CHESTERFIELD LOCAL PLAN EXAMINATION
MATTER 2 – SECURING A SUSTAINABLE PATTERN OF DEVELOPMENT

Inspector's issues and questions in bold type.

This Hearing Statement is made for and on behalf of the HBF which should be read in conjunction with our representations to the pre submission Local Plan consultation dated 22nd February 2019. This representation answers specific questions as set out in the Inspector’s Matters, Issues & Questions document dated 9th August 2019.

Issue 1: Is the spatial strategy sound? (Policies LP1, LP2 & LP3)

2.5 Is Policy LP3 (presumption in favour of sustainable development) necessary for plan soundness? Does it add to what is in the NPPF and does its inclusion reflect the guidance at PPG paragraph 61-036-20190723?

Policy LP3 is not necessary for plan soundness. The presumption in favour of sustainable development is clearly set out in the 2019 NPPF (para 11). The 2019 NPPF confirms that Local Plans should avoid unnecessary duplication including repetition of policies in the NPPF itself (para 16f). As set out in the NPPG (ID 61-036-20190723) there is no need to directly replicate the wording of the 2019 NPPF (para 11) in a policy in a Local Plan. By attempting to repeat national policy there is a danger that some inconsistencies creep in and lead to small but critical differences between national and local policy causing difficulties in interpretation and relative weighting. Policy LP3 should be deleted.