



Ministry of Housing,
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Dear Mark,

South Oxfordshire Local Plan

Thank you for your 4 March letter. It is encouraging that the South Oxfordshire District Council (SODC) has taken a positive approach to progressing the plan, in line with the Secretary of State's Directions set out in his 3 March letter.

We would like to discuss arrangements for the monthly reporting that the Secretary of State has required. MHCLG officials will be in touch to arrange a suitable date to discuss matters including:

- who at SODC has lead responsibility for progressing the plan
- your governance and decision making arrangements for progressing plan
- the resourcing and skills you have in place to progress the plan

Responsibility for the plan remains with SODC. MHCLG oversight via the monthly reporting arrangements will not impact on the independence of the examination process.

Your letter raised a number of secondary issues. However, Secretary of State has directed you to progress the plan through to adoption by December 2020 and expects it to be met. Should a significant delay occur, should you fail to comply with the directions without a good reason or should the plan fail at examination, the Secretary of State has been clear that he will consider taking further intervention action to ensure that an up to-date plan is in place.

Yours sincerely,

Emran Mian
Director General, Decentralisation and Growth
Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government