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Mark Williams  
Planning Policy Project Lead  
Vale of White Horse District Council  
135 Milton Park  
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22<sup>nd</sup> June 2015

Dear Mr Williams,

**Alterations to Green Belt Boundaries and Proposed Housing Development in the North Wessex Downs AONB**

I understand that the Council considers that exceptional circumstances exist to justify the alterations to the Green Belt proposed in the plan and to justify housing development in the AONB such that the sites proposed to be allocated by the plan in this area are soundly based.

These are matters I envisage are most appropriately discussed as part of Stage 2 of the Examination, However, to assist me in the Examination overall, it would be helpful if the Council would prepare a paper setting out in detail, and in one document, what in each case (i.e. in relation to the Green Belt and AONB) the Council considers the exceptional circumstances are.

I should be grateful for this paper to be submitted to the Examination by 21 August 2015. I envisage other participants then having the opportunity to comment on the paper in the preparation of hearing statements for Stage 2 of the Examination.

Yours sincerely

*Malcolm Rivett*