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The Chief Executive
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Our Ref: PINS/A1910/429/4

Date: 2 July 2013

Dear Mr Zammit

Dacorum Core Strategy Development Plan Document

As you know I was appointed by the Secretary of State to carry out an independent examination of the above mentioned DPD which was submitted on 22 June 2012, pursuant to section 20 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (the 2004 Act). I conducted the examination by way of written exchanges and a series of hearings which were held between 9 and 18 October 2012.

My report concludes that the submitted DPD is sound and should be adopted, subject to a number of Main Modifications (including the commitment to an early review of the plan), and the reasons why I have come to this view. In reaching my conclusions on the soundness of the DPD I have had regard to the representations that were made on it in the 6 weeks following publication in accordance with regulation 27 of the 2008 regulations, along with subsequent written submissions and oral contributions made during the hearings, including comments on the implications of the National Planning Policy Framework. I have also taken into account the consultation response to the proposed Main Modifications. The Main Modifications required to make the plan sound are set out in the Appendix to the report.

I would like to take this opportunity to record my thanks to the Council's team under the direction of Laura Wood, for the professional and helpful way in which they prepared for and contributed to the examination. I would also like to thank Ian Kemp, the Programme Officer. His efficient and effective handling of the arrangements for the examination helped to ensure that it ran smoothly. Last but not least I wish to thank all the participants in the examination for their informed and helpful contributions to the debate about the soundness of the Dacorum Core Strategy.

Yours sincerely,

David Hogger

Inspector