In the light of the Council's proposal to revise the strategic site allocation, the Council should consult on this proposal for a 6 week period, including setting out details of the proposed changes to the CS and ensuring that it is accompanied by an addendum to the SA that clearly identifies the background to and the reasons for the proposed changes to the CS.

Bearing in mind the progress of the Localism Bill and expected publication of the final NPPF and their implications for the CS, the Council may also wish to consider whether it would be appropriate to make changes to the CS to `future proof’ it, particularly in anticipation of the duty to co-operate and the requirement for an additional allowance over and above a 5-year supply of deliverable housing sites, as well as any other relevant issues that arise from the current draft NPPF. And having regard to the Stevenage judgment on which the Council relies, the Council may wish to consider if it needs to make clear how the CS would not frustrate the achievement of key objectives of the SE Plan (for example, directions of growth and SDAs with cross-boundary implications).

A revised programme for the examination hearings will be drawn up as soon as possible following the completion of the consultation on the revised strategic site allocation.