

AGENDA FOR HEARING SESSION 1:

Inspector's Introduction & opening; and the Council's opening statement

Matters 1- Legal requirements & the Duty to Co-operate

Venue: Council Offices, Dereham Time: 09.30 Tuesday 17th April

Participants:

Breckland Council

Timothy Birt (For Ovington Parish Council)

Mike Jones (For RSPB)

Agenda

1. Introduction by Inspector
2. Opening statement by Council
3. Overall, has the Plan been prepared in accordance with the Duty to Co-Operate imposed by Section 33A of the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended)?
4. Has the Plan been prepared in accordance with the Council's Statement of Community Involvement and met the minimum consultation requirements in the 2012 Regulations?
5. Is the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) adequate? Has the Plan's formulation been based on a sound process of SA and testing of reasonable alternatives?
6. Has the Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) been undertaken in accordance with the Regulations?
7. The HRA does not rule out the potential for likely significant effects on the Brecks Special Protection Area (SPA) from the proposed site allocations in Swaffham, Watton and Narborough. This is due to a lack of data in terms of functional land (between 1500 metres and 3 km from the

SPA) for Stone Curlew. The HRA advises that the provision of project level HRAs will be required to demonstrate that there would be no significant effects. Is this an appropriate approach? Does this fulfil the requirements of the Regulations?

8. Has the Plan been prepared in accordance with the Council's Local Development Scheme?
9. Does the plan include policies designed to secure that the development and use of land contribute to the mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change?
10. The Council's approach to 'saved' allocations and policies.
11. Any Other Matters?