is capable of being made sound. AVDC confirms that it would be pleased to work with the Inspector towards a report which would recommend the modifications required in order to render VALP sound. AVDC has prepared a separate letter formally requesting that the Inspector recommends main modifications under section 20(7C) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. The Council looks forward to assisting the Inspector further, and welcomes the opportunity to comment now on the Report.

Please find enclosed the response of AVDC in two appendices to this letter. Appendix 1 is a response setting out AVDC's concerns in relation to the Report and highlighting the requirements for review in any event under the recently published NPPF which the Interim Report, unsurprisingly given the timescales, does not address. Appendix 2 is a response prepared by Opinion Research Services in consideration of the housing analysis set out in the Report.

AVDC has reviewed and reflected on the analysis and interim conclusions set out in the Report and also considered the review issue in light of the new NPPF. As can be seen from the attached Appendices, AVDC has genuine concerns about the Report. We should like to request that the Inspector considers further the underlying assumptions contained in the Report, and the Appendices we have provided in that regard. No doubt the Inspector will also want to consider the issue of review in light of the new NPPF.

We are sure that the Inspector will be willing to consider these Appendices, and whilst that consideration is taking place, we do not propose to publish the Report. As a way forward, may we suggest that if, on reflection, the Inspector accepts some or all of the analysis provided in the responses, the Report is modified and reissued as a discussion document? As a discussion document, the Inspector will be able to raise the same points as questions rather than conclusions, and invite a written response from AVDC. In that way, the Inspector will benefit from further explanations before reaching a decided view on what are very sensitive matters for AVDC and neighbouring councils.

Continued overleaf...

We should be grateful if you would pass these documents onto the Inspector.

Yours sincerely

Tracey Aldworth
Director

Enc. Appendix 1 – AVDC Response to the Inspector's Interim Findings
Appendix 2 – ORS Response to the Inspector's Interim Findings