

The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 ("the Regulations")

Leeds Local Plan

Notice of Submission of 39 Proposed Main Modifications to the Remitted part of the Leeds Site Allocations Plan (Regulation 22)

Leeds Site Allocations Plan

Notice is given in accordance with the above Regulations that Leeds City Council submitted 39 Proposed Main Modifications to the Remitted part of the Leeds Site Allocations to the Secretary of State for Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government on 26th March 2021 for independent examination.

The Site Allocations Plan (SAP) is a Development Plan Document which sits within a wider group of documents comprising the Leeds Local Plan for the period 1st April 2012 to 31st March 2028.

The Leeds Site Allocations Plan (SAP) provides the future planning framework to guide the development of housing (including for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople), employment and retail proposals and to protect and enhance green space. The Plan was adopted by the Council on 10th July 2019 following an Independent Examination by the Secretary of State.

The SAP was challenged by the Aireborough Neighbourhood Development Forum in relation to allocations on Green Belt land proposed for housing within Aireborough, on 7 grounds. The High Court found that 3 grounds constituted errors of law (within the independent Inspectors' Report) and has ordered that they be resolved. Furthermore, 2 grounds were not granted permission to proceed and 2 grounds were granted permission to proceed but were not upheld. None of the 3 upheld grounds found that that the City Council could not properly release Green Belt sites or that the site selection process was unlawfully or took a legally flawed approach to the SAP.

The Court ordered that all 37 Green Belt sites (including one mixed use allocation) be treated as not adopted and be referred back to the Secretary of State for further examination by the planning Inspectorate, against up to date evidence and national and local policy. This process is known as remittal. It is limited to the 37 sites, which are now returned to the Green Belt pending consideration through this process. All other parts of the SAP remain adopted and are not affected by the remittal process.

From the 5th January to the 16th February 2021, the Council consulted on Main Modifications which proposed that the 37 Green Belt sites should remain in the Green Belt as up to date evidence shows that sufficient non-Green Belt land is available to help deliver the overall housing requirements for Leeds, without the need for Green Belt at this time.

Following a consultation response, a further Main Modification (MM39) is proposed for the site at Barrowby Lane, Manston to allocate the site for employment (reference EG2-37). The implications of this are that the site will no longer remain in the Green Belt. Further details of this including the justification are provided in the <u>SAP Remittal – Background Paper, March 2021</u>

The 39 Proposed Main Modifications and Policies Map (comprises the HMCA maps provided to accompany the Proposed Main Modifications) and other supporting documents are available to view on-line.

The submission documents include:

- Council's Proposed Modifications to the Remitted part of the Plan
- Sustainability Appraisal Addendum
- SAP Remittal Background Paper
- Report of Consultation Addendum 2
- Habitats Regulations Assessment Addendum: Screening & Appropriate Assessment

In accordance with the amendments to the Regulation arising from the Coronavirus pandemic and the <u>Council's Interim Statement of Community Involvement</u>, the submission documents are available to view on-line at (at <u>www.leeds.gov.uk/sapremittal</u>)

- copies of representations made at Council's proposed main modifications consultation stage (January 2021)
- Evidence Base of specific technical and supporting documents which in the opinion of the Council are relevant to the proposed Main Modifications

<u>SAP Remittal - Report of Consultation Addendum 2</u> (CDREM 1/4) sets how the Council met the requirements of para. 22 (1) (c) of the Local Planning Regulations 2012, in preparation of the Council's Main Modifications.

The Plan, as it relates to 39 modifications, continues to be subject to independent examination. This is a continuous process running from the date of submission through to the receipt of the appointed Planning Inspector's Report. Part of this may involve hearing sessions where those invited to attend will have the opportunity to respond to matters raised by an appointed Planning Inspector.

The Inspector appointed to examine the Plan is Louise Gibbons BA Hons MRTPI. Any hearing sessions are likely to take place in the summer 2021. The Inspector will check that all legal requirements have been met and review and listen to comments from residents, stakeholders and businesses, as well as study local evidence. The Inspectors will consider the soundness of the Plan based on the soundness criteria set out in paragraph 182 of the National Planning Policy Framework (2012).

Once confirmed, all details relating to the examination process will be advertised, made available online and sent to all respondents to the consultation on the Remitted part of the SAP.

For further information of the Examination process please contact the Programme Officer: Helen Wilson on 07879 443035, or email progofficer@aol.com

For further information on the submission documents please contact the Policy and Plans Section, Leeds City Council on 0113 3787993, or email <u>sap@leeds.gov.uk</u>