



Head of Planning & Development

Buckinghamshire Council

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Dear Ms Dowling,

Re: Response to Rule 6 Letter.

Further to the Examining Authority's publishing of the Rule 6 letter on 13 July 2023 Buckinghamshire Council would wish to raise the following points regarding the Examination procedure and draft Examination Timetable.

Even with the resources of a local authority, Buckinghamshire Council considers that it would be challenging for itself to meet Deadline 1 on 22 August and would wish to raise concerns over the pressure and ability for residents and communities to make written representations and/or attend the Open Floor Hearings within the summer holiday period. Although we appreciate that the Examining Authority may be operating within its own resource and time constraints, and will have not made this decision lightly, we hope that you will consider the possibility of amending the draft Examination Timetable to allow a further two weeks until Deadline 1. This would bring the deadline into early September and would provide all Interested Parties with the best opportunity to engage in the Examination process.

Although we appreciate that the Examining Authority may be operating within its own resource and time constraints, and will have not made this decision lightly, we hope that you will consider the possibility of amending the draft Examination Timetable to give all Interested Parties the best opportunity to engage in the Examination process.

Whilst the Council will register its participation in the Preliminary Meeting through the Event Participation Form, as requested, we wanted to take this opportunity to highlight our intention to participate, particularly in relation to Item 6 the 'Any other matters' item where Buckinghamshire Council is named.

In view of that item, the Council would be obliged if the Examining Authority could provide some context to this matter so that it may come prepared for the Preliminary Meeting.

Yours sincerely

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Christine Urry
Head of Planning & Development
Planning, Growth and Sustainability