Chelmsford Local Plan Review 2022 – 2041

Examination

Inspectors – Mr H Baugh-Jones BA(Hons) DipLA MA CMLI

Mrs R Morgan BSc(Hons) MCD MRTPI

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HEARING SESSION AGENDA

10 November 2026 10.00 am

MATTER 1

Inspectors' opening announcements

Issue 1 – Whether the Plan has been informed by a Sustainability Appraisal

1.1 Is it clear how the Sustainability Appraisal (January 2025) (SD008) and Addendum (November 2025) (SD009) have informed the preparation of the Plan and its policies at each stage, and how mitigation measures have been dealt with?

1.2 Does the Sustainability Appraisal robustly test the Plan against reasonable alternatives for the scale and distribution of housing, employment, retail and other types of development?

1.3 What alternative spatial strategy options were considered, which were discounted and are the reasons for this clear?

1.4 Is the provision of large strategic sites the most appropriate approach and are there any risks associated with this strategy?

1.5 Are any main modifications necessary for legal compliance?

Issue 2 – Whether the Plan has been prepared in compliance with other legal requirements

1.6 Is the Habitats Regulations Assessment (SD007) robust and have the requirements of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 been met?

1.7 Has the Plan been prepared in accordance with the submitted Local Development Scheme (SD018)?

1.8 Has consultation been carried out in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 and the Council's Statement of Community Involvement (SD019)?

1.9 Concerns raised by Natural England in relation to Policies S4 and S9. Are main modifications therefore necessary for legal compliance with the Regulations?