



Ms. L St John Howe  
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## **Growth, Environment & Transport**

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Ask for: Barbara Cooper  
Email: [Barbara.cooper@kent.gov.uk](mailto:Barbara.cooper@kent.gov.uk)  
Your ref:  
Our ref: GT/BC/JAC  
Date: 30 September 2016

Dear Ms. St John Howe

Re: Maidstone Borough Local Plan (2011-2031) Public Examination

I write on behalf of Kent County Council to request clarification on two matters relevant to the County Council's participation in the Public Examination.

Firstly, it has come to our attention that Written Statements have now been posted on the Examination website. These are inconspicuously located and there is no signposting on the website to alert interested parties, representors and participants to their whereabouts. The County Council is a participant in the Examination and it is both surprising and disappointing that it was not notified when the Statements were made available.

Secondly, with regard to the Transport Modelling Technical Seminar (Session 3A) scheduled for Thursday 6 October 2016, Kent County Council notes from paragraph 2.3 of the Inspector's Agenda that, "The Borough Council is requested to cooperate with the County Council and Highways England to prepare explanatory material in advance of the seminar by Thursday 15 September". The County Council acknowledges that Maidstone Borough Council submitted additional evidence on 15 September 2016 including a VISUM Forecasting Report 2016 [TRA 035], VISUM 2022 Technical Summary 2016 [TRA 036] and M20 Junction Assessments 2016 [TRA 037]. However, Kent County Council has not been approached by the Borough Council on this matter and, at the time of writing, no Written Statements relating to this session have been published on the examination website.

Kent County Council therefore seeks clarification on the format and structure of Session 3A in the apparent absence of the required explanatory material. If the Borough Council has prepared material for the Seminar, the County Council would request that this is made available with reasonably sufficient time for all parties to review in advance of the Seminar taking place.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "B. Cooper". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "B" and a stylized "Cooper".

Barbara Cooper  
Corporate Director  
Growth, Environment & Transport