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**RE: APP/D1265/W/25/3372602 - Land to the rear of 156-172, South Street, Bridport**

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**From** Robert Lennis <robert.lennis@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk>

**Date** Thu 2025-12-18 13:35

**To** Peckham, Aimee <aimee.peckham@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>

**Cc** Matthew Shellum <Matthew.Shellum@planningissues.co.uk>

'Dear Ms Peckham,

I write to inform the Inspector and the appellant that the Council does not intend to rely on any rebuttal evidence.

The only update to provide is that despite attempting to contact the landowner of Land West of Coronation Road (SHLAA reference LA/SYMO/008) the Council, despite our best endeavours, has not received any response confirming that the site is available. The Appellant has likewise written to the landowner of the site and received no response (see Appendix 1 to the Proof of Evidence of Matthew Shellum). As such, the Council would agree that at this time the site cannot be considered 'reasonably available' for the purposes of the flooding sequential test.

The sole remaining issue in dispute in relation to the flooding sequential test is therefore the appropriateness of the catchment area.

The Council intends to be represented by Counsel at the Inquiry and for both Cecilia Reed and myself to attend. While the Council does not intend to rely on oral evidence, both witnesses will be available to answer any questions the Inspector might have on the remaining areas of dispute.

Truly,

**Robert Lennis**  
**Lead Project Officer**  
**Place**  
**Dorset Council**

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