

**SUNDERLAND CORE STRATEGY AND  
DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2015-2033  
EXAMINATION**

Inspector: Mark Dakeyne BA (Hons) MRTPI

**Please direct all communications to:**

Kathryn Stule  
Programme Officer  
Room 2.68  
Civic Centre  
Burdon Road  
Sunderland  
SR2 7DN

Email: [programmeofficer@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:programmeofficer@sunderland.gov.uk)

Tel: 0191 561 1577

**To: All those who have made representations on the Sunderland Core Strategy and Development Plan 2015-2033 Publication Draft**

Sent via e-mail/post as applicable

13 March 2019

Dear Representor,

**Local Plan Examination**

My records show that you/your organisation submitted representations on the Publication version of the Sunderland Core Strategy and Development Plan 2015-2033 (the Local Plan). The Local Plan has been formally submitted to the Secretary of State and is currently subject to Independent Examination. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as Programme Officer responsible for assisting the Inspector with all aspects of the Examination administration.

The Secretary of State has appointed Mark Dakeyne BA (Hons) MRTPI of the Planning Inspectorate to conduct the Examination process. Please note that all communications for the Inspector should be sent to me. To ensure his impartiality the Inspector will not communicate directly with any party, including the Council, outside the formal examination sessions.

A Pre-Hearing Meeting will not be held. Instead the Inspector explains the procedure for the Examination in a Guidance Note which is attached. Please feel free to contact me if anything needs clarification. In addition, the best place to go to keep up to date with the Examination process is the Examination webpage, a link to which is provided below.

<https://www.sunderland.gov.uk/CSDPEIP>

The webpage will be frequently updated and include all correspondence, evidence, representations and other documentation relevant to the Examination (the

Examination Library). For those without internet access, please contact me if you wish to view the Examination Library which is held in hard copy form in the Civic Centre, Burdon Road, Sunderland.

The Inspector has been provided with copies of all representations. He has asked me to point out that representations made in writing (or by e-mail) carry the same weight as those pursued by appearance at any of the hearing sessions. Some of you have already indicated that you wish to participate in the hearing sessions. However, for the avoidance of doubt **I would welcome confirmation of whether you wish to take part in the hearings by Friday 29 March 2019.** It would also be helpful if you could indicate which hearing sessions you would like to attend having regard to the content of your original representations. The Guidance Note includes an indicative hearings timetable which should be referred to in selecting the relevant sessions.

The Examination Hearings are likely to last for about 3 weeks and hearings have been timetabled to start during the week commencing 20 May. Further information is contained in the Guidance Note.

Once participation in the hearings is confirmed the Inspector will finalise the programme for the hearings and the schedule of matters and issues to be discussed at the hearings. The programme and schedule are likely to be available from around 8 April. This will be circulated to those participating in the hearings and will form the basis for any further information that the Inspector needs. In the meantime, please do not submit any further information or representations. A preliminary summary of matters and issues for the examination is attached as Appendix B to the Guidance Note.

The Inspector has been undertaking his initial assessment of the Local Plan, including legal compliance and soundness having regard to the submitted documents, the evidence base and representations. He has raised some preliminary questions with the Council which can be seen on the Examination website and in due course the Council's response will be added.

Please feel welcome to contact me if I can be of any assistance at any time over the weeks ahead.

Yours sincerely

*Kathryn Stule*

PROGRAMME OFFICER

Enclosed: Guidance Note