

Martin Elliot  
Planning Policy Manager  
01924 331594  
martin.elliott@yhassembly.gov.uk

Our ref: General/40b – Planning Conformity/Final responses/Harrogate Core Strategy

22 August 2008

Tim Richards  
Head of Planning Services  
Harrogate Borough Council

By E-Mail

Dear Tim

## **Harrogate and Knaresborough Urban Extension Study – Volume 2**

The Yorkshire and Humber Assembly welcomes the opportunity to comment on further evidence provided in support of the Core Strategy Submission document for Harrogate Borough Council and to continue its involvement in the development of a coherent spatial planning framework for the region. The comments offered in this letter are intended to be within the spirit of continued and productive joint working.

The following officer comments are made in relation to The Yorkshire and Humber Plan (The Regional Spatial Strategy to 2026) published in May 2008.

A formal Assembly view had already been given on the General Conformity of the submitted Core Strategy with the Yorkshire and Humber Plan. It is not considered necessary to submit a further statement on General Conformity given that the issues raised in this further evidence work do not impinge upon the views already expressed by the Assembly.

The Yorkshire and Humber Plan aims to achieve a more sustainable pattern and form of development, investment and activity across the region, putting a greater emphasis on matching needs across the region with opportunities and managing the environment as a key resource. There is a particular emphasis on achieving the regeneration and renaissance of the region's city and town centres by making them the focus for housing, employment, shopping, leisure, education, health and cultural activities and facilities in the region.

Overall, we feel that the further evidence presented accords with the overall aims and objectives of the Yorkshire and Humber Plan and is welcomed and supported. In particular the approach taken to identifying broad locations for growth is in line

with Policy YH7 Location of Development. The broad locations identified also allow the authority to maintain the prime role of Harrogate as a focus for development in line with its Sub-Regional Town status. The Assembly also welcomes the efforts taken by the Local Authority to help deliver the housing allocations in Policy H1.

I trust that the comments provided here are helpful to you as the examination of the Core Strategy progresses.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if anything is not clear. We look forward to working with you further on your Local Development Framework.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mart' - Elliot". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly informal style.

Martin Elliot  
Planning Policy Manager