

**From:** John Slater Planning [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 24 July 2017 12:09  
**To:** Wai-Kit Cheung  
**Cc:** Nichola Watters; David Marlow  
**Subject:** Re: Salehurst & Robertsbridge Neighbourhood Plan - Examination

Dear Mr Cheung

I refer to your email dated 10th July 2017 and indeed to the recent correspondence where you have copied me on, with Rother District Council.

As the independent examiner for the Salehurst and Robertsbridge Neighbourhood Plan it is important that I exercise my duties with total impartially and independence. It is not appropriate for me to be seen to enter into private correspondence with interested parties during the course of the examination.

I am required to have regard to the representations submitted to the LPA at Regulation 16 stage and I am conscious of your representation duly made, along with other submitted material. I have as you will be aware asked specific questions from the Qualifying Body and the Local Planning Authority. I have not invited comments from other parties on these questions at this point of time. I will only be basing my decision as to whether I need to call for a public hearing to help me with my examination, on their responses. It would not be appropriate for me to be swayed by unsolicited requests from third parties, as contained in your email. If I do decide I need to call for a hearing I will decide which parties I wish to hear from.

If you wish to correspond with me I feel that it would be best done through the Local Planning Authority, who I am copying this email to.

In the interests of transparency I will be asking them to put copies of this correspondence on their website and I also will be asking that they copy in the Qualifying Body. I hope that you will understand that I must deal and be seen to deal with all parties on an impartial basis.

Kind regards  
John Slater BA(Hons) DMS MRTPI  
John Slater Planning Ltd

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