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Sent: 22 October 2020 16:45

To: All Councillors <AllCouncillors@tmbc.gov.uk>

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Subject: Local Plan Update

Dear Councillor,

I am writing to inform you that we have just received a letter from the Local Plan Inspectors informing us that they have some serious concerns regarding the legal compliance matters discussed during the first three days of hearings that took place 6-8th October. They have therefore decided to cancel the next hearing sessions due to commence on Tuesday 3rd November and we will be informing participants and uploading the Inspector's letter on Friday. The letter will be uploaded to the Examination pages of the Council's website tomorrow.

The Inspectors have not provided any details at this point noting that they '.. need to reflect further on these issues before we write to you setting out our thoughts in more detail. We will not then reach a final position until you have had chance to consider and respond to that letter.'

They conclude the letter by saying:

'We understand how important it is for the Council to be able to move forward to get an up to date local plan in place, and that you will be disappointed with what we are saying here. However, we have only come to this view following a great deal of thought and after hearing all the evidence from both the Council and representors. We will aim to provide our detailed letter as soon as possible.'

I will provide a further update when we have received the more detailed letter from the Inspectors.

Regards

Ian Bailey
Planning Policy Manager
Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council

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