

Examination of the South Worcestershire Development Plan Review

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Examination web pages: <https://www.localplanservices.co.uk/swdpreview>

7 December 2023

Mr D Rudge

Interim Director

South Worcestershire Development Plan Review

Dear Mr Rudge

Examination of the South Worcestershire Development Plan Review

1. We are writing further to our letter of 16 November 2023 regarding our examination of the South Worcestershire Development Plan Review (the Plan). In this letter we set out further initial questions and requests for information and clarification. These questions are posed to seek clarity and potentially narrow down the focus of our Examination. The Councils are asked to provide brief responses with reference to the main relevant evidence.
2. The Councils responses to these points will help to inform the matters, issues and questions (MIQs) for subsequent discussion at the hearings, and the timetable for the examination. We are not inviting further submissions from any other party at this stage and will set out in due course when representors may make further submissions.

Employment land supply

3. Policy SWDPR 02 C refers to there being 71.75 hectares of employment land being committed as of 31 March 2021.

Q24 Where in the evidence base would we find detailed evidence to show what makes up the 71.75 hectares, and its current planning status? If this information has not been provided, please provide it.

Q25 Are the Councils in a position to provide up to date employment land supply information as of 31 March 2023? If so, please provide it.

SWDPR 05: Design and Sustainable Construction

Q26 Where in the evidence base is the justification set out for SWDPR 05 B ii which says 'Prioritise the use of sustainable construction techniques and materials that involve the lowest embodied carbon and minimise their ecological and

carbon footprints. Major development should target <500 kgCO₂e/sqm upfront embodied carbon emissions’?

SWDPR 12: Promotion of Town, District and Local Centres

Q27 Where in the evidence base would we find evidence to justify the designation of boundaries for City Centre, Town Centres, District Centres and Local Centres?

Q28 Where in the evidence base would we find evidence to justify the Local Retail Impact Test Thresholds in SWDPR 12 D?

Q29 Where in the evidence base is the justification set out for the designation of individual Primary Shopping Frontages and Primary Shopping Areas in SWDPR 12?

SWDPR 33: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy

Q30 SWDPR 33 A states : ‘A. To increase the supply of renewable and low carbon energy and heat, all new developments over 100 sqm gross or one or more dwellings should incorporate the generation of energy from renewable or low carbon sources equivalent to at least 20% of predicted energy requirements, unless it has been demonstrated that this would make the development unviable’ Where is the evidence set out to justify this?

SWDPR 54: Mitton

4. In the Statement of Consultation (CD18) the Councils set out that ‘There is ongoing work regarding the Transport Modelling, Site Specific SFRA level 2 and the curlews which can be considered via a Statement of Common Ground with the various parties. Similarly, a Statement of Common Ground can be pursued with Sport England’.

Q31 Would the Councils please confirm what, if any, additional evidence is being prepared in respect of SWDPR 54 and when it is intended that it would be posted in the Examination Library?

Conclusion

5. Please publish this letter on the Examination website. It would be helpful if you could provide an indication of when you will be able to respond to our questions via the Programme Officer. Following receipt of your responses to the above, we will be able to advise you on how we consider that the Examination shall proceed.

Yours sincerely`

P Lewis and S Dean

INSPECTORS