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Our ref  
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23<sup>rd</sup> September 2022

Dear Mrs Trueman

FAO : Inspector Joanna Gilbert & Inspector Darren McCreery

**Request for the pause of Lichfield Plan 2040 Examination.**

Thank you for your correspondence of the 8<sup>th</sup> August 2022, which Lichfield District Council is providing a detailed response to.

Lichfield District Council is currently experiencing several changes within the organisation which includes a number of staff having recently left or that are leaving the planning policy team at Lichfield District Council.

The Council is concerned that it does not currently have the staff resources to undertake the further work identified as required in the reply statement to the letter of the 8<sup>th</sup> August, nor has it the ability to subsequently properly set out and support its proposals during the hearings stage of the Examination in Public.

Therefore, Lichfield District Council would like to formally request a delay in the Examination in Public.

It is estimated that a delay of approximately 9 to 12 months would provide sufficient time for Lichfield District Council to recruit to vacancies including senior posts in a challenging recruitment market and then, for the those appointed to get up to speed and take the work forward to the hearing stage of the Examination in Public.

I would be grateful if you could confirm if the approach is acceptable to you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SFL'.



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Chief Executive



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