

Examination of the Tonbridge and Malling Local Plan

Inspectors: Ms. Louise Crosby MA MRTPI

Mr. Luke Fleming BSc (Hons) MRTPI

Programme Officer: Mrs Louise St John Howe

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22 October, 2020

Mr. Ian Bailey,
Planning Policy Manager,
Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council

By email only

Dear Mr Bailey

Examination of the Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council Local Plan

1. The matter 1 hearing sessions were held between 6th and 8th October 2020. Over these three days we heard discussion on the Duty to Cooperate and other legal compliance issues. We 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.
2. However, at this stage, we do have some serious concerns in relation to legal compliance. Because of this it would not be a good use of anyone's time for the next hearing sessions to go ahead at this stage. Accordingly, we have asked Louise St John Howe, the programme officer, to cancel the hearings in weeks commencing 2nd and 9th November and to notify those registered to attend.
3. 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.

Yours sincerely,

Louise Crosby and Luke Fleming

Examining Inspectors