

1. Para 5.9 states that "the links between necessary infrastructure and strategic housing proposals will be included within the Main Modifications consultation" and that "the Council is confident that housing targets set out in the indicative trajectory will be achieved over both the short term (5-year) and the full plan period."

Notwithstanding the Council's confidence, it seems to us that only the provision of robust evidence in the form of the promised "detailed appendix" will show whether or not the Core Strategy is sound. Until then even the 5-year housing supply trajectory is only notional.

2. The Natural England / Environment Agency Joint Position Statement (EiP document PS50) states that the Core Strategy policy framework "also accepts that individual developments will still need their own assessments under the Habitats Regulations". None of the strategic urban extensions listed in paras 7.14-7.36 has yet undergone Habitats Regulations Assessment in relation to the River Wye SAC.