Fareham Borough Council

Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 Regulation 19: Publication of Local Plan Statement of Representations Procedure (incorporating the Statement of Fact)

Notice is hereby given that Fareham Borough Council has published and is inviting comments on its Publication Plan which it intends to submit to the Secretary of State for independent examination.

The Fareham Local Plan 2037 will cover the Borough of Fareham excluding the area covered by Local Plan Part 3: the Welborne Plan. The Fareham Local Plan 2037 will set out the development strategy and policy framework for Fareham and once adopted, will be used to guide decisions on planning applications up to 2037. The Publication Plan, which the Council is now consulting on, includes the vision for the Borough, the overall strategy that directs the location of development, the sites that have been identified for development in the Borough, the policies that will be used to make decisions on planning applications, and how the plan will be monitored.

The Publication Plan is accompanied by a policies map which shows the policy allocations and designations.

Where to view the proposed submission documents:

The Publication Plan, the proposed submission documents and the relevant evidence base will be available for inspection from 6 November 2020 until 18 December 2020:

- a. on the Council's website at https://www.fareham.gov.uk/localplanconsultation
- b. subject to Covid 19 restrictions, by prior appointment at the Fareham Borough Council Offices during office hours:

Office opening hours (excluding Bank Holidays) are: Monday to Thursday 8.45 a.m. to 5.15 p.m. Friday 8.45 a.m. to 4.45 p.m.

The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2020¹ temporarily removes the requirement to provide hard copies of Local Plan documents for inspection in Council offices and other public locations in the Borough, in response to the coronavirus pandemic.

Period of publication for representations:

The Council will receive representations on the Fareham Local Plan 2037 for a six-week period which runs from 6 November 2020 until 11.59pm on 18 December 2020. As set out in the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulation 20 (2), any representations must be received by the date specified.

How to make representations:

Representations can be made through the following means:

 Online: By using the Council's online response form at https://www.fareham.gov.uk/localplanconsultation

¹ https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2020/731/introduction/made

- Copies of the response form are available to download from the Council's website at: https://www.fareham.gov.uk/localplanconsultation. These can be emailed to consultation@fareham.gov.uk or posted to address below.
- Paper copies of the response form are available upon request by telephoning 01329 824601.
- Paper copy response forms should be sent to the Consultation Team, Fareham Borough Council, Civic Offices, Civic Way, Fareham, PO16 7AZ and must be received within the six-week consultation period stated above.

Content and structure of representations

Following the consultation period, the Local Plan will be submitted for examination by an independent Planning Inspector, appointed by the Secretary of State. The Inspector's role is to examine whether the submitted plan meets the tests of soundness (as defined in the National Planning Policy Framework paragraph 35) and meets all the relevant legislative requirements, including the duty to co-operate.

The Planning Inspector will consider representations made during this period of consultation. Any comments on the Publication Plan should specify the matters to which they relate and the grounds on which they are made.

Only the following matters will be of concern to the Planning Inspector:

- **Legal Compliance** does the plan meet the legal requirements for plan making as set out by planning and environmental laws?
- **Soundness** has the plan been positively prepared, is it justified, effective, and consistent with national policy?
- **Meeting the Duty to Cooperate** has the Council engaged and worked effectively with neighbouring authorities and statutory bodies?

The Council has produced a <u>Special Edition of its Fareham Today</u> publication to help those wishing to respond to the consultation.

Request for further notification of Local Plan progress

When making a representation you can ask to be notified at a specified address of any of the following:

- Submission of the Fareham Local Plan to the Secretary of State for examination
- Publication of the recommendations of the person appointed to carry out the independent examination of the Fareham Local Plan on behalf of the Secretary of State
- Adoption of the new Fareham Local Plan

It is important that the Planning Inspector and all participants in the examination process are able to know who has given feedback on the Publication Plan. All comments received will therefore be submitted to the Secretary of State and considered as part of a public examination by the Inspector. In addition, all comments will be made public on the Council's website, including the names of those who submitted them. All other personal information will remain confidential and will be managed in line with the Council's Privacy Statement.

The Examination Process

The examination is open to the public. Subject to the venue's seating availability, anyone can attend to listen to the discussions but there are strict rules which apply to those who wish to participate. If you wish to appear at the examination as a participant, such a request must be made as part of the representation on the Publication Plan. The right to appear and be heard by the Inspector at a hearing session is defined in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 section 20 (6).