

AMENDMENTS TO THE PROPOSED SUBMISSION ADUR LOCAL PLAN (2016)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q: How is the Adur Local Plan progressing? What stage is it at?

A: 'Amendments to the Proposed Submission Adur Local Plan (2016)' are now being made available for representations over a six week statutory period starting on 31st March – midnight 11th May 2016. The Amendments document shows changes to the Proposed Submission Adur Local Plan, previously published in 2014.

Amendments have been made to:

- address some matters raised in representations made during the statutory publication period for the Proposed Submission Adur Local Plan 2014, including proposed changes to the strategic allocation at New Monks Farm;
- update information;
- reflect changes in government policy, and
- clarify text and to correct drafting errors

Please note that at this stage representations should only be made in relation to the legal compliance and/or the soundness of the Amendments to the Local Plan.

Q: Wasn't the Plan formally published previously? What has happened since then?

A: The Proposed Submission Adur Local Plan 2014 was formally published between 20th October – 1st December 2014, under Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.

Representations from 42 individuals and organisations were received and have been published on the Councils' website.

It had been anticipated that the Local Plan would then be submitted to the Secretary of State in March 2015 following the publication stage and assessment of the representations received. However, some proposed changes relating to one of the strategic allocations in the Plan, New Monks Farm, were raised in representations. Following this, amended proposals for the site were submitted to the Council for consideration.

Following consideration of these proposals, an additional consultation exercise (carried out under Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning)

(England) Regulations 2012) was undertaken between 9th December 2015 and midnight 4th January 2016, specifically relating to proposed amendments to the strategic allocation at New Monks Farm. Changes to the strategic allocation (as well as amendments in relation to other matters) have been included within a revised version of the Local Plan, called 'Amendments to the Proposed Submission Adur Local Plan (2016)'. This document is now being formally published under Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 to allow for representations to be made as to whether the amendments meet the 'Tests of Soundness' and/or are legally compliant.

Q: I made a representation to the Proposed Submission Adur Local Plan 2014; what happened to it? Do I need to resubmit it?

A: All representations received in response to the Proposed Submission Adur Local Plan 2014 have been considered. In some cases, where issues were raised which did not relate to, or affect the soundness of the Plan, or its strategy, amendments have been made to the Plan.

If you made a representation in response to the Proposed Submission Adur Local Plan 2014 there is no need to resubmit it during this publication period unless you wish to alter or withdraw your representation in the light of the amendments proposed.

All representations made on the Proposed Submission Adur Local Plan 2014, as well as those made on the Amendments to the Proposed Submission Adur Local Plan (2016) will be provided to the Inspector appointed to carry out the Examination (along with other documents required at Submission stage by the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012).

Q: How can I tell what the amendments are, and what the 2014 Plan said?

A: The Amendments are clearly indicated for ease of understanding through the use of **bold and underlined text** (to indicate additions) and '~~striketrough~~' text (to indicate deleted text). In addition, a separate Schedule of Changes has been produced to explain why each change has been made.

Q: Can I comment on any part of the *Amendments* document?

A: At this stage, representations are only being sought on whether the amendments meet the Tests of Soundness or are legally compliant. Representations should specify in what respect(s) the amendment is considered to be unsound, and what change(s) would need to be made to make it sound.

Q: What are the Tests of Soundness?

A: These are the tests set out in the National Planning Policy Framework. The

Local Plan will be examined by an independent inspector whose role is to assess whether the plan has been prepared in accordance with the Duty to Cooperate, legal and procedural requirements, and whether it is sound. A local planning authority should submit a plan for examination which it considers is “sound” – namely that it is:

- Positively prepared – the plan should be prepared based on a strategy which seeks to meet objectively assessed development and infrastructure requirements, including unmet requirements from neighbouring authorities where it is reasonable to do so and consistent with achieving sustainable development.
- Justified – the plan should be the most appropriate strategy, when considered against the reasonable alternatives, based on proportionate evidence. Policies in the Plan should be supported by appropriate evidence.
- Effective – the plan should be deliverable over its period and based on effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic priorities. Policies in the Plan must be viable and capable of being delivered.
- Consistent with national policy – the plan should enable the delivery of sustainable development in accordance with the policies in the National Planning Framework.

Q: How can I make my representation?

A: Please use the representation form, which can be found on the Council’s website (together with a guidance note on how to make a representation), or at the following locations throughout the publication period:

- The Shoreham Centre
- Shoreham Library
- Lancing Library
- Southwick Library
- Harriet Johnson Centre, Sompting
- Lancing Parish Hall

Representations should specify in what respect(s) the amendment is considered to be unsound, and what change(s) would need to be made to make it sound. You can either post your representation to us, email it to us, or hand it in to the Shoreham Centre, or Portland House, Worthing. Whichever you choose, please ensure it reaches us before the deadline of **midnight on 11th May 2016**.

Q: What consultation has taken place previously on the Plan?

A: We have undertaken a lot of consultation on the Plan over the last few years. Representations received at each stage have been taken into account in the emerging Local Plan. This information is set out in the Statement of Consultation 2016 which accompanies the Amendments to the Proposed Submission Adur Local Plan (2016).

Q: What happens next?

A: Following the publication stage, it is proposed to submit the Amendments to the Proposed Submission Adur Local Plan (2016), the Proposed Submission Adur Local Plan 2014, and all representations received in respect to both documents, to the Secretary of State in July 2016. It is likely that the hearings held as part of the Examination would commence in October 2016. If the Inspector (of the public hearing) considers the Plan to be sound with no further changes to be made, then it is hoped the Plan can be adopted in early 2017.

Q Where can I find more information?

A: Please look on the Council's website at:

www.adur-worthing.gov.uk/adur-local-plan-2016

or call: 01273 263000 and ask for the Planning Policy Team.

