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[localplan@tmbc.gov.uk](mailto:localplan@tmbc.gov.uk)

Ms. Louise Crosby MA MRTPI &  
Mr. Luke Fleming BSc (Hons)  
MRTPI

(By email only)

Contact	Ian Bailey
Email	<a href="mailto:ian.bailey@tmbc.gov.uk">ian.bailey@tmbc.gov.uk</a>
Your ref.	
Our ref.	
Date	11 <sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Ms Crosby and Mr Fleming,

**Re: Examination of the Tonbridge and Malling Local Plan**

Thank you for your email of the 2<sup>nd</sup> March confirming your final position on the matter of the Duty to Cooperate in respect of the Examination into the Tonbridge and Malling Local Plan.

The Council is obviously very disappointed that your provisional view remains unchanged and that you have not taken the opportunity to respond to the detailed points set out in the Council's correspondence of 29th January, particularly in respect of the chronology of engagement with Sevenoaks District Council up to the point of submission of the Plan in January 2019. The Council remains confident that it has met the requirements of the Duty to Cooperate and will now have no alternative other than to challenge your final decision.

This will inevitably result in further delays to adopting a Local Plan for Tonbridge and Malling and raises the risk that this will not now be achievable by the Government's deadline that all Local Planning Authorities should have an up-to-date Plan by the end of 2023.

Therefore, in response to your final paragraph, asking which of the two options the Council wishes to pursue I can confirm that the Council will not be withdrawing the Local Plan and therefore invite you to prepare a final report at your earliest convenience. I would also very much appreciate an indication of when we may expect to receive your report.

Planning Policy, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling,  
Kent ME19 4LZ

Director of Planning, Housing & Environmental Health:  
Eleanor Hoyle (MA)  
Head of Planning: Louise Reid (MRTPI)

Have you tried  
contacting us at  
[www.tmbc.gov.uk/  
do-it-online?](http://www.tmbc.gov.uk/do-it-online?)

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ian Bailey". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Ian Bailey  
Planning Policy Manager  
Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council

Direct line: 01732 876061