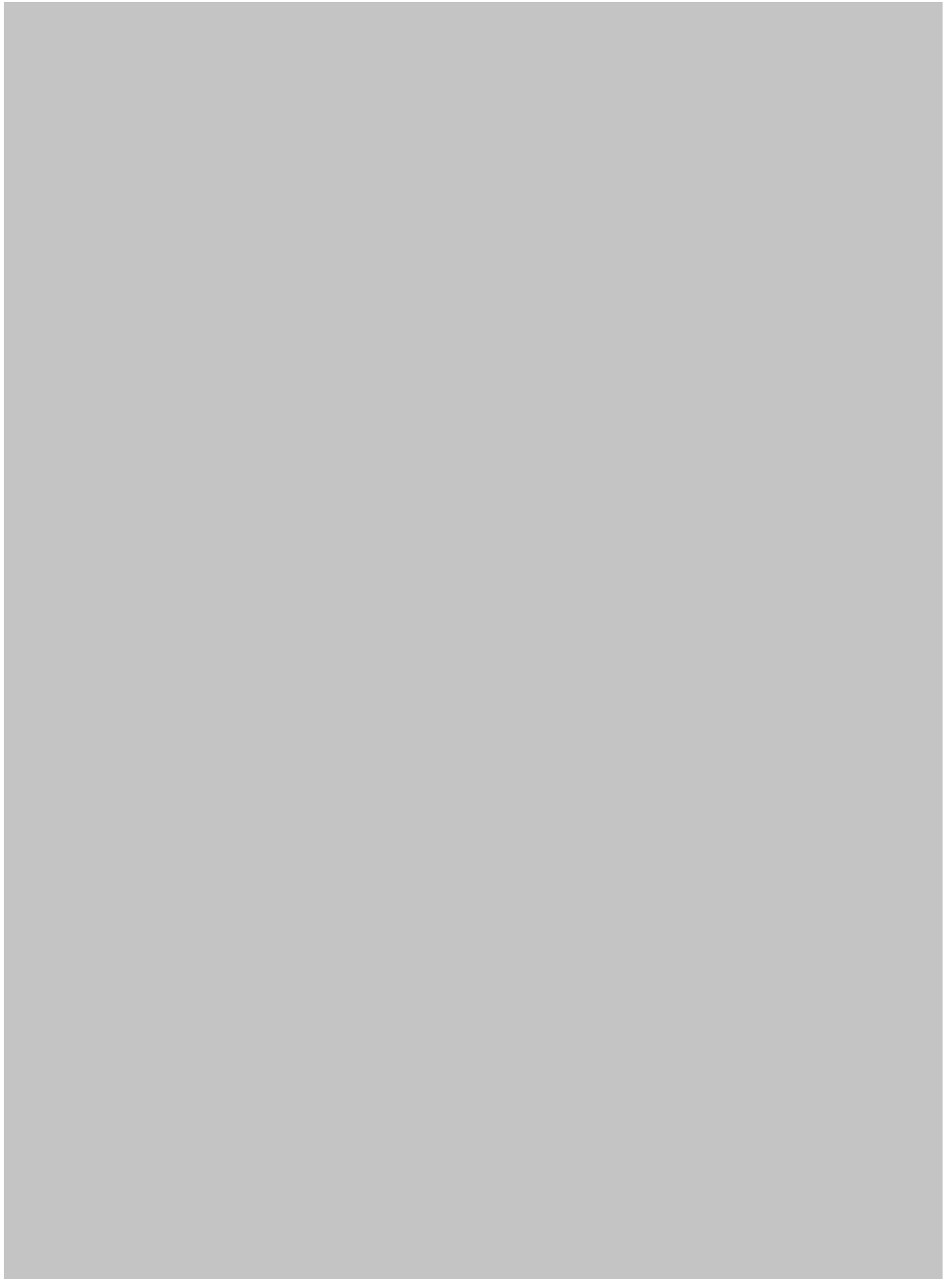


5. The Inspectors' tasks are to consider whether the Plan meets the requirements of section 20(5) (a-c) of the 2004 Act and associated regulations and whether it complies with the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework ('the Framework'). These requirements comprise whether the legal requirements have been met, whether the Council has complied w



2024.

14. The timing of the hearings has been programmed to enable the Local Plan examination to proceed as expediently as possible. It is the intention that the Local Plan hearings avoid any significant overlap with key events or deadlines for the concurrent Development Consent Order (DCO) process for the Gatwick Northern Runway Project. If it transpires that the DCO programme does overlap and creates capacity issues for organisations and individuals to effectively participate in the Local Plan examination, given the DCO process works to a fixed timetable, it would be the Local Plan examination that would flex and potentially be delayed.
15. The Inspectors' Matters, Issues and Questions (MIQs) dated 9 October 2023 relate to both stages of the hearings. Statements in response to those MIQs for the stage 1 hearings need to be submitted by 12 noon on Friday 3 November 2023. Statements in response to those MIQs for the stage 2 hearings need to be submitted by 12 noon on Friday 15 December 2023.
16. On plan submission, the Council indicated that some additional evidence base was being assembled to support/update existing evidence base. The Council's correspondence of 20 September 2023

- Whether your views are expressed in writing or made verbally during the hearing sessions **both methods carry the same weight.** Regulation 23 of the 2012 Local Plan Regulations requires that Inspectors **must** consider all duly made representations.
- Find out whether others are making similar points and whether they are speaking at the hearings. The Inspectors will not want to hear multiple people making exactly the same point or simply saying that they agree with what someone else has said.
- You can only be heard in relation to your soundness objections to those policies or parts of the Plan as per your representations. Additional statements in response to the Inspectors' Questions and participation at the hearings are not an opportunity to widen the scope of your soundness objections.

19. A draft hearings programme document for Stage 1 has been produced and will be updated once the Programme Officer has received confirmation of those who still wish to be heard.
20. If you wish to be heard at the Stage 1 hearings you must confirm this with the Programme Officer, even if you indicated in your original Regulation 19 representation that you wished to participate. If the Programme Officer does not receive confirmation, it will be assumed that you do not wish to participate and the Inspectors will rely on your written submissions.

How the hearing sessions will work

21. The hearing sessions will take place in person at Crawley Borough Council Town Hall, The Boulevard, Crawley RH10 1UZ.
<https://crawley.gov.uk/council-information/how-council-works/find-us>
22. The hearing sessions for the Examination will normally commence at 10.00 hours for morning sessions and 14.00 hours for afternoon sessions with a break for lunch at about 13.00 hours. In some instances, earlier starts may be programmed (please check the hearings programme). The daily hearings should finish by around 17:00 hours. Short breaks will be taken mid-morning and mid-afternoon.
23. A more detailed programme for the hearings, once the number of participants is confirmed, will be published in advance of the hearings and participants will be notified.

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made and on-going clarifications with the Council on key matters. The MIQs will form the basis of the discussions at the hearing sessions and the subsequent report. The Inspectors will issue agendas for each hearing session approximately a week in advance and these will be published on the website and circulated to relevant parties by the Programme Officer.

Documents and Examination Library

29. The documents provided by the Council when the plan was submitted at the end of July 2023 are available on the Examination website. Further documents will be added as the Examination progresses – for example, in response to a request from the Inspectors. It is important that participants at the hearings are familiar with the relevant submitted documents, additional evidence documents, topic papers and any statements of common ground prepared by the Council.
30. In addition to the examination documents, the website contains copies of the representations on the submitted Plan and any further statements. The PO will assist anyone wishing to see any documents.

Statements responding to the Main Issues and Questions

31. The representations made on the Crawley Borough Local Plan 2024-2040 should have included all the points and evidence to substantiate respondents' cases. From now on, any further written submissions should be limited to responding to the Inspectors' Main Issues and Questions for the examination.
- Any written statements in response to matters for the Stage 1 hearings should be submitted **no later than 12 noon on Friday 3 November 2023**.
 - Written statements in response to matters for the Stage 2 hearings should be submitted **no later than 12 noon on Friday 15 December 2023**.
32. When submitting statements, you should answer only those questions which follow from the representations you have made on the Pre-Submission plan. They should not stray beyond those issues relevant to your original representation. Respondents should focus on:
- Which part of the Plan is unsound.
 - Which of the soundness criteria it fails to meet.
 - Why it fails (point to the key parts of your original representations).

additional material