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Date: 4 March 2020

Dear Barbara Maksymiw

Act> Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012

Regulation> Part 5, Regulation 17, Submission of plan proposal to examination.

Re: Submission Draft Stratton St Margaret Neighbourhood Plan

At: Stratton St Margaret Parish

The below contains the Swindon Borough Council response to an examiner question which was received 16 January 2020. The enquiry was as follows,

1. Basic Conditions Statement

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?

Table 2 sets out 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 Neighbourhood Plan against the emerging policies of the new Local Plan?

The below table sets out the assessment of the Neighbourhood Plan against the emerging policies of the new Local Plan. The current Local Plan for the Borough of Swindon for the period to 2036 is under Review. Swindon Borough Council has published the Regulation 19 Proposed Submission Draft Version of the local plan for public representations. The public consultation closed 31 January 2020.

| Neighbourhood Plan Policy | Proposed Submission Draft Policy Assessment |
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| | Spatial Vision and Strategic Objectives. The vision of the neighbourhood plan sets out five core aims to ensure the Parish is vibrant, distinct in character |



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| Vision | and sustainable. These align with strategic objectives set out by the Submission Draft Local Plan. Those are, 1: High Quality Sustainable Design 2: Infrastructure 3: Economy 4: Housing 6: Community and Health 9: Green Infrastructure |
| SSM1 Strategic Development Outside the Parish Boundary | No equivalent policy, however no conflict with the principles of the Submission Draft Local Plan. |
| SSM2 Redevelopment of Large Sites | No equivalent policy, however no conflict with the principles of the Submission Draft Local Plan. |
| SSM 3 Housing | <p>LA9 Former Stratton Education Centre. The Neighborhood Plan makes no specific allocation for housing within the plan. Within the SSMNP area there is one allocation in the emerging Local Plan at Policy LA9 - 11 dwellings to the site of the former Stratton Education Centre. In the context of the local Plan this is not considered significant.</p> <p>DM7 Housing for Older People The neighbourhood plan recognises a need within the Parish for housing for older people as a large proportion of inhabitants are aged 65 and over. It aims to provide housing types appropriate for this age range. Policy DM7 of the Submission Draft Local Plan gives specifics of features that would be expected for housing for older people. The principle of the features are to ensure accessibility for scooter and wheelchair users or adaptability of housing for these users in the future. The provision of accessibility is missing from Policy SSM3 of the neighbourhood plan, but in the context of the Development Plan as a whole is not considered to be a significant issue.</p> |
| SSM4 Community Facilities and Publicly Accessible Site | DM27 Community Facilities. SSM4 is in accord with DM27. |
| SSM5 Transport and Movement | DM21 Transport and Development. SSM5 is not in conflict with DM21, but extends the criteria to include footpath improvements to 'acceptable standards'. |
| SSM6 Local Centers | DM17 District and Local Centres The table within DM17 defines Local Centres and states which types of development would be appropriate in these areas. Policy DM18 sets out the approach to land-uses within Local Centres. SSM6 sets out the approach to the establishment of new local centres. The Local Plan is largely silent on the establishment of new local centres other than on the strategic allocations. It is not considered to be in conflict with the Local Plan although it would need some consideration of the inter-play with DM17 point 3. |

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| SSM7 Locally Important Buildings and Assets | DM34 Historic Environment Policy SSM7 references policy EN10 (b,g) of the Swindon Local Plan. The Submission Draft Local Plan version of the policy EN10 is DM35 and the relevant points are 2 and 7. Therefore there is no change. |
| SSM8 Open Space, Allotments, Burial Space | DM28 Green Infrastructure and DM30 Protecting Open Space Policy DM31 sets out the policy requirement for open space in new developments. It does not include the provision of burial space. The rest policy SSM8 is broadly in accord with DM28, DM30 and DM31. |

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