Following on from my earlier note (ID/1), there are some detailed points that I wish to raise with the Council. To some extent these overlap with points that arise from my defined list of Matters and Issues for the hearing sessions but it will be helpful to address them at an early stage. I would be grateful for the Council’s response(s) in writing as soon as possible – some may be dealt with more readily than others.

1. Has the Council considered how to acknowledge and explain, perhaps by means of introductory text and/or an addendum that should be read with the Core Strategy when adopted, that the South East Plan remains part of the development plan until it is revoked? Consideration should be given to setting out in this text how the Core Strategy conforms (so far as it conforms) with the South East Plan.

2. Regarding affordable housing, would the Council provide the most up-to-date information available on the extent to which affordable housing is being delivered in the Borough under the local plan policies and by other means? Detail on the gross numbers, breakdown by tenure, location/size of site, level of public subsidy, and any other supporting information, for example on viability and delivery, will be helpful.

3. Regarding sites for gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople, and noting that Policy H12 of the local plan is saved while Policy H13 was deleted in 2008, would the Council provide information on sites that have been developed (or any that may have been closed) since the local plan was adopted, and on the most up-to-date indication of the need for sites?

4. It is understood that the Council intends to provide updated information on housing land supply. In this regard information on the 5-year land supply from the expected date of adoption of the Core Strategy will also be helpful. When will this information be available?

5. Table 5.7 of the October 2010 Revised Proposed Submission Core Strategy appears to present employment information in different ways and it is not clear how this is to be read. For example, as the section on the Eastern EA shows, the distinction between the ‘Employment Office’ column and the ‘Employment Other’ column is not entirely clear. It refers to B2 employment under the Employment Office column. Does this refer to ancillary offices? In other areas, the two columns are amalgamated. It is understood that the data is a snapshot in time. Nonetheless, greater clarity about what the job numbers refer to, and about the significance of the different terms used (i.e. ‘job numbers’, ‘job generation’, ‘total jobs’ are used in various places in the table) would be helpful.

6. The revised submission Core Strategy is accompanied by a schedule of minor changes. In some cases the precise change of wording that is envisaged has not been provided but this will of course be necessary in due course. Is it the Council’s intention to complete this work before the hearings?

7. The minor changes document refers to a new Appendix F (on population projections) to the Core Strategy. When will this be available?

[end of note]