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**Murton Parish Neighbourhood Plan Working Party**

**Report to the Parish Council, March 13th 2019**

1. **City of York Local Plan**

The Council has submitted a letter to the Inspectors on January 29th outlining progress on the submission of additional evidence, which they had requested.

These covered

1. **Housing need**. The Council is in dialogue with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) and are applying the latest household projections published by the Office of National Statistics (ONS)
2. **Habitat Regulations Assessment** (HRA) which affect mainly Strensall Common and the Lower Derwent Valley.
3. **Green Belt.** There has been further work done with Natural England which may affect some of the sites. This will become apparent by mid-March.

***There is some possibility that the results from (i) and (iii) may affect decisions about ST7.However, there are unlikely to affect the proposals in our draft plan.***

The Inspectors have decided that a phased approach will be taken to the hearings and that the first phase of hearings will deal with the Duty to Cooperate, the OAN (Objectively Assessed Need and Housing Targets) and matters relating to Green Belt principles. It is anticipated that the initial hearings will be held in March 2019. However, it is stressed that this is merely anticipated and not yet finalised. In order to assist in preparing the draft hearings programme, representors must confirm**no later than Friday 25 January 2019**whether or not they wish to take part in any of the hearings (not just the first phase). Unfortunately, our request failed to arrive in time but we will brief Cllr Warters who will be able to speak.

1. **Murton Parish Neighbourhood Plan**

Some detailed editing is being done and we hope to finish that by the end of the month and then submit it for comment to the relevant City of York Council officers.