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Lucy Howard  
Planning Policy Manager,  
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South Downs Centre,  
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West Sussex, GU29 9DH

Our Ref: PINS/Y9507/429/2

Date: 04 May 2018

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Dear Lucy,

## **EXAMINATION INTO THE SOUNDNESS OF SOUTH DOWNS NPA – LOCAL PLAN**

I am writing on behalf of the Secretary of State to inform you that in response to the submission of the above-named Local Plan, and in accordance with section 20 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) Inspector Brian Sims BSc CEng MICE MRTPI has been appointed to conduct the examination to determine whether the above-named Local Plan is sound.

The precise date for the opening of any formal hearing part of the examination into the Local Plan will be decided by the Inspector.

Your Council will be responsible for the examination arrangements and also for all preliminary procedures. However, the Inspector will be available through the Programme Officer to offer advice on the examination programme and timetable. Arrangements should be made for providing the Inspector with comfortable seating and desk facilities at the examination venue, together with adequate accommodation for those making representations, the general public, the Press and Programme Officer.

Under current arrangements a charge will be made for determining whether your Local Plan is sound. The current fee rate is £993 per day. In addition your council will be required to reimburse any expenses paid for such items as travel costs, subsistence etc. An invoice will be issued for your Local Plan once the report has been despatched. Both the fees and expenses will be payable for all duties carried out in examining your Local Plan.

Once it is clear what the issues are that need to be examined it may be decided that another Inspector or Inspectors should be appointed to deal with certain aspects of the examination.

Yours sincerely

Charm McFarlane on behalf of Bart Bartkowiak

Plans Team