

From: Ian Kemp <ian@localplanservices.co.uk>
Sent: 11 July 2024 11:26
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Steve Dring
Subject: Re: Examination of BCP Local Plan

Good Morning Mr Ahern,

Many thanks for your email. Very good questions . . .

The starting point for the Inspectors' examination is an assumption that the Council have submitted, what they consider to be, a sound plan. It is therefore the task of others to present evidence as to why the plan is not sound and / or legally compliant and if so, what changes are required in order to make it so. Those objecting to the Plan have a 'right' to participate in the hearing discussions.

Those who are not objecting to the plan do not have a 'right' to participate per se albeit the Inspectors are able to utilise their discretion in allowing contributions from those who they feel will be able to assist them in their task of examining whether the plan is sound and legally compliant.

The defence of the Plan lies with the Council in the first instance and I should perhaps caveat the above and advise that Inspectors only tend to utilise such discretion when it comes to statutory agencies but to coin a phrase 'there's no harm in asking'.

That said, now would not be the time to ask. Whilst the Inspectors have been appointed, they are yet to contact me and therefore the specifics of the Examination are unclear to me. In due course the Inspectors will prepare a document known as 'Matters, Issues and Questions', this will set out the Matters they wish to discuss and seek answers to a number of related questions. At that point, if the questions posed are particularly pertinent to you, a request can be made for further engagement which the Inspectors would consider.

Furthermore, if changes are made to the Plan, they would need to be subject to formal consultation and therefore if you moved from a position of support to objection then you would have an opportunity through that consultation to make the Inspectors aware of your concerns prior to them taking a final view.

I hope that helps in part.

Regards

Ian Kemp
Programme Officer

Mob: 07723 009 166

On 11 Jul 2024, at 11:12, [REDACTED]

Dear Mr Kemp,

I am writing to ask whether I will be eligible to speak at some stage of the Examination. I represent Magwatch, a group of local residents (with a 1000+ Facebook following and a 100+ email list) in north Poole. Our aim is to protect local green spaces. The Bearwood and Merley ward contributed more submissions to the original consultation on the local plan than any other ward.

With regard to the consultation on the draft local plan, many Magwatch members responded by suggesting the plan was both sound and legally compliant. Given that the emphasis of this consultation was primarily to invite criticism of the plan, our responses do not form part of the 300+ published representation.

Amongst those representations are those of WH White and Ken Parke, both of which promoted large developments in the ward. The representation from WH White is over 1000 pages long!

My question to you is whether groups like ours, who are in favour of the submitted local plan, are allowed a voice at the Examination, to counter the loud voice of the developers, or is the Examination primarily a vehicle for those arguing – accurately or tendentiously – that the plan is not sound or legally compliant.

Kind regards,
Frank Ahern

<image001.jpg>

<https://magwatch.org/>