Mr Philip Ridley  
Head of Planning & Coastal Management  
Suffolk Coastal & Waveney District Councils  
Melton Hill  
Woodbridge  
IP12 1AU

10 August 2012

Dear Mr Ridley

**Suffolk Coastal Core Strategy and Development Management Policies**

Thank you for your letter to the Programme Officer of 6 August 2012 and the accompanying Topic Papers on Housing and Green Infrastructure. I have given careful consideration to the content of these papers in the light of the outcome of the Exploratory Meeting, which was that the Examination would be suspended for a period so that the Council would provide additional evidence as follows:

- A paper showing the calculation behind the 7,590 new dwellings identified by the Council as the full and objectively assessed needs for the District, in order to address the requirements of paragraph 159 of the National Planning Policy Framework.
- A map showing sites of existing and potential alternative green space, where they are, their capacity, suitability and proximity to the area to the east of the A12 to the south and east of Adastral Park.

I note that the Council now considers that the objectively assessed housing need for the District between 2010 and 2027 is 11,000 dwellings and that the plan provision should be 7,900 over this period. This provision is 310 units greater than in the submitted CS. The response is somewhat different to that expected in terms of the above recorded outcome of the Exploratory Meeting. However, the position on objectively assessed housing need, as required by the National Planning Policy Framework, has been clarified and the basis for the 11,000 dwellings is included in the previously submitted evidence. The housing provision is not so different from that in the submitted document that it could be regarded as effectively a new plan. The Topic Paper has explained the Council’s rationale and consequent main modifications to the Core Strategy (CS) are suggested.
Suffolk Coastal Core Strategy Examination
Inspector: Mike Moore BA(Hons) MRTPI CMILT MCIHT
Programme Officer: Annette Feeney
annette.feeney@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk : 01394 444251: 07557 633870

The Council has provided a map showing potential green space in the vicinity of the area to the south and east of Adastral Park. The locations are linked to schemes identified in the Haven Gateway Green Infrastructure Strategy. Additional information has been provided on the potential for on-site green space provision.

I conclude that the Examination would be best served by proceeding to the hearings so that the Council’s evidence on these matters can be fully tested. I will therefore resume my Examination and ask the Programme Officer to set in train the arrangements for hearings to take place in due course. In doing so I must emphasise that I have reached no conclusion on the soundness of the Core Strategy (CS), or on its legal compliance.

I should be grateful if the Council could present any suggested modifications on the pro-forma that was previously provided through the Programme Officer. Where large blocks of text are being changed this can be dealt with by indicating that the paragraph (or paragraphs) are being deleted and by then setting out the new text that is being inserted. It would be helpful to the Examination if the housing modifications (and any others that the Council is seeking to promote at this point) could be published on the website so that any parties intending to submit further written statements on my main issues can have the opportunity to comment on them, where appropriate, in their submissions.

Please would you place this letter on the relevant part of your Council’s Examination website.

Yours sincerely

M J Moore
Inspector