NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL – LOCAL PLAN (PART 2) EXAMINATION

Addendum to Inspector’s Post Hearing Note 4 – Required changes for further consultation. Policy criteria for NMT2, 3 and 4

After I had completed my Note 4, it was drawn to my attention that I had not commented on the soundness of the detailed criteria for policies NMT3, 4 and 5 which had been an agenda item for the relevant hearing, but had not been discussed on the day. This omission from my note was an error. This note addresses that omission. The representor concerned agreed that the matters could be addressed on the basis of the original representations.

I invite the Council to include the following changes as part of the consultation on all changes to be undertaken in due course.

NMT2
5th bullet iii - delete: of 25m width from the criterion.
Given that outline planning permission has been granted for a scheme with a buffer of 10m and that the Council has suggested a minor change amending the buffer to 20m (Pre-hearing Statement, January 2013) there does not seem to be the justification for the specific width stated which, in any case, seems unnecessarily prescriptive.

NMT4
5th bullet add at end: (where possible)
This addition makes the policy more consistent with the approach accepted for the retention of existing landscape features in other policies.

Paragraph 4.110. Delete last sentence. Whilst it is likely that NMT4 will be developed after implementation of NMT2 and 3, I see no planning justification to require this to be the case. The last sentence of 4.110 is not justified. The remainder of the paragraph provides for sufficient coordination between the proposals.

In my Note 4 I requested an additional criterion for this policy be included in the consultation, this remains valid.

Clearly, as set out in Note 4, my concern with NMT4 is timely implementation and changes to the detailed criteria are relevant only if the policy is retained.

No other changes are necessary.

Simon Emerson
3 June 2013.