



4/03 Kite Wing  
Temple Quay House  
2 The Square  
Bristol  
BS1 6PN

Direct Line: 0117 372 8468  
Customer Services: 0117 372 6372  
Fax No: 0117 372 8782  
e-mail: christopher.snarr@pins.gsi.gov.uk

---

Bruce McDonald, Chief Executive  
Royal Borough of Kingston upon  
Thames  
Guildhall  
High Street  
Kingston upon Thames  
KT1 1EU

Our Ref: PINS/Z5630/429/8

Date: 24<sup>th</sup> November 2011

---

Dear Mr McDonald,

**EXAMINATION INTO THE SOUNDNESS OF THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF KINGSTON UPON THAMES CORE STRATEGY DPD**

1. As you know, I was appointed by the Secretary of State to carry out an independent examination of the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames Core Strategy Development Plan Document, which was submitted on 26 May 2011 under section 20 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
2. My overall conclusion is that, with the changes recommended in my Report, this DPD satisfies the requirements of Section 20 (5) (a) and (b) of the 2004 Act and the associated 2004 Regulations (as amended), and also meets the soundness criteria set out in Planning Policy Statement 12. Thus, I find that the Core Strategy has complied with the legal requirements and is sound.
3. I held a Pre-Hearing Meeting on 21 July 2011. The Examination was conducted by way of written exchanges and a series of hearings that were held between 6 September and 13 September 2011. I have also considered the representations made following the consultations on the Council's suggested changes and its Sustainability Appraisal in September 2011, and those consultation replies on the Government's July 2011 draft National Planning Policy Framework.
4. Please convey my thanks to all the Council's staff for their helpful and constructive responses to my questions. This was a complex Examination which was conducted with good humour and professionalism by your staff. I would also like to record my grateful appreciation to my Programme Officer, Pauline Butcher - her friendliness, organisational skills, and efficiency ensured that the entire Examination ran smoothly.



5. I hope that my conclusions and recommendations in the accompanying Report will assist your Council in producing a positive social, economic and environmental outcome for the people of your Borough over the next 15 years.

Yours sincerely,

*David Vickery*

Inspector