

Motion on the Review of Local Plan Examination Documents

Proposer: Cllr Kieran Persand

Seconder: Cllr Julian Freeman

Motion:

Summary: All Local Plan documents, including Supplementary Planning Documents submitted to the Inspector post the 2025 public hearing are to be reviewed transparently by the Licensing and Planning Policy Committee

This Council notes that:

- a) This council is responsible for the Local Plan currently undergoing examination by the Secretary of State appointed Planning Inspector.
- b) Between January and April 2026 seven local plan and supplementary planning documents were submitted to the Inspector without prior consideration by Full Council, or any committee:
 - i. COUD_020: further assessment of urban sites
 - ii. COUD_021: revised topic paper on Green Belt sites, reaching different conclusions to the previous topic paper
 - iii. COUD_029: lists additional urban and Green Belt sites proposed for allocation in the Local Plan
 - iv. COUD_030: impact assessment of changing the conclusions on Green Belt and allocating further sites to the Sustainability Appraisal Report
 - v. COUD_031: assessment of the impact of allocating further sites on the Habitats Regulations Assessment
 - vi. COUD_032: assessment of the impact of allocating further sites on the Infrastructure Delivery Plan, showing creation and exacerbation of issues across multiple infrastructure components
 - vii. COUD_033a: assessment of the detrimental impacts of allocating further sites on the Transport Assessment
- c) The Sustainability Appraisal was brought as an appendix to both the November 2024 Licensing and Planning Policy Committee (LPPC) and the December 2024 Full Council meeting.
- d) The Terms of Reference of the LPPC require the committee to review all Local Plan documents, including Supplementary Planning Documents, and consider and approve these documents prior to public consultation commencing.

- e) As of this motion's submission, the seven documents submitted to the Inspector in January and April 2026 remain unreviewed and unapproved by councillors.

This Council therefore resolves to:

1. Instruct the Licensing and Planning Policy Committee to consider and review all Local Plan documents submitted to the inspector post the 2025 examination hearing, and to consider approval for public consultation.
2. Make no submission of the consultation results, to the Inspector, unless approval for the consultation is given by the Licensing and Planning Policy Committee.

Relevant Committee: Licensing and Planning Policy

Chair: Peter O'Donovan