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Please ask Sonia Gallaher
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Date: 6 September 2019

Dear Mr Yuille,

Independent Examination of Carlton & Chellington Neighbourhood Development Plan

I refer to your letter dated 20 August 2019. Set out below are the answers to your questions to Bedford Borough Council on the Neighbourhood Development Plan.

- 1. I note that the Borough Council has made no representations on the Plan at the Regulation 16 stage. I take it that this means that the Borough Council is satisfied that Plan meets the Basic Conditions and, in particular, is generally consistent with the strategic policies of the development plan for the area. Is that a correct assumption?*

Throughout the process of preparing the Neighbourhood Development Plan, Bedford Borough Council has provided advice to the parish council to advise them of the requirements of the basic conditions as outlined in the regulations.

We do consider that the submitted plan is generally compliant with the strategic policies of the development plan for the area and meets the basic conditions.

- 2. The development plan for the area, not including documents relating to waste and minerals, consists of the following documents; the saved policies of the Bedford Local Plan 2002 (the Local Plan); The Core Strategy and Rural Issues Plan 2008 (the Core Strategy) and the Allocations and Designations Local Plan (the Allocations Plan). Is that correct?*

This is correct. The Allocations and Designations Local Plan was adopted in 2013.

- 3. The Borough Council is preparing Local Plan 2030 (the emerging Local Plan). This has been submitted for examination; the hearings have been held and consultations on the Main Modifications are now taking place. Is that correct?*

That is correct. The hearing sessions for the Local Plan 2030 were held during May and June 2019. Consultation on the Main Modifications of the Local Plan 2030 is currently taking place and the deadline for responses is 1 October 2019. Further information is on the Council's Examination webpage - <https://www.bedford.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-policy-its-purpose/local-plan/examination-details/>

4. It does not appear the Main Modifications have a particular bearing on the Neighbourhood Plan. Is that correct?

There are some proposed Main Modifications to the Local Plan 2030 which, if incorporated into the final version of the local plan, may be relevant. The main modifications for Policy 3S (MM6) includes additional wording as follows:

“In rural service centres allocations may exceed 50 dwellings where specific local justification is set out in Neighbourhood Plans demonstrating that it would be appropriate in terms of the scale, structure, form and character of the settlement and the capacity of local infrastructure.”

Policy 4 Development in villages with a Settlement Policy Area (MM8) and Policy 6 Development in the countryside (MM11) are both proposed to be changed to be strategic policies.

Changes are also proposed to Policy 59S Affordable Housing so that the policy relates to sites in excess of 10 or more residential units or 0.5 ha or more of land (MM5).

Please contact Sonia Gallaher (details above) if you require any further clarification.

Yours sincerely



Gill Cowie
Manager for Planning and Housing Strategy