

Mr David Hogger Examiner Over Wallop Neighbourhood Plan By E-mail Planning Policy and Economic Development Beech Hurst Weyhill Road Andover, Hants SP10 3AJ Telephone 01264 368000 Minicom 01264 368052 Web site <u>www.testvalley.gov.uk</u>

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Your ref:	01/ DH/OWNP
Our ref:	pp11_17 Over Wallop NDP
Date:	23 August 2023

Dear Mr Hogger

Over Wallop Neighbourhood Plan Examination

Thank you for your letter clarifying several procedural matters relating to the examination of the above plan. We note that you are satisfied with the examination documentation and that you have not identified any significant and obvious flaws that would lead you to advise that the examination should not proceed. We also note that you consider that the examination can be dealt with by written representations and without the need for a hearing.

You have raised 1 question to TVBC 2 joint questions and a further 15 for the Qualifying Body. The QB will respond to you directly. The Councils responses are as follows:

Questions for both TVBC and Over Wallop Parish Council (2)

1. Paragraph 009 ID: 41-009-20190509 of the Planning Practice Guidance on Neighbourhood Planning, advises that 'where a neighbourhood plan is brought forward before an up-to-date local plan is in place (i.e. Local Plan 2040), the qualifying body and the local planning authority should discuss and aim to agree the relationship between policies in the emerging neighbourhood plan, the emerging local plan and the adopted development plan. Could the Councils confirm whether or not such discussions have taken place at this early stage in the preparation of the Local Plan 2040, summarise the conclusions that were drawn, and confirm that at this stage there are no issues of concern regarding the compatibility of the Over Wallop Neighbourhood Plan and the Local Plan 2040?

Response from TVBC

The Draft Local Plan 2040 Regulation 18 stage 1 consultation¹ was undertaken from February to April 2022, and focused solely on strategic matters. These matters seek to address the strategic priorities for Test Valley by setting out a draft vision and objectives and the draft spatial strategy which will guide the Local Plan's policies and proposals.

The Plan also includes objectives on; achieving high quality of design, a net zero carbon future, supporting regeneration of our town centres, ensuring sufficient provision to meet our needs for housing, employment, infrastructure as well as conserving and enhancing the natural, built and historic environment.

The role of Neighbourhood plans are also addressed in the Sustainable spatial strategy², and also in the 'Meeting our needs' Chapter³, stating that account will be made for the provision of housing to be delivered through neighbourhood plans. The distribution of development will be addressed in the Part 2 consultation on the draft Local Plan.

The consultation acknowledges⁴ the role of neighbourhood plans and that they need to be in general conformity with the strategic policies of the adopted Local Plan, and that this will change once the Local Plan 2040 is adopted.

It is clear that the Draft Local Plan will continue the support of the Adopted Plan on Neighbourhood Plans, and the Over Wallop Plan and its policies are not at odds with either strategy.

In terms of the compatibility of the Over Wallop Neighbourhood Plan and the emerging Local Plan 2040, no issues on the compatibility have been raised in any discussions or the Regulation 14 and 16 comments from the Borough Council.

2. The Borough Council considers that a significant number of the proposed policies repeat existing policies in the adopted Test Valley Borough Revised Local Plan (2016). The NPPF (paragraph 16 f) states that Plans should avoid 'unnecessary duplication of policies that apply to a particular area'. On that basis is there any justification for including the following policies in the OWNP (the reference in the brackets is to the Local Plan policy number):

- EL P1: Conservation Areas (LP policy E9)
- EL P2: Listed Buildings and Locally Important Heritage Assets (LP policy E9)
- EL P5: Public Rights of Way (LP policy T1)
- EL P6: Trees and Hedgerows (LP policy E2)

EL P7: Settlement Character and Coalescence (LP policies COM2 and ELP4)

EL P12: Air and Noise Pollution (LP policy E8)

DD P1: New Housing Development (LP policy COM2)

³ Page 74

¹ Local Plan 2040 Regulation 18 Stage 1 (6).pdf

² Para 3.13, 3.17 and Page 29

⁴ Para 1.13 refers

DD P2: Affordable and Community-led Housing (LP policies COM7, 8 and 9)

- DD P4: Flood Management (LP policy E7)
- IC P1: Highways Sustainable Travel (LP policy T1)
- IC P2: Highways and Traffic (LP policy T2)
- IC P3: Quiet Lanes (LP policy T1)
- IC P4: Community Infrastructure and Services (LP policy COM15)
- IC P6: Local Business (LP policies LE16 and LE17)
- IC P7: Community Facilities (LP policy COM14)

Also is there any justification for the inclusion of section 5.8 on page 48, regarding settlement character and coalescence (see response from TVBC)?

Response from TVBC

As stated in our representation, the Council considers that these policies do not need repeating in the Neighbourhood Plan, as the issues that they cover are not locally distinctive and are addressed in the adopted Local Plan or in the NPPF or NPPG.

However, in order for the reader to understand the context of the plan, the Local Plan policies could be signposted in the Neighbourhood Plan.

Question for Test Valley Borough Council (1)

3. Paragraph 13 of the NPPF confirms that Neighbourhood Plans 'should support the delivery of strategic policies contained in local plans or spatial development strategies; and should shape and direct development that is outside of these strategic policies'. Is the Borough Council satisfied that this advice has been followed?

Response from TVBC

Yes, the Council is satisfied that the Neighbourhood plan supports the delivery of strategic policies contained in the Adopted Local Plan. The Neighbourhood plan policies will shape and direct development within the Plan Area, based on evidence and the local circumstances in Over Wallop.

I hope this information is helpful and we look forward to receiving your draft report in due course. If you have any further questions please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Hughes MRTPI

Senior Neighbourhood Planning Officer