



Angela Furlong  
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CLL002/aw

Dear Angela

**CANTERBURY DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN EXAMINATION: Air Quality**

We welcome the Inspector's invitation to comment on any implications of the recent *ClientEarth* High Court judgment for the emerging Local Plan and are pleased to respond on behalf of our client **Corinthian Mountfield Ltd.**, the promoter of the proposed South Canterbury strategic site. The judgment quashed the national Air Quality Plan.

We have considered the judgment and have sought the views of our co-consultant who undertook the air quality assessment for the South Canterbury planning application, as well as our client's planning solicitor.

The City Council has already taken appropriate and proportionate measures to improve air quality in Canterbury, including:

- the declaration and subsequent extension of an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) in the city centre;
- the adoption of an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP), which the Council intends to review; and
- the incorporation of appropriate policies in the draft Local Plan, which are not predicated upon the national Air Quality Plan.

In view of this, there is no need for the Council to take any further measures to improve air quality in Canterbury, nor to delay adoption of the Local Plan, pending any further air quality modelling that is undertaken by the Government in the light of the *ClientEarth* judgment.

We would also emphasise the following points:

- there is no need for the Council to take any specific further air quality improvement measures that would have a bearing upon the Local Plan;
- the considerable length of time that would elapse by unnecessarily awaiting the outcome of further air quality modelling by the Government; and

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- the strong desirability of early adoption of the Local Plan, given the protracted period of its gestation and the appropriateness of establishing certainty as soon as possible concerning the future of the District.

We trust the Inspector finds these comments helpful and look forward to his early report of the Examination.

Yours sincerely

*Andrew Wintersgill*

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