

DEVELOPMENT PLAN INITIAL SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT

INITIAL SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE PLANNING INSPECTORATE AND SOUTH KESTEVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL AT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME STAGE

THIS SERVICE AGREEMENT IS NOT LEGALLY BINDING

This service level agreement relates to South Kesteven District Council Local Development Scheme.

1. Introduction

1.1 This is an agreement between the Local Planning Authority (LPA) indicated above and the Planning Inspectorate (PINS). It represents an initial service level agreement between the LPA and PINS in connection with the submission of a Local Development Scheme (LDS) to the Secretary of State by the LPA.

2. Agreement

2.1 This agreement confirms that PINS has seen the LDS produced by the LPA for submission to the Secretary of State and is broadly content with the programme for the examination of the proposed development plan documents, and that subject to:

- i. the LPA meeting the milestones set out in the LDS;
- ii. the LPA submitting a plan they consider to be sound having regard to the tests of soundness set out in paragraphs 4.23 and 4.24 of PPS12;
- iii. the LPA demonstrating that it has considered the resource implications of the predicted examination programme and has put in place the necessary arrangements to ensure that it can meet the requirements set by PINS for the management of the examination processes;
- iv. the LPA undertaking that at the appropriate time in relation to each individual document to be examined it will:
 - a) Appoint a Programme Officer with appropriate qualifications and/or experience¹ to manage the examination(s); the PO to be in post at the latest on submission of each individual document named in the LDS.
 - b) Establish appropriate representations databases.²

¹ The Inspectorate holds a list of professional Programme Officers which is available on request. LPAs may wish to consider sharing Programme Officer resources with one another in the interests of efficiency. It is accepted that it will not always be necessary to appoint a Programme Officer for a small examination into for example an SCI.