

Welwyn Hatfield Local Plan Examination
Stage 8 Hearing Sessions

Due to the Corona Virus (Covid-19), the Stage 8 hearing sessions of the Welwyn Hatfield Local Plan Examination, which were scheduled to take place 11-15 May 2020, have had to be postponed.

The advice from PINS is that hearing sessions should not take place for at least three months but as you will appreciate it is quite possible that this period will be extended. Below are two links to the current Guidance Notes from PINS which cover both the general situation and Local Plan Examinations in particular.

PINS GENERAL ADVICE <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-planning-inspectorate-guidance>

LOCAL PLANS

ADVICE https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/873247/24_March_2020_COVID-19_local_plans_guidance.odt

The Inspector will seek to rearrange the Hearings with the Council on a date as soon as possible after mid June, and I will be notifying all those who are entitled to take part in the Examination as soon as these dates have been arranged. However, any hearing sessions that are arranged would be provisional as they could be affected if restrictions on gatherings continue beyond the currently envisaged three month period.

Although the Stage 8 hearing sessions will not be taking place the Inspector has confirmed that the deadline for hearing statements for the Matters that were to be discussed at the May hearing sessions remains as 5.00 pm on Thursday 23 April.

As always, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me if you have any queries on the Examination and would like to take this opportunity to wish you all the very best in these difficult times.

Louise St John Howe
Programme Officer
25 March 2020