| Steve Birkinshaw | | |
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| Head of Planning and Regeneration | Our Ref: | PINS/3312282/02 |
| Erewash Borough Council | | |
| | Date: | 9 January 2024 |

Dear Mr Birkinshaw,

**Examination of the Erewash Core Strategy Review**

Thank you for the response you provided in a letter dated 22 December 2023. I have reviewed the points you have made regarding the concerns I initially raised with the Council on 19 October 2023 but have read nothing that would lead me to come to a different conclusion. I trust the Council is currently making arrangements to consult those who made comments at Regulation 18.2 but were not informed about the Regulation 19, as requested in my letter dated 14 December 2023.

In terms of the next steps, I have given consideration to your preference for Option 1. However, I have decided to proceed with Option 2 and postpone the Hearing sessions until the consultation for the excluded group has concluded. This will enable those who wish to be heard to take part in the discussions.

Whilst this will result in a delay to the Hearings programme, it will remove the need for additional duplicated sitting time and the need to revisit issues that have already been considered. Given the substantial number of representors involved in the additional consultation (you have identified 761 people) there is potential for a significant number of representations and a real risk of the need to re-run a large number of the sessions, at additional time and expense.

I note your view that the Council has no reason to believe that any additional representations will raise additional material planning considerations. This may be so. However, this would not negate the need to re-run sessions should the representors wish to exercise their right to be heard.

On this basis, please confirm to me via the Programme Officer that arrangements have been made for the additional consultation to take place and provide details of the dates of the consultation so that arrangements can be made to reschedule the Hearing sessions.

Yours sincerely,

*K Ford*

INSPECTOR