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25 April 2016

Dear Mark

**Hassocks Neighbourhood Plan - Air Quality**

I write further to our meeting on the 06 April 2016 and our discussions with respect to air quality and the emerging Hassock's Neighbourhood Plan (HNP).

Following this meeting, the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group (NPWG) have instructed me to seek confirmation that the District Council support the approach taken by the Parish Council in respect of air quality matters at Stonepound Crossroads in the preparation of the HNP.

As you know the NPWG are mindful of the air quality issues within the Parish and have taken this environmental constraint into consideration throughout the Plan making process including selection of housing sites. The evidence base, which includes amongst other documents, the Hassocks Neighbourhood Plan Map, acknowledges the environmental constraints of the Parish and includes an air quality management area (AQMA) buffer which ranges from 250m-1000m. The Sustainability Appraisal process has also had due regard to this issue.

The issue of air quality was discussed at our recent meeting in light of West Sussex County Council's response to the Pre Submission Plan. As part of this discussion, it was acknowledged that air quality is a strategic issue that is affected by matters beyond the physical scope of the Neighbourhood Plan. You confirmed the need for the Parish to address and respond to air quality issues in a proportionate manner, which much of the responsibility falling on higher tier authorities.

You verbally advised that the District Council consider the approach taken by the Parish in respect of air quality and the air quality management area (AQMA) to have been proportionate, robust and reasonable.

Given the sensitivity of this issue, I have been asked by the NPWG to seek written confirmation from your Authority that, from an air quality perspective, you are supportive of the work undertaken, and agree the Plan can proceed to its Regulation 16 stage, without the need for further evidence base reports or substantive changes to the Plan.

I trust that this is acceptable, and I look forward to hearing from you on this matter. If you wish to discuss this any further, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Yours sincerely

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**Dale Mayhew** BA (Hons) BTP MRTPI  
Director

cc: Ian Credland  
Laura Bourke  
Jane Bromley