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Date: 20 January 2020

Dear Barbara Maksymiw

**Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 Part 5,  
Regulation 17, Submission of plan proposal [or modification proposal] to  
examination.**

**Re:** Submission Draft Stratton St Margaret Neighbourhood Plan  
**At:** Stratton St Margaret Parish

The below table contains the Swindon Borough Council response to examiner questions which were received on 16 January 2020.

Examiner question	Swindon Borough Council response
<p><u>1.Basic Conditions Statement</u></p> <p>In order to meet the basic conditions, the NP should demonstrate how it contributes to the achievement of sustainable development. However, I see no reference to this in the Basic Conditions Statement. Please can you assist?</p> <p>Table 2 sets put an assessment of how the Neighbourhood Plan conforms with the Adopted Swindon Borough Local Plan 2026 and the Minerals and Waste Core Strategies. However, the review of the Swindon Borough Local Plan is now well under way and is currently at the Submission Draft consultation stage. Has there been any assessment of the</p>	<p>Parish Council to respond.</p> <p>No assessment against the Draft Local Plan has been made. An assessment exercise can be carried out if the examiner would find helpful?</p>

Neighbourhood Plan against the emerging policies of the new Local Plan?	
<p><u>2.Reg 14 and Reg 16 Consultation Dates</u></p> <p>Please can the exact dates for the Regulation 14 and Regulation 16 consultations ie start and end dates be provided?</p>	<p>Reg 14 consultation was carried out – 18th February 2019 to 11th April 2019.</p> <p>Reg 16 consultation was carried out - Wednesday 13th November 2019 to Friday 3rd January 2020.</p>
<p><u>3.Policy SSM1 and Figure 7</u></p> <p>Policy SSM1 refers to development of strategic employment sites which are allocated in the adopted Swindon Borough Local Plan and shown in Figure 7 with orange hatching. Most of these sites are located outside the NP boundary, but some lie within it. Please can names for each of these sites be provided – ideally this could be done by annotating Figure 7 and naming the sites in the key?</p>	<p>Parish Council to respond.</p>
<p><u>4.Policy SSM3 Housing</u></p> <p>I have a query regarding the justification for Policy SSM3 Housing which is set out in paragraphs 40 to 47 of the Neighbourhood Plan. The background to this section of the NP is, I think, derived from the Neighbourhood Plan Housing Needs Advice produced by AECOM in 2015. Broadly, that study concludes that there is a housing need in the NP area of around 700 to 750 additional dwellings, the majority of which have already been built or otherwise committed. This is reiterated in paragraph 41 of the Neighbourhood Plan. I think ,therefore, that the statement in paragraph 47 of the Neighbourhood Plan which states that the NP's share of the Swindon total</p>	<p>It is agreed that the 416 dwelling figure could be removed from paragraph 47 so not to cause confusion.</p> <p>The 416 figure provided by AECOM in 2015 is one of four projections calculated. The document concludes that housing need for the Parish is 700-750 net additional dwellings.</p>

requirement as 416 dwellings is incorrect and should be deleted. Please can the local authority and the Steering Group give their views?	
On a related point, it would be very helpful to have an indication of the number of homes that have been completed in the Parish since 2015 and the number of outstanding commitments.	<p>Completions (1st April 2015 – 31st March 2019) – 341 dwellings.</p> <p>Permissions that are still live at 31st March 2019 – 231 dwellings.</p>

The views expressed in this letter represent an officer's opinion only and are not binding on any future decisions made by elected members of the Council.

Yours faithfully,

**Alice Bates**  
**Neighbourhood Planning Officer**