

Author	NNDC
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Council response to issues raised at hearing sessions relating to Policy EN10

The Council has prepared this statement at the request of the Inspector, responding to issues that were raised during the public hearing sessions in relation to Policy EN10, Flood risk.

The Council considers that the Core Strategy is sound as submitted. However, it has suggested a number of minor modifications to the submission document which can be considered by the Inspector. These changes are designed to improve the clarity and consistency of the plan. These minor modifications are listed in three Schedules of Minor Modifications [**I3 I3i and I3ii**]. The Council considers that none of these minor modifications, either individually or cumulatively, affect the overall thrust of the plan's objectives or policies. They include minor editorial corrections, points of clarification, or are changes responding to points made by representors to improve the descriptive text relating to settlements.

During preparation of the Councils response statements to the Inspector's matters and issues for Day 10 (Environment) various minor modifications were proposed by the Council and included in the further proposed pre-examination schedule of minor modifications to the Core Strategy (I3i). Further discussion with the Environment Agency resulted in some of these modifications being retracted and / or alternative wording suggested. These were discussed at the hearing session on Thursday 10 January 2008 and the table below confirms the agreed position between NNDC and the EA.

Original modification ref and CS ref	NNDC and EA support (✓) or reject (x) modification	Suggested alternative, reference and reason
MM106 Policy EN10	✓	MM106 (i) Retain, however delete 'Environment Agency' from the new text. To clarify that the reference to flood zones includes those identified in the SFRA as well as the EA flood maps.
MM107 Policy EN10	✗	MM107(i) Delete proposed minor modification MM107. The original text correctly confirmed that where there is operational development taking place then a full application and application of the sequential test is required.
MM108 Policy EN10	✓	M108(i) Retain, however insert '2,' before '3a and 3b'. Delete footnote (xi) To clarify that the SFRA defines zone 2 as well as zones 3a and 3b. Footnote xi relates to original MM109 and should be deleted.
MM109 Para 3.3.57	✗	MM109(i) Insert new text in place of MM109: Where the SFRA does not identify these areas the EA flood zone maps will be used to apply the sequential test. The Practice guide companion to PPS25 (Feb 2007) makes it clear that all areas within Zone 3

		<p>should be considered as Zone 3b (functional floodplain) unless, or until, an appropriate FRA shows to the satisfaction of the EA that it can be considered as falling within Zone 3a (high probability).'</p> <p>Replacement text is the correct interpretation of the guidance.</p>
<p>MM110 Para 3.3.58</p>	<p>x</p>	<p>MM110(i) Delete proposed minor modification MM110</p> <p>Unnecessary text</p>