

Inspector's Preliminary Note

As I am sure many of you will be aware, the Government issued a number of new messages on planning policy in March 2010. In particular, I have noted:

- Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment
- Planning Policy Statement 25: Development and Flood Risk (Revised March 2010)
- Planning Policy Statement : Consultation – Planning for a low carbon future in a changing climate
- Planning Policy Statement : Consultation – Planning for a Natural and Healthy Environment

In the course of examining the Oadby and Wigston Core Strategy, I am investigating whether it is consistent with national policy. I have therefore to consider whether the Core Strategy accords with any new policies contained in PPS5, and PPS25 as revised.

The two consultation documents carry substantially less weight than adopted planning policy statements. They may not be taken forward if there is a change of Government at the forthcoming General Election. Whatever the complexion of the new Government, they may be substantially changed before being finalised.

However, it seems to me that all the above documents should be included in the Core Document library for the examination. Also, I intend to ask under Matter 1 (Context and General Approach) and Matter 5 (Climate Change and Renewable Energy; Flood Risk and the Water Environment) whether participants at the Hearing sessions consider that the Core Strategy is consistent with the new National Policy. When writing your statements on the relevant matters, issues and Inspector's questions, you may wish to comment on the new PPSs.

Please get back to me by way of the Programme Officer if the above is unclear.

Jill Kingaby
INSPECTOR
(April 2010)