



Harborough Local Plan (March 2025) Examination

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Examination Webpage: [Local Plan Examination | Harborough District Council](#)

16 June 2026

Panel Note 3

Supplementary Preliminary Questions

1. The Panel thanks the Council for its response to our questions of the 29 May 2026 [ID2]. We are yet to give that response [HDC1] our detailed consideration but will respond to the Council as necessary in due course. The Panel looks forward to receiving the first tranche of missing documentation, due by the end of June 2026.
2. In the meantime, we have been progressing with our preparation, including a more detailed interrogation of the Plan's Regulation 19 representations. Having regard to the evidence before us, it appears to us that the position that the Plan meets the requirements of NPPF 2024 paragraph 234(a) is less clearcut than previously considered. This matter may therefore require further consideration.
3. The Council addresses this matter in its Housing Topic Paper [TPCNLP7]. That sets out in brief why the Council considers the Plan meets the requirements of NPPF 2024 paragraph 234(a) and therefore should be examined against the December 2023 NPPF. In response to our Panel Note 1 [ID1], the Council also confirms its calculation of Local Housing Need (LHN) in accordance with footnote 83 of NPPF 2024.
4. However, that evidence does not address the matters raised by a number of objectors. Those address that such a calculation is based on a draft housing requirement that includes a contribution to unmet need, that it should not include any unmet need, and without the contribution to unmet need, the Plan's draft housing requirement would not meet 80% of LHN calculated in

accordance with footnote 83 of NPPF 2024. The nub of objectors' concern is that they consider the Plan therefore does not meet the requirements of NPPF 2024 paragraph 234(a).

5. Please can the Council, as a matter of urgency, provide a clear exposition of how it considers the Plan meets the tests of paragraph 234a, addressing the specific matters set out above. A Council response should be submitted to the Panel **by 3pm Friday 19 June 2026.**

Conclusion

6. Please publish this letter on the Examination website. Following receipt of the Council's response to the above, we will be able to further advise on how we consider that the Examination shall proceed.
7. For the avoidance of doubt, other than that specifically requested by the Panel, no further representations, evidence, or other written material should be submitted to the Examination by any party.

R Barrett, L Nurser and W Cooper

INSPECTORS