

Background information and advice from West Berkshire Council planning department

For anyone interested on this appeal case, who wishes to attend the Inquiry, it would be good if they could do so at least for the opening session. This is normally an approximately 1 - 1.5 hours' session starting at 10:00am on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November at the Council Chamber. This is led by the Inspector and it includes the two main parties' barristers' short opening statements. The Inspector agrees and finalises the Inquiry programme and goes through all housekeeping points, including making arrangements for a specific "public's" session for residents and third parties to address the Inquiry in person. Normally this is a 1 - 2 hour slot scheduled half-way through the Inquiry (potentially on the Friday morning in this case). However, depending on third party attendance at the opening session and provided residents/Members are prepared and able to do so, the Inspector may explore with them the option of holding the public's session straight after the opening session on the Tuesday morning. This very much depends on the Inspector and the approach he will wish to take.

Also, please note that the Council's witnesses will normally give evidence first in the first few days, followed by the appellants' witnesses in the latter part of the Inquiry, although more flexible bespoke arrangements can on occasion be agreed, if there is any specific exceptional need and sufficient Inquiry time to accommodate it.

If there are any matters that either you, your Chair, your Members, or your residents, wish to discuss or clarify in advance of the Inquiry, please do not hesitate to contact me directly and I shall be glad to assist accordingly.

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