Craven Local Plan Inspector's Matters, Issues and Questions for Examination

Matter 1 – Compliance with the Act and Regulations, the Habitats Regulations and Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

Issue 1 – Duty to Cooperate

- Q1. What strategic, cross-border matters have arisen through the preparation of the Local Plan and what cooperation took place to resolve them? Has the cooperation between neighbouring authorities been constructive and proactive?
- Q2. What actions were identified as a result of dialogue with neighbouring authorities? What were the outcomes and how did they shape the preparation of the Plan?
- Q3. Is the Memorandum of Understanding between Craven District Council and the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority (Appendix 1 to the Duty to Cooperate Statement Update¹) the most up-to-date position on cross-boundary issues relating to housing? Does it reflect the latest evidence on housing needs?
- Q4. How were the levels of 'significance' determined in Chapter 6 of the *Duty to Cooperate Statement Update*? How have they been reflected in the preparation of the Local Plan and dialogue with neighbouring authorities?
- Q5. How were issues surrounding economic growth considered with neighbouring authorities? What actions were identified as necessary as a result of dialogue and what were the outcomes?
- Q6. Has the Duty to Cooperate under sections 22(5)(c) and 33A of the 2004 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2012 Regulations been complied with, having regard to advice contained in the National Planning Policy Framework (the 'Framework') and the National Planning Practice Guidance (the 'PPG')?
- 1. The Council have prepared a Cross-boundary Strategic Issues and Duty to Cooperate Statement, this details the cross-boundary issues and the bodies that the Council have worked with. Appendix 1 contains the MoU between the Council and the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, this provides a level of agreement on the housing figure for Craven, it is does not however provide details on how the full OAN will be met across the housing market area. The key concerns of the HBF relate to housing need and delivery, and the need for the authorities of the housing market area to work together to ensure that the need is met, and homes are delivered. The HBF consider there is still further work to do on this issue.
- 2. The 2017 SHMA update increases the OAN to 242 dwellings per annum, with 206 dwellings attribute to the Craven Local Plan area, and 36 dwellings to the Yorkshire Dales National Park. The Yorkshire Dales Local Plan was adopted in 2016, it looks to expand the supply of housing to meet a target of 55 new dwellings each year. Paragraph 4.3 of this document states that the 55 dwellings can be disaggregated into the three main housing market areas of Richmondshire (18), Craven (27) and South Lakeland (10). However, the Yorkshire Dales Local Plan covers more than just the Craven district HMA. It is therefore not clear how the OAN identified by Craven will be provided for within the National Park, and as mentioned previously this is not covered by the MoU or the Duty to Cooperate Statement. It is noted that previously the Local Plan had chosen to utilise the figure for the whole of Craven district as its housing figure ignoring any contribution to be made by the Yorkshire Dales Local Plan.