

Ref: SWDP/Main Modifications Consultation 2015

9 October 2015

Dear Sir or Madam

**Consultation on Main Modifications to the Submitted South Worcestershire Development Plan (2006- 2030)**

This letter is being sent to you as your details are held on the South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP) consultation database, and you have either made representations in the past or requested to be notified when consultation events occur.

On 28 May 2013 the three South Worcestershire Councils, of Malvern Hills District, Wychavon District and Worcester City submitted the SWDP to the Secretary of State. The SWDP is now being examined, and to date, two stages of hearing sessions have been held by the Planning Inspector conducting the examination.

- The Stage 1 hearings were held in October 2013, and again in March 2014: these hearings led to the Proposed Modifications (consulted on during October/November 2014) and related to the Inspectors recommendations in respect of the Objective Assessment of Housing Need and the additional sites that were consequently required.
- The Stage 2 hearings took place between February 2015 and June 2015 and considered the strategy underpinning the SWDP, the development management policies and the site allocations.

The Main Modifications now presented for consultation have arisen from the Stage 2 hearings at which the Inspector holistically considered the SWDP, taking into account his findings in Stage 1. It is considered by the councils that these Main Modifications are required in order to meet the tests of soundness and legal compliance.

On Tuesday 22 September 2015 (Malvern Hills) and Wednesday 30 September 2015 (Wychavon and Worcester City) at Council meetings, all three South Worcestershire Councils approved a schedule of **Main Modifications** as the basis for public consultation.

**The Main Modifications to the submitted South Worcestershire Development Plan will be available for comment for six weeks between Friday 9 October 2015 (9:00am) and Friday 20 November 2015 (5:00pm).**

After the close of the consultation, representations received in response to the Main Modifications will be collated by the South Worcestershire Councils and forwarded to the Inspector. The Inspector will consider all the valid responses made to this consultation, together with those made during the previous consultations on the Proposed Submission version of the SWDP (January to February 2013) and the Proposed Modifications (October to November 2014). Following the Main Modifications consultation, the Inspector's final recommendations will be made in a report to the South Worcestershire Councils.

**The consultation only relates to the Main Modifications and not to other aspects of the Submitted Plan.** There is no need to repeat representations that you sent to us on the Submitted version of the Plan in January/February 2013, or the Proposed Modifications consultation in October/November 2014, which have already been passed to the Inspector.

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## Representations

The South Worcestershire Councils will not comment on / respond to the representations received. Responses to these Main Modifications are for the Inspector to consider. Please note that the South Worcestershire Councils do not expect there to be further public examination hearings into the plan, so there will be no opportunity to discuss any representations at public hearings, unless exceptionally the Inspector considers this to be appropriate.

The consultation documents consist of:

- The Schedule of Main Modifications to the SWDP (please note that the Consultation Version of this document merges three documents presented at the Council meetings (i) Appendix 1 to the Council Paper; (ii) the Addendum to Appendix 1 and; (iii) a short Erratum document). It is the merged version dated 9 October 2015 upon which representations should be made;
- Consultation response forms;
- Guidance notes which include an explanation of the Tests of Soundness and Legal Compliance the Plan has to satisfy; and
- Updated supporting background information (evidence).

All of the documents, supporting information and consultation response forms are available to download electronically from the [www.swdevelopmentplan.org](http://www.swdevelopmentplan.org) website. Hard copies of the Schedule of Main Modifications and the background evidence documents will be available (for reference only) at Customer Service Centres (CSC) and/ or Libraries. Hard copies of the response forms are also available at:

<b>Worcester</b>	<b>Wychavon</b>	<b>Malvern</b>
<b>Customer Service Centre/Worcester Library,</b> The Hive, Sawmill Walk, The Butts, Worcester, WR1 3PB	<b>Pershore One Stop Shop</b> Civic Centre, Queen Elizabeth Drive, Pershore WR10 1PT	<b>Malvern Customer Service Centre,</b> Graham Road, Malvern, WR14 2HU
<b>St Johns Library,</b> Glebe Close, St Johns, Worcester, WR2 5AX	<b>Evesham Community Contact Centre,</b> Abbey Road, Evesham, WR11 4SB	<b>Tenbury Wells Customer Service Centre,</b> 24 Teme Street, Tenbury Wells, WR15 8AA
<b>Warndon Library,</b> The Fairfield Centre, Carnforth Drive, Worcester, WR4 9HG	<b>Droitwich Spa Community Contact Centre,</b> Droitwich Spa Library, Victoria Square, Droitwich Spa, WR9 8DQ	<b>Upton-upon-Severn Customer Service Centre,</b> School Lane, Upton upon Severn, WR8 0LE

Representations should be made on the response form where possible.

Electronic (e-mail) responses should be sent to: [contact@swdevelopmentplan.org](mailto:contact@swdevelopmentplan.org)

Hard copies should be sent to: Paul Bayliss, SWDP Project Manager c/o Policy Plans team, Housing and Planning Services, Wychavon District Council, Civic Centre, Queen Elizabeth Drive, Pershore, WR10 1PT.

If you have any queries please see the SWDP website ([www.swdevelopmentplan.org](http://www.swdevelopmentplan.org)) or send an e-mail to the above address. You can also telephone the SWDP team on 01386 565565 or write via the Wychavon District Council address above.

Yours faithfully

**Paul Bayliss**

**SWDP Project Manager**