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Sandip Mahajan (Planning Policy)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 24 January 2014 10:40
To: PlanningPolicy
Subject: (SANDIP HAS PRINTED FOR THE CONSULTATION RESPONSE BOX) Draft North Dorset Local Plan Consultation – representation on behalf of West Dorset District Council

FAO: Planning Policy, North Dorset District Council

Draft North Dorset Local Plan Consultation – representation on behalf of West Dorset District Council

Thank you for consulting West Dorset District Council on the North Dorset core strategy part 1. We note that your strategy identifies Blandford, Gillingham, Shaftesbury and Sturminster Newton as the key strategic settlements in your district and seeks to focus the vast majority of the district's growth in these 'main towns' as they are the most sustainable locations. We also note that you are not looking to adjoining areas to cater for your objectively assessed housing needs. Outside the defined boundaries of the four main towns, in the remainder of your district (including all the villages), development will be more strictly controlled with an emphasis on meeting local and essential rural needs. Such needs may be met through:

- countryside policies;
- neighbourhood planning; or
- by opting in to the Local Plan Part 2 Site Allocations.

As such, the settlement boundaries defined around the villages have been removed – including Melcombe Bingham which lies close to the West Dorset boundary.

We do not consider that your strategy raises any matters of strategic significance in relation to West Dorset, nor does it conflict with the approach taken in our adopted or emerging local plan, and on that basis I can confirm that West Dorset District Council have no objection to your draft plan.

We will of course continue to liaise on progress with our plans and other policy matters through the established officer and member channels.

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