

**Email note of meeting held 8 December 2011 between representatives of the
Metropolitan Authorities and South Worcestershire Authorities.**

From: Annette Roberts [Annette.Roberts@dudley.gov.uk]
Sent: 08 December 2011 16:53
To: Andrew Donnelly; Ian Culley; Philippa Smith;
BallN@walsall.gov.uk; Trina Price;
david.r.carter@birmingham.gov.uk

Hi All

Dave Carter and I attended the meeting this am in Pershore re SWDP.

We discussed the importance of the duty to cooperate and Dave requested that reps from the SW Auths were in attendance at the 'regional' planning officers meeting next week where this (duty to cooperate) is a key item of discussion. They agreed and recognise this as an important issue re soundness and legal tests.

In terms of details re housing, essentially their position is that they feel that taking any more housing over and above the 20,400 that is in their plan will not be politically acceptable and they state that this is due to environmental and infrastructure capacity limits.

We explained the key issues in terms of the damage potentially to the strategy leaving unmet need not planned for.

They are shortly about to receive a paper they have commissioned from GVA on the housing figs/flows which will form the basis of a technical paper explaining the rationale, technical model and reason behind this strategy. We agreed that we would meet again once we had had sight of this (probably before they go out to consultation again in March).

In terms of employment land they explained that the allocations they had were largely taken up by home grown companies wishing to stay in the area as opposed to a significant inward investment speculative provision of sites. Again, the paper they are putting out soon they say will explain this.

We did state that this was a concern for us and we needed convincing that the strategy was not going to undermine the UR strategy for the Mets.

Hope this is clear as to where we left it– Dave do you want to add anything?

Annette

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