



15th October 2012

Susan Jones
Development Planning Manager
Bridgend County Borough Council
Civic Offices
Angel Street
Bridgend
CF31 4WB

Dear Susan Jones

**Bridgend Local Development Plan Examination
Retailing Sessions**

Further to the Inspector comments at the Pre Hearing Meeting regarding the requirement of a separate retailing hearing session in order to address the representations in respect of an alternative site for convenience shopping on part of the South Wales Police Headquarters site at Cowbridge Road, Bridgend (AS053); the Inspector is seeking your views on the suggested separate hearing session.

The Inspector has identified disputed technical matters relating to the retail need for convenience shopping in Bridgend. These are likely to require formal presentation of evidence by retail expert witnesses and associated cross examination.

In the Inspectors current agenda for Session 7 he also raises issues concerning the application of the sequential test and the impact on existing retail centres which would require additional evidence from retail or planning witnesses which may also be disputed.

There would be benefit in the witnesses seeking to reach agreement on a statement of common ground.

It is suggested that the separate session be held on 6th December 2012 at the Innovation Centre.

There would be a separate word count for statements for this session which would need to be in the form of witness proofs. The Inspector proposes to retain the existing timetable for the submission of witness proofs and rebuttals, i.e. 6th November 2012 (noon) for witness proofs and 13th November 2012 (noon) for rebuttals.

Could you please provide your views on the suggested hearing session (Session 8 - Bridgend Convenience Retailing) and confirm the availability of your witnesses and advocates for the suggested date of 6th December 2012.

Yours Sincerely

Nicola Gandy

Nicola Gandy
Programme Officer



15th October 2012



Dear Arfon Hughes

Bridgend Local Development Plan Examination Rep ID: 1258
Retailing Sessions

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It is suggested that the separate session be held on Thursday 6th December 2012 at the Innovation Centre, Bridgend.

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Nicola Gandy

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