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Sean Roberts  
Programme Officer  
Civic Centre  
Riverside  
Stafford  
ST16 3AQ

Dear Sean,

### **The Plan for Stafford Borough – Schedule of Main Modifications**

Further to your email of 19<sup>th</sup> November 2013 the council's thank you for the opportunity to provide initial comments on the schedule of main modifications for the Stafford Local Plan.

We understand that there will be a formal round of public consultation on the Schedule of Main Modifications at a later date therefore we have concentrated these initial comments on those matters which we have raised through the hearing sessions relating to Housing at Stone and Gypsy and Travellers.

Our initial comments are:

MOD 39, MOD 40 and MOD 41

The Councils consider that the proposed modifications to Policy C6 'Provision for Gypsies, Travellers & Travelling Show-People' and the supporting text, set out at paragraphs 11.20 to 11.21, do not satisfactorily resolve the reliance upon successor documents, which have not been subject to formal public consultation under the statutory town planning process. It was understood that during the Gypsy and Traveller hearing session Stafford Borough Council stated that further discussions would be held to discuss the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment methodology, in particular the calculation of transit sites. The Council's seek clarification as to whether this is still the case and would still welcome this opportunity.

Please tell us if you need this letter in an alternative format

**contacting the council:** telephone 01782 23 4234

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MOD 40

The Councils welcome Stafford Borough Council's stated commitment 'to work with its neighbouring authorities to produce an update to the current Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment.' However, it is noted that there is no timing for this update to take place. For this modification to have weight the Councils would welcome the opportunity to agree a timescale with Stafford Borough Council for the completion of this joint commission.

MOD 71

The Councils question whether there should be an allowance of 40 dwellings at Stone for the year 2020/21 as this would appear not to be in accordance with Policy Stone 1, which defers development at Stone until 2021.

The Council's reserve the right to make formal comments once the modifications are subject to statutory consultation which will be done in consultation with Councillors.

Yours sincerely

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