

FAO of CCC Local Plan Examination Programme Officer.

Thank you for inviting Dover District Council's to respond to Canterbury City Council's 'Table of Examples of Consultation- Evidence of duty to Co-operate in respect of the transport implications of the Local Plan and relevant minutes and transport strategy':

The Inspector will no doubt be aware that the Planning Advisory Service (PAS) and the Local Government Association (LGA) have published a 'Simple Guide to Strategic Planning and the Duty to Cooperate'

<http://www.pas.gov.uk/documents/332612/1099327/Simple+Guide+to+Strategic+Planning+and+the+Duty+to+Cooperate+%2878kb+8+pages%29/98b14aa0-5eec-49f9-8341-1f3c1d687cfa>

We would particularly like to draw to the Inspector's attention Section 9 of the above PAS/LGA Guidance which states:

'There is no fixed format for how this evidence should be presented, nor what it should comprise, but it should:

- **flow from the issues that have been addressed jointly**
- highlight the **practical policy outcomes** that have resulted from the joint work.
- succinct, using weblinks to evidence where possible

A 'tick box' approach or a collection of correspondence will not be sufficient. Councils will also **need to show how they have considered joint plan-making arrangements, what decisions were reached and why.** Councils need to report how the duty is being taking forward on an ongoing basis – effective cooperation does not end at adoption – it should continue through plan implementation and its effectiveness should be monitored through the Annual Monitoring Report to help flag up where a review of policy is needed'.

Having now had the opportunity to look at the further information that has been submitted by CCC on the DTC, this appears to be simply a collection of correspondence from a number of meetings. At the heart of the DTC is that there must be evidence to demonstrate that there was effective engagement sufficiently early on in the process to be able to influence the content of the Plan and in accordance with the above guidance, it must not just consist of a collection of correspondence with no specific actions listed.

Turning to Dover District Council's concerns about the planned retail development, this additional information on DTC does refer to a meeting that was held at DDC's Offices on the 14th June 2012. We would like to respectfully point out that this meeting was arranged by DDC and was one of a number of meetings that Officers from DDC convened with adjoining LPAs to discuss the initial findings from our own Retail Study Update prior to the findings being incorporated into our own Land Allocations Local Plan.

Please could you confirm that you will pass the above E-mail onto the Inspector that has been appointed to conduct the Examination of the CCC Local Plan.

Thank you

