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**From:** Phil Kirby [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 26 June 2010 02:22  
**To:** Robert Craggs; Chloe Smith MP  
**Cc:** Simon Osborn Programme Officer JCS; Colin Bland; Joint Core Strategy; June Hunt; Malcolm Martins; Mollie Howes; Tony & Ann Stubbs; Marc & Kim & Pierce Allen  
**Subject:** RE: GNDP's Joint Core Strategy

Dear Mr Craggs

I note the correspondence below. I am aware that Simon Osborn has replied to you explaining the purpose of the Exploratory Meeting which as you will note, was not to consider the soundness of the Joint Core Strategy. This will come later at the Examination in Public which is now scheduled for October. As such, I need to correct your comment that

'The Exploratory Meeting was a ringing endorsement of these criticisms serving to point out that the strategy was seriously flawed requiring fundamental reconsideration'

as clearly this was not the case. The Exploratory Meeting did conclude on the day and the Inspectors have subsequently written to the GNDP setting out the additional information they are seeking in order to assist their consideration of the JCS at the re-scheduled Examination. I can assure you that I, nor my colleagues in the GNDP are ignoring the guidance of the Inspectors and are working to provide the additional information as requested. I would also refute your claim that we have ignored the comments from the public in terms of the consultation responses to the JCS, as can be seen by viewing the reports that were presented to the constituent Councils, when they resolved to submit the JCS to the Secretary of State in March 2010.

Some issues on which further work is required, will be the subject of further consultation in the summer, so again it is incorrect to say that the GNDP is 'forging ahead regardless'.

Full details of the process that is being followed are set out on the GNDP website [www.gndp.org.uk](http://www.gndp.org.uk) and I would be happy to assist you with an explanation of any matters which remain unclear.

Phil Kirby  
Strategic Director and Chief Planner  
Broadland District Council

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**From:** Robert Craggs [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Mon 21/06/2010 12:45  
**To:** Chloe Smith MP  
**Cc:** Simon Osborn Programme Officer JCS; Colin Bland; Phil Kirby; Sandra Easthaugh; June Hunt; Malcolm Martins; Mollie Howes; Tony & Ann Stubbs; Marc & Kim & Pierce Allen  
**Subject:** Fwd: GNDP's Joint Core Strategy

Dear Chloe,  
I trust that the attached correspondence is self explanatory.

I am not so much confused about the purpose of this Inspectors' Exploratory Meeting that I attended as I am concerned and I suspect that I am one of many.

At the commencement it was clear that this Exploratory Meeting was looking into the soundness of the JCS which was something that the public had been invited to comment on in previous months in the JCS consultation and many objective comments were lodged criticising the soundness of 'the plan'. The Exploratory Meeting was a ringing endorsement of these criticisms serving to point out that the strategy was seriously flawed requiring fundamental reconsideration that Phil Kirby and GNDP colleagues appeared to accept judging from their replies to many questions put to them. In fact this Exploratory Meeting

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never finished because it was, for all intents and purposes suspended because this JCS was appearing more and more unsustainable as the meeting went on such that the "next" meeting was being progressively put back from July, to September at the earliest then eventually to October. It was not made clear whether this "next" meeting would be the Pre-Hearing meeting or whether it would be a continuation of the Exploratory Meeting; indeed a precise question on this matter was put to Inspector Foster seeking a specific answer but this question was not answered.

However the only real conclusion that I can now reach following this Exploratory Meeting is that Phil Kirby and the GNDP are treating this Exploratory Meeting in exactly the same way that they treated the public consultation on the JCS and that is they are ignoring the guidance of the Inspectors just as they ignored the comments made by the public about the soundness (and legality) of the strategy.

Consultation with the public came up several times during the course of the inspectors' EM - including the need to re-engage in public consultation on necessary alternatives to the JCS but instead of this happening the GNDP are forging ahead regardless.

It seems to me that there is a fundamental democratic deficiency here that Parliament needs to examine.

Perhaps Simon Osborn the Program Officer can indicate how many other similar concerns have been expressed.

There is no implied criticism into the conduct of this Exploratory Meeting, in fact I would compliment Inspector Foster and his colleague Ass.t Inspector Fox on a thorough and democratically conducted examination but it all seems to have been a waste of time and expense.

Would you please look into this matter from a point of democratic injustice?

If I can be of any further assistance in looking into this important matter I am at your disposal.

Yours sincerely,  
Robert Craggs