

# WYCOMBE DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN EXAMINATION

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## PROPOSED MAIN MODIFICATIONS, REVISED SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL AND REVISED HABITATS REGULATIONS ASSESSMENT

### **Introduction**

In accordance with section 20(7C) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Council has asked me to recommend modifications that are required in order to ensure that the Plan is sound and legally compliant. As explained in my Guidance Notes, before formally recommending any such main modifications in my report, I will ensure that interested parties have the opportunity to comment and take account of all views expressed about them.

### **Schedule of Proposed Main Modifications, Revised Sustainability Appraisal and Revised Habitats Regulation Assessment**

I have given consideration to the potential main modifications that have emerged through the examination, along with all of the evidence before me and the discussions at the hearing sessions. In light of this, I am content that the proposed main modifications, including changes to the policies map, the revised sustainability appraisal (SA) and revised habitats regulation assessment (HRA), address the issues identified by representors.

Whilst I am reasonably satisfied at this stage that the proposed main modifications are necessary and would make the Plan sound, this is without prejudice to my final conclusions which will ultimately be made having regard to all representations made about the main modifications, in addition to all of the evidence and representations currently before me.

The proposed main modifications and changes to the policies map should be subject to further sustainability appraisal and Habitat Regulations Assessment if necessary; this should be undertaken before they are finalised.

The Council can make minor changes to the Plan in addition to the main modifications. Such changes ("additional modifications") would not materially affect the Plan's policies and proposals, but rather would relate to matters such as typographical errors, minor editing, and factual or name changes. These would not be matters for my consideration.

### **Public Consultation**

Once I am satisfied, the proposed main modifications, the policy map changes and the SA and HRA of the document along with the revised SA and revised HRA should be subject to public consultation. The public consultation

should be undertaken in accordance with the Council's Statement of Community Involvement and in a similar manner to that which would be carried out under Regulation 19. This consultation will only be about the proposed main modifications and changes to the policies map, and those aspects of the SA and HRA that have been subject to revision, not about other aspects of the Plan or "omission sites".

Details of the public consultation, including dates, consultation documents and representation forms, must be provided on the Examination website.

Representations about the proposed main modifications, and changes to the policies map, revised SA and Revised HRA should then be sent to the Council. At the end of the consultation period, the Council should forward the representations to the Programme Officer along with a report listing all of the representations made about each of the proposed main modifications and changes to the policies map; a summary of the main issues raised; and the Council's brief response to those main issues. I will then consider all of the representations about the proposed main modifications before finalising my report.

Normally, all issues arising from the consultation should be capable of being considered through the written representations procedure. Exceptionally, however, I may decide that it is necessary to hold a further hearing session or sessions to clarify and resolve any substantive outstanding issues relating to the proposed main modifications. If this is the case, all representors will be informed and the examination website updated accordingly.

I am not inviting comments on the content of this note or main modifications at this stage. However, any queries about the next steps should be taken up with the Programme Officer.

*Nicola Gulley*

Inspector

5/02/19