

Local Plan St.Helens Council Town Hall Victoria Square St.Helens Merseyside WA10 1HP

Tel: 01744 676190

18 November 2021

Dear Sir/Madam,

St. Helens Borough Local Plan Submission Draft: Schedule of Proposed Main Modifications Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012

I am writing to notify you that the Schedule of Proposed Main Modifications for the St. Helens Borough Local Plan 2020-2035 Submission Draft ("the Local Plan") and supporting documents will be published for consultation in accordance with the above-mentioned Regulations on Thursday 18th November 2021. You have received this letter because your contact details are held on our Register of Consultees database.

Explanation of the Local Plan and Main Modifications

The new Local Plan will set out how much new development for housing, employment and other uses should take place in the Borough, where this development should take place and policies to be taken account of when assessing planning applications. Once adopted, the Local Plan will be used to guide development in the Borough.

The Council submitted the St Helens Borough Local Plan Submission 2020-2035 Submission Draft for Examination in October 2020, and two Planning Inspectors were appointed. As part of this, a series of public hearing sessions were held in May and June 2021. The Inspectors have now considered all the evidence put before them (both written and verbal) from all interested parties. As a consequence, the Inspectors have identified a number of Main Modifications to be made to the Local Plan Submission Draft in order for it to be found 'sound' in accordance with national policy. In accordance with the relevant legislation, consultation is now being undertaken on them. These proposed Main Modifications are provided without prejudice to the Inspectors' final conclusions, which will be provided in their Report in due course.

How can I view the Proposed Main Modifications and submit representations?

The relevant consultation documents include the Proposed Main Modifications Schedule, the Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulation Assessment of the proposed Main

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Modifications, along with the St Helens Borough Local Plan Submission Draft 2020-2035 and the associated Policies Map.

These documents are available to view on the dedicated Local Plan Main Modifications webpage: www.sthelens.gov.uk/localplanmodifications. Hard copy versions of these documents are also available to view within the stated opening times at all libraries currently open in St. Helens Borough (see https://www.sthelens.gov.uk/libraries for library details).

Further documents for background information are available via the main Examination Library page on the Council's website.

You may submit comments (known as 'representations') on the Schedule of Proposed Main Modifications. Representations must be sent:

- by post to Freepost LOCAL PLAN, St Helens Borough Council, St Helens Town Hall, Victoria Square, St Helens, WA10 1HP; or
- by email to <u>planningpolicy@sthelens.gov.uk</u>; or
- by using our on-line form at <u>www.sthelens.gov.uk/localplanmodifications</u>.

<u>All representations must be received by 5pm on Thursday 13th January 2022.</u> Please note that late representations cannot be accepted.

It is recommended that comments are made by completing the Council's Representation Form. It is available to download from the Council's website at www.sthelens.gov.uk/localplanmodifications. Alternatively, you can contact the Planning Policy Team on 01744 676190.

Next steps

Following the end of this consultation, all representations received within the consultation period will be collated and sent on to the Planning Inspectors for their consideration. The Council will then await further correspondence from the Inspectors regarding the next step in the process. The Local Plan Examination News page will be kept up to date with respect to the following steps.

Data protection

We process your personal data as part of our public task to prepare a Local Plan and will retain this in line with our Information and Records Management Policy. For more information on what we do and on your rights please see the data protection information on our website at www.sthelens.gov.uk/localplan.

If you no longer wish to be consulted on Planning Policy matters, and/or the contact details are incorrect, please let us know either by phone 01744 676190 or email planningpolicy@sthelens.gov.uk.

How can I find out more?

Please see the Council's website at www.sthelens.gov.uk/localplan for all the latest details of the Local Plan Examination Process. Alternatively, you can contact the Planning Policy Team on 01744 676190 or email planningpolicy@sthelens.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Lucy O'Doherty

Development Plans Manager