

Local Plan Independent Examination

OPDC Response to Matter and Issue 3d

Matter 3d: Whether the Plan would be effective in the light of delegation of proposals to the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (Inspector's Q5)

This matter has been largely resolved in writing but a hearing session will discuss what appears to be an inchoate formulation of proposals for District-wide heating and cooling systems. (Policy EU10(f))

OPDC response:

- 1.1. OPDC considers that the Local Plan is effective, subject to modifications referenced below, because it sets out key infrastructure requirements and indicative locations of infrastructure. This is consistent with NPPF (2012) paragraph 14 which states "*Local Plans should meet objectively assessed needs, with sufficient flexibility to adapt to rapid change*". The information set out in the Local Plan is supported by the detail in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (document SD58), subject to the proposed modifications set out in OPDC's responses to the Inspector's Question 5. OPDC's response and proposed modifications are set out in documents [ID-01](#), [OPDC/001](#), [ID-01A](#), [OPDC/001B](#), [OPDC/001C](#), [OPDC/001D](#) and in OPDC's third response to Inspectors Question Q5.
- 1.2. The references to the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) within the Local Plan are intended to provide a pragmatic approach to set out the detailed infrastructure requirements of the plan period that recognises the need for a level of flexibility while according with the NPPF and national guidance. This approach reflects the proposed significant scale of change and development, long-term development timeframes of the OPDC area and complexities in delivering development generated by landownerships, viability constraints and site-specific constraints.
- 1.3. Key infrastructure requirements and indicative locations of infrastructure are stated in the Local Plan supported by the greater detail in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan. The Infrastructure Delivery Plan will be updated through the annual review process and to reflect the location of infrastructure as it is determined with greater certainty. The need for a Local Plan review based on this greater clarity will be considered alongside other updates and the
- 1.4. However, in response to the Inspector's Question 5, OPDC officers have recognised the need to provide further information within the Local Plan for the indicative locations of infrastructure. Officers have reviewed the Local Plan and the IDP to identify proposed modifications to the Local Plan to ensure that appropriate information for the location and quantity of infrastructure is provided in the Local Plan to meet objectively assessed needs, with sufficient flexibility to adapt to rapid change and to also ensure there are appropriate synergies between the Local Plan and IDP. These modifications are set out in the Post

Submission Proposed Modifications and within the documents stated in paragraph 1.1 above.

1.5. Having set out the proposed modifications, OPDC officers consider that the approach to defining infrastructure within the Local Plan is effective and sound.