Table of Actions – Week 3

Matters 19, 20, 15, 17 & 16

Local Plan Examination actions as requested by the Inspector are shown in the tables below.

Where appropriate there are links to the relevant Examination Documents.

Actions which are shaded pale grey in the tables include proposed main modifications. These will be added to the website in due course.

| Matter 19 – The Natural Environment | | |
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| **Action** | **Date on which Action Completed** | **Examination Doc**  **Reference No.** |
| **NHDC to propose modification to SP11 and relevant supporting text to replace reference to the Water Framework Directive with the Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) Regulations 2017** |  |  |
| **NHDC to provide Affinity Water’s Draft Drought Plan as an Examination Document** | **December 2017** | [**NHE16**](https://www.north-herts.gov.uk/files/nhe16-2017-aw-draft-dmppdf) |
| **NHDC to make clear that Policy NE2 relates to as yet unknown green infrastructure and that the policy applies to new green infrastructure created during lifetime of the Plan** |  |  |
| **NHDC to reconsider criterion (b) in Policy NE3 specifically in relation to reference to “enhance”** |  |  |
| **NHDC to reconsider Policy NE2 and Policy NE4 to ensure that there is no overlap and/or gaps in provision specifically with regard to ‘publicly accessible’ open space** |  |  |
| **NHDC to consult with Mr A. Burrows in respect of suggested wildlife corridor and to provide a note on this issue** |  |  |
| * **NHDC to reconsider Policy NE5 in relation to its title, the reference to “relevant development proposals” (to replace this with a threshold) and to ensure that e.g. criteria (b) and (c) are not limited in application to sites over the threshold** * **NHDC to delete reference to the 1000 sqm floorspace threshold** |  |  |
| **NHDC to propose amendment to ‘priority species and habitats’ proposed to be in Policy SP11 to clarify what falls within that category** |  |  |
| **NHDC to propose amendment to Policy NE6 to make clear that different levels of protection will be afforded to sites depending on their status** |  |  |
| **NHDC to make available previous consultation responses from the Biological Records Centre** | **February 2018** | [**ED93**](https://www.north-herts.gov.uk/files/ed93-hbrc-herts-ecology-previous-consultation-responsespdf) |
| **NHDC to refer to ancient hedgerows in Policy NE6 and supporting text** |  |  |
| **NHDC to propose main modification to Policy NE12 to exclude support for solar PV development on best and most versatile agricultural land and wind energy development** |  |  |
| **NHDC to propose amendment to Policy NE8(a) to include reference to technical feasibility, viability and whether solution appropriate in context** |  |  |
| **NHDC to provide information from Environment Agency to justify 8m buffer in Policy NE9** |  |  |
| **NHDC to propose amendment to supporting text to Policy NE9 to clarify meaning of designated main river and ordinary watercourses** |  |  |
| **NHDC to propose amendments to Policy NE10 and relevant supporting text to refer to Water Framework Regulations as oppose to Directive** |  |  |

| Matter 20 – The Historic Environment | | |
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| **Action** | **Date on which Action Completed** | **Examination Doc**  **Reference No.** |
| **NHDC to propose amendment to original proposed amendment to Policy SP13 to read “…the more important…the greater the weight that will be given…”** |  |  |
| **NHDC to remove “mitigation” from “…necessary mitigation measures…” in Policy HE1(iii)** |  |  |
| **NHDC to propose amendment to design policy to ensure LGC design principles are adhered to. Design principles to be appended to Plan** |  |  |
| **NHDC to propose main modifications to Policy HE3 to remove reference to “public benefits”, set out what is meant by local heritage assets (i.e. non-designated) and to ensure that paragraph 135 NPPF is properly reflected** |  |  |

| Matter 15 – Countryside and Green Belt : the policy approach to the Green Belt, Rural Areas beyond the Green Belt and Urban Open Land | | |
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| **Action** | **Date on which Action Completed** | **Examination Doc**  **Reference No.** |
| **NHDC to replace reference at paragraph 4.56 of the explanatory text to ‘national guidance’ with ‘national policy’** |  |  |
| **NHDC to propose amendment to Policy SP5(d) to add reference to “…through the application of our detailed policies” or similar** |  |  |
| **NHDC to amend references to proposals map throughout the Plan to ‘policies map’** |  |  |
| **NHDC to propose amendments to Policy CGB1(a) and (b) such that they are consistent with Policy SP2** |  |  |
| **NHDC to amend references to the description of the rural area beyond the GB such that it is not limited to rural areas to the east (see e.g. paragraph 6.1)** |  |  |
| **NHDC to propose amendments to Policy CGB2 as follows:**   * **Remove bullet point relating to Category C settlements** * **Add wording such as “Development permitted under SP2 will also need to meet the criteria set out above”.** * **Add wording to make clear that exception sites in the GB need to meet the NPPF test of VSC**   **NHDC to generally reconsider Policy CGB2 in light of paragraph 89 NPPF and to consider whether the policy needs to be split to relate to GB and rural areas separately** |  |  |
| **NHDC to consider amendment to Policy CGB3 to include provision for new homes to support rural businesses on a temporary basis and to make clear where policy applies and in what circumstances** |  |  |
| **NHDC to consider recasting Policy CGB4 to separate out conversions and extensions as well as GB and rural area beyond the GB** |  |  |
| **NHDC to amend policies map in respect of urban open land** |  |  |

| Matter 17 – Design (including Air Quality) | | |
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| **Action** | **Date on which Action Completed** | **Examination Doc**  **Reference No.** |
| **NHDC to amend Policy SP9(c) to make it clear that regard will be had to the Design SPD rather than elevating the SPD to development plan status** |  |  |
| **NHDC to amend SP9 and/or D1 to include more specific reference to the water efficiency standard sought by the Council** |  |  |
| **NHDC to provide list of policies that give rise to viability issues and whether or not those policies have been taken into account by the viability appraisals** |  |  |
| **NHDC to provide note in relation to safeguarded areas relating to aerodromes, specifically:**   * **What are the statutory requirements with which NHDC must comply in respect of Luton airport?** * **Has NHDC complied with those requirements?** * **What is the position in relation to SuDs in relation to safeguarded areas?** |  |  |
| **NHDC to provide note setting outs it justification for the application of optional house size standards** |  |  |
| **NHDC to propose amendments to Policy D2 as main modification as follows:**   * **Delete criterion (b)** * **Add reference to ‘roof type’ under criterion (a)** * **Reconsider criterion (c) to improve punctuation, explain what is meant by the ‘direction the house faces’ and the ‘levels’ of adjoining properties** * **Delete criterion (d) and instead include reference to spacing between buildings in general catch all regarding the character of the streetscene (as to which see below)** * **Amend policy to refer to character and appearance at (d), (e) and (f)** * **Make clear at end of policy that it does not matter whether it is extension etc, it must be in keeping with the character of the streetscene as a catch all** * **Amend criterion (e) to the “…proposal does not harm the character…”** |  |  |
| **NHDC to prepare air quality note including information relating to monitoring data for first week of January prior to reserve air quality session** | **12 January 2018** | [**ED62**](https://www.north-herts.gov.uk/files/ed62-nhdc-matter-21-air-quality-statementpdf) |
| **NHDC to propose main modification to Policy D4 to include sentence referring to the fact that a proposal for development that would give rise to an adverse impact in terms of air quality may attract refusal** |  |  |

| Matter 16 – Transport and Infrastructure | | |
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| **Action** | **Date on which Action Completed** | **Examination Doc**  **Reference No.** |
| **NHDC to propose amendments to Policy SP6 as follows:**   * **Reconsider criterion (a) specifically in relation to the word ‘comply’ and whether the criterion ought to refer to the Transport Strategy and the Stevenage Mobility Strategy** * **Amend criterion (c) to include reference to neighbouring authorities** * **Amend criterion (d) to refer to seeking the earliest reasonable opportunity to implement sustainable travel infrastructure and to consider whether it is appropriate to apply criterion (d) to all sites rather than just strategic housing sites** * **Reconsider criterion (e) in respect of parking standards** |  |  |
| **NHDC to propose amendments to Policy SP7 as follows:**   * **amend criterion (a)(i) bullet 4 to ‘mitigate adverse impacts where appropriate’ or similar** * **remove reference in criterion (b) to ‘unless otherwise agreed with relevant providers’ and add ‘whichever is earliest’** * **reconsider criterion (f) and supporting text at para 4.83 as main modification** |  |  |
| * **NHDC to produce note in order to justify proposed parking standards. Note to include reference to 2001 census data, the 2011 SPD, benchmarking, the correlation between car ownership and bedroom sizes, Great Ashby development as a case study and the link to paragraph 39 NPPF.** * **NHDC to consider cycle parking in note and whether different standards might be justified in different locations for both cycles and cars.** * **NHDC to amend paragraph 7.15 of the supporting text to Policy T2 to take account of fact that there are cycle standards proposed in the Plan itself** |  |  |
| **NHDC to propose amendment to Policy T1 to take account of highway impact in addition to safety** |  |  |