

**Hartlepool Local Plan Examination
Inspector's Supplementary Questions
24 August 2017**

Context:

On 18 August 2017 the Borough Council delivered a number of additional evidence base documents in accordance with a timeframe agreed in correspondence with the Inspector following Plan submission. The additional documents which have now been submitted include:

- EX/HBC/26-56 Various SFRA updates including correspondence from Environment Agency dated 16 August 2017 removing their objection (EX/HBC/31).
- EX/HBC/57 Five Year Housing Land Supply Statement as of 1 April 2017
- EX/HBC/58 Assessment of compliance/weight of Development Plan policies with the National Planning Policy Framework
- EX/HBC/59-61 Updates to the Habitat Regulations Assessment, a Mitigation Strategy and Delivery Plan, including constructive email correspondence with Natural England
- EX/HBC/62 Evidence relating to demolitions.

The Council is also shortly to deliver additional evidence relating to Plan wide viability. This may generate some further supplementary questions from the Inspector in due course and those attending for Matter 15 on Wednesday 11 October will be notified if this occurs.

Supplementary Questions (SQs):

Having considered the evidence at EX/HBC26-62 the Inspector has identified the following supplementary questions. Those intending to submit statements can respond to these questions as part of their statement, if necessary. The Council is expected to respond to all supplementary questions in their statements. Given the deadlines for statements remains some way off, there will be no extension of time to respond to these brief supplementary questions.

Matter 14: Flood Risk

SQ1: Does the additional SFRA work result in the need for any main or additional modifications to the Plan?

Matter 7: Housing Land Supply

SQ2: Is the Council's five year supply assessment in EX/HBC/57 robust and in accordance with the national policy and guidance?

SQ3: Is the proposed front-loading of the housing requirement (492dpa 2017-2021) deliverable? (given past market performance). What evidence gives the Council confidence that this rate of delivery is realistic?

SQ4: Does the Plan need to be modified to ensure that the five year housing requirement (updated) is clearly expressed for future decision making purposes?

Matter 13: Natural Environment (with some overlap with Matter 1 – Procedural: Habitat Regulations Assessment)

SQ5: Has the Mitigation Strategy and Delivery Plan been reported to, or signed off by, the Council? Will it be delivered? Are elements provided within existing programmes or resources (for example the foreshore management responsibilities)?

SQ6: Has there been discussion with other authorities and agencies on the Mitigation Strategy and Plan? (such as a wider Durham Coast Warden).

SQ7: Have the mitigation funding formulas been factored into the Plan wide viability work?

SQ8: As a consequence of the updated HRA work are any main or additional modifications likely to be proposed to the Plan?

David Spencer

Inspector.

24 August 2017