

**BLACKPOOL COUNCIL**  
**LOCAL PLAN CORE STRATEGY EXAMINATION**

**Inspector:** Malcolm Rivett BA (Hons) MSc MRTPI

Please direct all communications to:

Tony Blackburn, Programme Officer, 15 Ottawa Close, Blackburn, BB2 7EB.

Email: tony.blackburn@blackpool.gov.uk

Tel: 01254 260286

12 January 2015

Dear Representor,

**Blackpool Council Local Plan Core Strategy Examination Hearings**

My records show that you/your organisation submitted representations on the Blackpool Council Core Strategy. This has now been formally submitted to the Secretary of State and will be subject to Independent Examination. I should like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the Programme Officer responsible for assisting the Inspector with all aspects of the Examination administration.

The Secretary of State has appointed Malcolm Rivett BA (Hons) MSc 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.

I will confirm the timing and venue of the **Examination Hearings** in the near future, but they are likely to take place in the Spring or early Summer of 2015 and last for approximately 2 weeks.

At this stage it is not anticipated that a Pre-Hearing Meeting will be held and the Inspector will set out an explanation of the procedural and administrative matters relating to the Examination in a Guidance Note, which I will include in a future mailing. Please feel welcome to contact me at any stage if anything needs clarification.

In the meantime, and at all stages through the Examination process, I would urge you to view the Examination webpage on a regular basis as this will be frequently updated with new information and relevant documents. The webpage will be available shortly and a link will be added to the following page from which some preliminary information may be obtained:

<https://www.blackpool.gov.uk/corestrategy/submission>

Those of you without internet access are welcome to contact me if you need to view any particular documents or updates.

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The Inspector has been provided with full copies of all representations and he has asked me to point out that **representations made in writing and email carry the same weight as those pursued by personal appearance at any of the Hearing sessions**. Some of you have already indicated a desire to participate at the Hearing sessions but for the avoidance of doubt **I would welcome confirmation of participation intentions, ideally by 30 January**. I will let you have the Inspector's Guidance Notes for the Examination in due course, and also a draft programme for the Hearing sessions and a schedule of Matters and Issues to be discussed at the Hearings.

The Inspector is currently undertaking his initial assessment of the legal compliance and soundness of the submitted Core Strategy, having regard to the submitted documents, evidence base and representations. Please do not submit any further information or representations at this stage unless requested by the Inspector. The Inspector will shortly be preparing the "Matters & Issues for the Examination", and there may be a further opportunity to comment on these key matters and issues when the schedule is published.

I look forward to our future contact and encourage you to approach me if I can be of assistance at any time over the weeks ahead.

Yours sincerely

Tony Blackburn

Programme Officer