

WEST OF ENGLAND

"BUILDING OUR FUTURE"

Dear stakeholder,

West of England Joint Spatial Plan – withdrawal letter and next steps

The four West of England councils (Bath and North East Somerset, Bristol City, North Somerset, and South Gloucestershire) submitted the West of England Joint Spatial Plan to the Secretary of State for examination in April 2018. The plan set out proposals for future development in order to meet the region's housing, employment and transport needs to 2036.

In July 2019, examination hearings on the Joint Spatial Plan were held, chaired by two Planning Inspectors appointed by the Secretary of State. Following these hearing sessions, the Inspectors concluded there were fundamental concerns about the soundness of the plan, and they indicated that withdrawal of the plan from examination was likely to be the most appropriate option. On 7th April 2020 the four councils wrote to the Inspectors to confirm the withdrawal of the Joint Spatial Plan from examination.

In line with Regulation 27 of The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations (2012), all documentation relating to the Joint Spatial Plan, including the representations made during the consultations on the Plan, will now be removed from the public domain, and will no longer be available online. You will also no longer be contacted about the Joint Spatial Plan.

The West of England councils remain committed to working positively with the West of England Combined Authority (WECA) to address the region's strategic planning needs, and will be jointly commissioning strategic evidence to inform future development. To keep informed of strategic planning in the West of England, please visit www.westofengland-ca.gov.uk/west-of-england-joint-planning

Stay safe and well,
Kind regards,

The four West of England councils

