

Matthew Giles
The Planning Inspectorate
Plans Team, Room 3/13
Temple Quay House,
2 The Square,
Temple Quay
Bristol,
BS1 6PN

Our ref: HDLP/HDC01
Your ref:

Date: 26th July 2024

Dear Matthew,

Horsham District Council is pleased to submit the Horsham District Local Plan 2023-2040 to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government for independent examination in accordance with Regulation 22 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended). Authority for the submission of the plan and supporting documents was granted at a meeting of the Council on 11th December 2023, following a period for representation which commenced on 19th January 2024 and concluded on 1st March 2024.

The following documents and information are submitted:

1. Horsham District Local Plan 2023- 2024 Regulation 19 – January 2024
2. Local Plan Policies Maps
3. Horsham District Local Plan: Sustainability Appraisal documents
4. Statement of Consultation made under Regulation 22(1)(c) of the Town and Country Planning (England) Regulations 2012. This comprises:
 - a) Local Plan Review Issues and Options Consultation – Summary of responses and Proposed Next Steps, September 2018
 - b) Regulation 18 Consultation Report, January 2024
 - c) Horsham District Local Plan Regulation 19 Summary of Representations
5. Copies of the Representations received under Regulation 20
6. Key supporting evidence base documents. These include Habitat Regulation Assessment documentation, Duty to Co-operate documentation, technical background papers and evidence base documents. A full list of these documents is provided in a schedule which accompanies this letter.

The submission documentation is also being made available for public viewing on the Council's Examination Webpages: www.horsham.gov.uk/planning/local-plan/local-plan-examination. Copies of the representations, (personal details are redacted) are available from the following:

https://strategicplanning.horsham.gov.uk/Regulation_19_Local_Plan/consultationHome.

It should be noted that a small number of evidence base or supporting documents that form part of section 6 above are awaiting finalisation. Anticipated completion dates are therefore set out within the schedule to the best of our knowledge. It should be further noted that the completion of a small number of outstanding documents is reliant on feedback from third parties over which HDC does not have any control. HDC has requested expected response timescales from these third parties to help inform our stated timescales. In a very limited

number of cases this information is still outstanding. We will therefore advise PINs as soon as possible, should this feedback impact our anticipated timescales.

The Regulation 19 Local Plan (January 2024) is considered to be the Council's 'sound' Plan. At the meeting of Council on 11th December 2023, authority was delegated to the Director of Place, in consultation with the Cabinet Member to prepare a Proposed Modifications Schedule containing any proposed changes to the plan.

On review of the Regulation 19 representations, an initial schedule of modifications has been prepared. These modifications are not considered to be substantial or go to the heart of soundness of the Plan. However, they are suggested where it is considered they provide factual updates, provide clarification or address particular points raised by statutory consultees during the final stage of consultation, or reflect more recent national guidance changes.

Whilst these do not form part of plan before you, we request they are taken into account as part of examination process. In addition, we request that as part of the examination process, should it be deemed necessary, that the inspector recommends modifications to the plan to make it sound and compliant in accordance with requirements of Section 20(7C) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. As part of this process, HDC recognises that it may be necessary to update the Sustainability Appraisal to take into account any proposed modifications which may be identified, and to consult on the revised SA as part of any Main Modifications consultation.

For the avoidance of doubt, the Council is seeking to confirm, through the examination of this Local Plan, a 5 year supply of deliverable housing sites under paragraph 74 of the NPPF. As such, I can confirm that this intention was confirmed to PINs at the Regulation 19 stage and a statement to this effect was set out in our supporting evidence. The Council would be happy to provide further information on the spatial strategy and housing numbers, in a Topic Paper, should the inspector consider that this would assist them as part of the examination process.

The name of the appointed Programme Officer along with their contact details is:

Kerry Truman (supported by Ian Bussey)
Horsham District Local Plan Examination
Pendragon House
1 Bertram Drive
Meols, Wirral
CH47 0LG
Telephone: 07582 310364
Email: programmeofficer@horsham.gov.uk

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of any further assistance.

Yours sincerely,



Catherine Howe
Head of Strategic Planning