

Andrew Ashcroft  
Independent Examiner  
Freckenham Neighbourhood  
Development Plan

Our ref: T.Ps.1.2.1.1.Frck.Ex  
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12<sup>th</sup> August 2024

Dear Mr Ashcroft

### **Freckenham Neighbourhood Plan Examiner's Clarification Note.**

Please find below an officer level response on behalf of West Suffolk Council regarding the point of clarification concerning Policy FRE2 issued on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2024.

#### Policy FRE2

I note that the West Suffolk Local Plan was submitted for its own examination in May 2024. Is West Suffolk Council satisfied that the Local Plan has reached an appropriate stage in its preparation and examination to justify the approach taken in the neighbourhood plan (which relies on the allocation of the Fordham Road site in the Local Plan)?

### **Council response:**

The West Suffolk Local Plan is at an advanced stage in the plan preparation process having been submitted for examination on the 24<sup>th</sup> of May 2024. Examiners were appointed on the and issued guidance notes for the examination in June which gave a provisional date for the hearings as November 2024 – January 2025. The Inspectors Preliminary Questions have not raised any issues directly concerning the proposed allocation Policy AP60 Land north of the village hall in Freckenham.

At the Regulation 19 Local Plan consultation stage four responses were received concerning allocation policy AP60. Please see a link to comments on at the bottom of the following page: [West Suffolk Local Plan Submission Draft \(Regulation 19\) 2024 - West Suffolk Local Plan \(Regulation 19\) Submission Draft January 2024 - West Suffolk Planning Policy Consultations \(inconsult.uk\)](#) . A number of objections were raised to Freckenham being classed a type A village, and therefore receiving limited

growth, in the settlement hierarchy, however this was not raised as an issue in the Inspectors preliminary questions.

West Suffolk Council is content that the site is available, suitable, deliverable, and developable, and that Policy FRE2 of the Freckenham Neighbourhood Plan is in conformity with, and compliments the proposed allocation in the West Suffolk Local Plan. Given the advanced stage of local plan preparation, the consistency of the neighbourhood plan policy with the local plan allocation and the relatively low number and nature of objections to the site allocation the council is comfortable with the relationship between the neighbourhood plan and local plan allocation.

Yours sincerely

*Boyd Nicholas*

Boyd Nicholas  
Principal Planner