

Rachel Maclean MP

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Councillor Joanne Sexton Leader of Spelthorne Borough Council Spelthorne Borough Council Knowle Green Staines-upon-Thames TW18 1XB

20 September 2023

**Dear Councillor Sexton** 

## S.27 Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 Local Plan Intervention

I am writing further to my letter and the Extraordinary Council Meeting of 14 September. I note the outcome of that meeting and was pleased to see Spelthorne's emerging plan being robustly debated.

The Secretary of State has exercised his powers in accordance with s.27 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 to make a direction on the emerging Spelthorne Local Plan. Part of the direction requires you not to take any action to withdraw the plan from examination. This is to allow the plan to remain at examination to afford the Inspector the opportunity to assess whether it is sound.

Notwithstanding that direction, I would like to take the opportunity to ask you to set out by 6 October 2023 any exceptional circumstances that should be taken into account when the Secretary of State considers the next steps to take in relation to the direction and the emerging plan.

To be clear, this letter neither alters nor removes the direction of 14 September.

Yours sincerely,

RACHEL MACLEAN MP
Minister of State for Housing and Planning