



Bromsgrove District Council

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Our ref: RH/WR

21st February 2013

Councillor B. Hartnett
Leader Redditch Borough Council
Town Hall
Walter Stranz Square
Redditch
B98 8AH

From the Office of the Leader of the Council

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Dear Councillor Hartnett

I write concerning the duty to cooperate agreement reached between the Councils last summer, and the subsequent events that took place at the respective Council meetings this week.

In response to the decision taken by Redditch Borough Council on the 18th February not to endorse the housing growth material for public consultation, Bromsgrove District Council considered a revised recommendation at its Council meeting on the 20th February.

Firstly, I can confirm that Council approved the Housing Growth Consultation document and decided to proceed with public consultation on Sites 1 and 2.

Secondly, Members considered the position of the two Councils under the duty to co-operate imposed by the Localism Act, and agreed that Redditch Borough Council should be asked to re-consider its position regarding the public consultation on cross border growth as a matter of urgency.

It is the view of Bromsgrove District Council that the evidence prepared by a joint team of planning officers, and which supports the development areas identified in the consultation material, is robust, and in accordance with the decisions taken by the Bromsgrove Cabinet and the Redditch Executive does not warrant any further amendments before consultation with the public.

To that effect, Bromsgrove District Council has resolved to delay the publication of the consultation in order to give sufficient time for Redditch Borough Council to respond to this request. It is still the wish of Bromsgrove District Council to carry out a joint consultation with Redditch as we firmly believe this is in the best interests of the residents in our respective authorities, and also in accordance with the duty to cooperate and the best principles of successful plan making.

Continued.....

We hope that a positive response to this request will be forthcoming. However, in the event that Redditch Borough Council does not endorse the information for public consultation it is the intention of Bromsgrove District Council to publish this material on 1st April for a 6 week consultation period.

We look forward to your response and continued commitment to work together to achieve sound sustainable development plans for both Bromsgrove District and Redditch Borough.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr Roger Hollingworth
Leader of Bromsgrove District Council