

Examination of the West Somerset Local Plan 2032

Written statement on behalf of The Crown Estate, Representor ID 18
(February 2016)

Matter 1: Legal Compliance and Duty to Cooperate

Issue 1. The Council has published a self-assessment document (ED??) showing how it considers it has met the legal requirements. Other than with regard to the Duty to Cooperate (dealt with separately), if it has not, in what way has it failed and what now needs to be done in way of correction

The Crown Estate's response

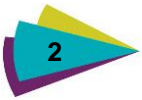
1.1.1 No comments.

Issue 2. SD17 sets out how the Council considers it has met the Duty-to-Cooperate. However, this is dated December 2014 and cannot take into account what may have been continuing activity up to the submission of the Plan in July 2015 or, at the very least, the finalisation of that document. Would it be reasonable for me to conclude from the evidence in that document and any further evidence that the Council had engaged constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis with those prescribed in statute in maximising the effectiveness with which the preparation of the Plan has been undertaken? If not, in what specific ways has the Council failed to meet the Duty?

The Crown Estate's response

1.1.2 The Duty to Cooperate cannot have been fully discharged given the lack of a clearly defined and justified Full Objectively Assessed Housing Needs (FOAHN) figure (see The Crown Estate's response to Matter 2 for further details). This will be central to demonstrating compliance with the Duty-to-Cooperate given the need for discussions with adjoining authorities regarding how the FOAHN is to be met.

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