

Stamford Neighbourhood Development Plan

Examiner's Note 1

Implications of the withdrawal of the submitted Rutland Local Plan on the Stamford Neighbourhood Development Plan

Context

On 1 September 2021 Rutland County Council (RCC) resolved to withdraw the submitted Rutland Local Plan from examination and to prepare a new Plan.

This note assesses the implications of RCC's decision to withdraw the Local Plan on the Stamford Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP). It also sets out the next steps of the examination.

Implications of the withdrawal of the Rutland Local Plan

General

The Stamford NDP had been carefully prepared and submitted in the context of the adopted South Kesteven Local Plan. Policy STM1 H1 of the Local Plan sets out a strategic approach to the development of the Stamford North site. This is further elaborated in Policy 1 of the Stamford NDP.

Both the South Kesteven Local Plan and the Stamford NDP policies make reference to the incorporation of the Quarry Farm site (within Rutland) into the overall Stamford North housing development. The Quarry Farm site was identified as a housing allocation in the emerging Rutland Local Plan.

On the one hand, this approach is good practice. On the other hand, the withdrawal of the Rutland Local Plan has had important consequential implications for the wider development of the Stamford North site. At a strategic level, South Kesteven District Council (SKDC) and RCC are currently discussing the implications of the withdrawal of the Rutland Local Plan on the delivery of the Stamford North site.

The next stages of the Stamford NDP examination

The examination had otherwise reached its fact check stage.

I have discussed the next steps with SKDC and Stamford Town Council. In all the circumstances, it has been agreed that no further work will be undertaken on the examination for three months whilst the wider matter is being considered by the two planning authorities.

I will reassess the situation in early January 2022 and produce a further note at that time.

Andrew Ashcroft

Independent Examiner

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