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Sent: 25 August 2011 19:42

To: Programme Officer

Subject: RE: Draft National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) - CD12.96 - response from National Trust

Dear Yvonne,

Thank you for your e-mail and the attached note from the Inspector regarding the draft National Planning Policy Framework.

In this context it is requested that the following observations are taken into account by the Inspector during her deliberations upon the Core Strategy and the suggested changes.

1. It is noted that the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) is currently a draft document and is subject to wide consultation. As set out in the advice to Inspectors (Planning Inspectorate, August 2011) whilst the document is a material consideration care needs to be given to the weight that can be attached to it at present, for the time being (including the period of the examination) existing Planning Policy Statements and Guidance remain in place.
2. The Core Strategy has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Statute, in particular the overarching requirement of the 2004 Act of "the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development" (Section 39.2).
3. In relation to the safeguarding and enhancement of environmental assets such as the historic environment, landscapes and the natural environment the draft NPPF confirms the continuing importance to be attached to these assets (e.g. at paragraphs 23 and 147, and in the Sections on 'Natural Environment' and 'Historic Environment'). In respect of the historic environment it is noted that the only substantive difference between the draft NPPF and existing advice in PPS5 is the absence of any particular advice on monitoring (Policy HE5). With particular regard to the submissions made by the National Trust in relation to heritage the draft NPPF does not affect the arguments that have been presented.
4. Consequently whilst it is recognised that consideration needs to be given to the intentions of Government as currently known, it is not considered that there are specific implications that in themselves require amendments to be made to Trafford's Core Strategy.

Kind regards,
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