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Our Ref: PINS/H4315/429/3

Date: 1 October 2012

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Dear Jonathan,

**ST HELENS COUNCIL : FINAL REPORT**

Thank you for your letter of 14 September 2012, providing your comments in response to the fact check of the Inspector's report on the Council's Core Strategy.

The Inspector has corrected the errors that have arisen and made the amendments to the report where appropriate, and I enclose your final report.

Clearly it is now for the Council to adopt the Document at its discretion. The Inspectorate maintains a national database of Local Plans progress on the Planning Portal (and a submissions database) and we would be grateful if you can advise the Plans Team when you adopt in order that your plan status can be updated.

The Council should consider whether adoption could have any effect on appeals currently being considered by the Planning Inspectorate. As you know, appeals must be determined on the basis of the development plan as it exists at the time of the Inspector's (or the Secretary of State's) decision, not as it was at the time of the Council's decision. If adoption changes the policy position, the relevant Inspector(s) will need to take that into account.

If the above circumstances apply, it would be very helpful if the Council could contact the relevant Case Officer(s) in the Planning Inspectorate dealing with any outstanding case(s).



Yours sincerely

Stuart Liddington  
Plans Team