

# **Independent Examination of the Fareham Local Plan**

## **Hearing Statement**

**Historic England  
(Edward Winter, Historic Environment  
Planning Adviser)**

**Hearing Day 7 Tuesday 29 March 2022  
(Week3)  
Afternoon 14:00 - 17:00**

**Matter 6.8 - Allocations (Cont.)  
Site HA56 and BL1**

**Date of statement: 11/03/2022**



## 1. Background

- 1.1 Historic England (HE) has engaged with Fareham Borough Council (FBC) throughout the plan-making process and we have found the Council's responses to our engagement to be highly positive.
- 1.2 In our response to the Fareham Local Plan Regulation 19 (Revised Version) consultation (our letter dated 30/07/2021), we indicated that we considered policies HA51 and BL1 to be unsound.
- 1.3 FBC and HE signed a statement of common ground in September 2021, with policies HA51 and BL1 identified as areas for further work (SCG004 in the examination library).
- 1.4 With regard to policy HA51, we have indicated that we are content to rely on our written representations. With regard to BL1, we raised concerns regarding the evidence to support an indicative yield of 620 dwellings, and the form the development would take. This was due to the impact any taller buildings could have on the settings of heritage assets, in particular the High Street conservation area.
- 1.5 FBC has responded positively to our concerns, offering an accompanied site visit (which we accepted and undertook on 10/12/21) and to assure us that further work to support policy BL1 is planned, in particular to support the masterplan required by policy BL1.

## 2. Historic England's position

- 2.1 We consider that if Policy BL1 were amended to introduce further safeguards to conserve the significance of heritage assets, the policy would be sound. HE's suggested amendments to policy BL1 can be found in Appendix 1 of the statement of common ground.
- 2.2 While we consider our written representations and the statement of common ground to clearly set out our position, we consider our attendance at this examination may be beneficial to provide further clarity on our position, should this be required.

[End of document]

