

## Planning

HEAD OF SERVICE: ADRIAN DUFFIELD



Listening Learning Leading

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Dear Mr Ashcroft

### **Wheatley Neighbourhood Development Plan – South Oxfordshire District Council response to Examiner’s Clarification Note of 20<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

In your clarification note dated 20 November 2019 you raised the following points for the District Council to address:

*What is the current position with the emerging South Oxfordshire Local Plan?*

*Is there an anticipated timescale for a decision on planning application P17/S4254/O at Oxford Brookes University following the recent public inquiry?*

Regarding the position with the emerging South Oxfordshire Local Plan, on 9 October 2019 the Secretary of State for Housing Communities and Local Government issued a temporary Direction on the Council in relation to the emerging Local Plan 2034. The temporary Direction has been made under the provisions of Section 21A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended). This means that the emerging plan has 'no effect whilst the direction is in force', this is set out in section 21A(2) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended). On 23 October 2019 senior council officers from South Oxfordshire District Council met officials from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government in London to discuss the temporary direction relating to the council's emerging Local Plan 2034, which was issued by the Secretary of State on 9 October 2019. Following the meeting, the temporary direction remains in place, discussions between the council and the government on this matter are continuing.

In terms of the anticipated timescale for a decision on planning application P17/S4254/O at Oxford Brookes University, parties have been advised that following

the Recovery of the case on 12 July 2019, the expected report submission date to the Secretary of State will be the 8 January 2020.

Yours Sincerely,

Robyn Tobutt  
Planning Policy Officer (Neighbourhood)