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Mr W. Lamb
Gosport 2
Programme Officer
Sheridan House
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Britdoc No: DX 136567

12 December 2006

Dear Mr Lamb

**HAMPSHIRE MINERALS AND WASTE CORE STRATEGY- SUBMISSION OF
ADDITIONAL STATEMENT FROM GOSPORT BOROUGH COUNCIL
(REFERENCE NUMBER 1138)**

I enclose copies of the Borough Council's further written statement in respect of Matter 9 relating to Policy S8, paragraph 20.16 of the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Core Strategy for consideration by the Inspector. In accordance with the guidance notes for participants I enclose 4 paper copies of the statement and 3 copies of the additional documents referred to in the statement for the Core Documents Library. I have also submitted an electronic copy to you.

I would be grateful if you could notify me on receipt of the documents for my records. If you have any queries concerning my letter please contact me on my direct line.

Yours sincerely

Kim Catt
Senior Planning Officer

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Is the strategy for providing sand and gravel in accordance with national and regional guidance, with proposed provision levels based on sound, robust and credible evidence, reflecting the particular circumstance of Hampshire.

With particular reference to:

matter (xii) Should policy S8 specifically exclude “aviation / airfield use” areas?

1.0 Introduction

1.1 The Borough Council’s evidence concerns itself solely with the matter (xii) should policy S8 specifically exclude “aviation / airfield use” for the purposes of this examination.

2.0 Tests of Soundness

2.1 The Borough Council supports the overall direction of the Core Strategy and regards it as essentially sound. Its primary concern is that aviation activity has not been included in the criteria for paragraph 20.16 regarding sites and locations for sand and gravel extraction.

2.2 In terms of meeting the tests of soundness, the Borough Council considers that paragraph 20.16 does not meet Test iv (b) of PPS12: Local Development Frameworks (NCD04) because potential mineral extraction on or adjacent to airfields should take into consideration the issue of birdstrike with the creation of new mineral workings close to or on parts of active airfields. Circular 01/2003: Safeguarding Aerodromes, Technical Sites and Military Explosives Storage Areas: The Town and Country Planning (Safeguarded Aerodromes, Technical Sites and Military Explosives Storage Areas) Direction 2002 (NCD_24) recognises the hazards posed by bird strike and seeks to guard against new or increased hazards caused by new development.

2.3 Mineral extraction and quarrying are regarded as a particular hazard because although they do not in themselves necessarily attract birds the sites are often used for landfill or for the creation of wetland habitats and potentially can increase the possibility of bird strike on airfields.

2.4 The Hampshire Minerals and Waste Local Development Framework Integrated Sustainability Appraisal of the Issues and Options for the Core Strategy (CCD 42) recognises that the Strategy area is served by a number of airports and airfields and that this can have implications for mineral activities. Such sites – can attract large number of birds which can result in bird strike.

2.5 This is point is also recognised in paragraph 2.44 of the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Development Framework - Hampshire Minerals Plan Revised Scoping Report (September 2006). Although this document relates to the work on the Hampshire Minerals Plan rather than the Strategy, it also recognises that bird strike hazards can have implications for minerals activities

2.6 Although Policy DC9 regarding public safety this does not really deal with the unique situation of airfields. The Civil Aviation Authority’s – Safety Regulation Group (SRG) published guidance in the form of Aerodrome Bird Control (TCD_13). In paragraph 1.6 relating to a Safeguarding Strategy, the CAA conclude that it is not possible to prevent birds using areas of open water in the vicinity of the aerodrome. Furthermore, they take the view that once

water features have been introduced they will always have the potential to attract birds. The cumulative impacts of water environments can increase the hazards to aircraft to an unacceptable level.

- 3.0 How can the Core Strategy be made sound?
- 3.1 Paragraph 20.16 should address the particular circumstances of operational airfields concerning the potential for birdstrike hazards in accordance with Circular 01/2003.
- 4.0 What is the precise change/wording that is being sought?
- 4.1 The Borough Council requests that paragraph 20.16 be amended to include an additional criteria (vii) areas of aviation activity.