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**21 January 2019**

FAO Tracey Smith  
Programme Officer

Dear Tracey Smith

**CHELTENHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN EXAMINATION**  
**HEARING STATEMENT : MATTER 1: THE EVIDENCE BASE FOR THE**  
**SUBMITTED CHELTENHAM PLAN AND ITS VISION**

I attach a copy of my Statement on Main Issue 2 of the above Matter based on my Comment ID 608.

Yours sincerely

Alice Ross

**CHELTENHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL  
LOCAL PLAN 2011 – 2031 EXAMINATION**

**MATTER 1:  
THE EVIDENCE BASE FOR THE SUBMITTED  
CHELTENHAM PLAN AND ITS VISION**

**STATEMENT BASED ON COMMENT ID 608**

**ALICE ROSS**

**PARTICIPANT 368**

21 January 2019

## **Matter 1: The evidence base for the submitted Cheltenham Plan and its Vision**

COMMENT ID 608

### **Main Issue 2:**

Vision paragraphs 2.1 – 2.5 completely lack the NPPF's 'environmental role' rendering the Vision unsound and giving an incomplete picture of Cheltenham's qualities.

Suggested: amend 2.5 as follows:

***"The Cheltenham Plan is also being developed alongside an emerging Place Strategy for the Borough. The objective of the Place Strategy is to draw together the strands which impact on defining Cheltenham as a place to act as a leadership and influencing tool to support economic growth and ~~the wider well-being of our communities~~ while continuing to protect and enhance Cheltenham's distinctive green and open environment so important for the wider well-being of our communities. The chosen way forward will therefore need to ensure that the Plan remains consistent and continues to support the wider aims and objectives of the Council."***

### **Inspector's Question 2: Is the wording of Vision Theme C para 2.9a) appropriate for Cheltenham?**

Para 2.9a), although it mentions landscape, is urban and historic in character, both omitting the living green world which is so much part of the Borough and forgetting its important setting.

Para 2.9b) does not fully meet this need.

Suggested: amend a) and b) as follows:

***"2.9a): Conserve and enhance Cheltenham's **urban** architectural, townscape and landscape heritage, particularly within the town's conservation areas."***

***"2.9b): Conserve, manage and enhance Cheltenham's natural environment and biodiversity, **including its parks and gardens, its trees and green spaces, and its countryside setting including the important section of the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty to the east of the town.**"***