



The Planning Inspectorate

An Executive Agency in the Department of the Environment and the Welsh Office

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The Chief Executive
Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council
Town Hall, Brighton Street
Wallasey, Wirral
Merseyside L44 8ED

Your Ref:

Our Ref: PINSM/4325/539/1

Date: 12 June 1997

Dear Sir

WIRRAL UNITARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN

I am pleased to enclose the report prepared by Mr R Ogier following the inquiry into objections to your Authority's Unitary Development Plan. The inquiry opened on 19 March 1996 and closed on 26 September 1996.

On behalf of the Inspector I would like to thank your Authority for its assistance before and during the inquiry. I feel sure that this has helped him minimise the time taken to produce this report which in turn has made an effective contribution towards achieving the Inspectorate's objective of expediting its part of the overall Plan-preparation process.

Given the very important role of development plans in the planning system, the Inspectorate assigns its more senior and experienced Inspectors to this field of work. The demanding nature of development plan work is widely acknowledged and you will appreciate that the task of conducting the inquiry and preparing this report has required a high level of professional commitment, as well as a considerable degree of stamina, on the part of the Inspector. His objective has been to produce a report which is both comprehensive and concise. I commend it to your Authority.

In principle, once the report has been submitted to you there can be no direct avenue of reference back to the Inspector. However, if there appears to be a crucial lack of clarity in the meaning of any statement, or an omission, which you consider needs to be resolved before publication of the report, I will consult the Inspector and seek amplification of those points. This can then be published as an addendum to the report. Any such reference back should be made to the Inspectorate within 3 months of the date of this letter and it would be clearly helpful to the Inspector if all the points you require clarified could be included in one letter. No such formal action is necessary in the case of any minor typographical errors which do not alter the meaning of a statement. You may correct these yourself.

I would be grateful if you could notify the Inspectorate beforehand of the date on which the Inspector's report is to be published. I would also welcome, in due course, a list of recommendations made by the Inspector but not accepted by your Committee, together with the reasons for their rejection. This is so that we may appreciate your Council's reactions to the report and its recommendations, as well as monitoring the effectiveness of our own part in the Development Plan process.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. M. Pritchard'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent loop at the beginning of the first name.

C M Pritchard
Development Plans Division