South Oxfordshire CIL Examination

Letter from the Examiner to the Council - 21 October 2015

Thank you for your email dated 16 October 2015. You have drawn my attention to what you describe as an error in the maps within the Draft Charging Schedule (DCS). As a result you consider that the rural area to the south of Didcot should be excluded from the Didcot zone (zone 2) and should be included in zone 1 as shown on the maps in the Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule (PDCS).

This proposed change would appear to have the effect of increasing the CIL charge in this rural area from £85 per square metre (psm) to £150 psm. However, although this may have been a drafting error, I am unable to recommend a change that would have the effect of increasing the proposed CIL charge in this area, without it first having been subject to consultation via a Statement of Modifications.

The CIL Regulations and the Planning Practice Guidance provide guidance on the process which should be followed in this regard. It would be appreciated if you could keep me informed of your intended timetable and next steps. Unfortunately this will delay the preparation of my report.

I also note that there are some differences in the Didcot western boundary, as shown on the maps in the DCS and the PDCS. A small area which is zone 1 in the DCS appears as zone 2 in the PDCS. It would be appreciated if you could clarify the reasons for this mapping difference.

If you have any further queries, please contact me via the Programme Officer.

Katie Child

Examiner