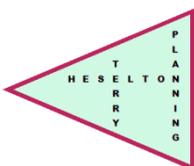


# **Independent Examination of the Scarcroft Neighbourhood Plan**

## **Questions to Leeds City Council and Scarcroft Parish Council**

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**Independent Examiner**



**Terry Heselton Planning**

**27 July 2018**

Following my initial assessment of the examination documents and Regulation 16 responses I have identified a number of issues that require clarification. I also have a number of questions that are directed at Leeds City Council in the first instance but which may necessitate consultation with Scarcroft Parish Council.

*Responses to Regulation 16 Publicity*

1. Were the nine responses to the Regulation 16 Publicity, which were forwarded to me on 16 July 2018, received on or before the end of the Regulation 16 Publicity period, and can you confirm that no late responses have been received.
2. Does the Parish Council wish to comment on any of the responses received. If so I would be pleased to receive comments, which should not include new evidence, no later than Friday 10 August. This invitation is extended to the Parish Council in accordance with best practice guidance for conducting neighbourhood plan examinations published by the Neighbourhood Planning Independent Examination Referral Service, although there is no obligation on the Parish Council to comment on the responses received. Any comments submitted in response to this invitation should be published on Leeds City Council's website.

*Extant Strategic Policies*

3. Has Leeds City Council undertaken an assessment of extant development plan policies in order to identify those which are considered to be 'strategic policies' within the meaning of paragraphs 075 and 076 of current national Planning Practice Guidance. If so it would be helpful if you could provide me with a schedule of 'strategic' policies that apply within the Scarcroft Neighbourhood Area.

*SEA/HRA Screening*

4. I understand the Council is seeking legal advice in the light of the recent judgement concerning the interpretation of the EU Habitats Directive and its implications for screening plans and programmes. Can you please let me know when the Council expects to be in a position to decide whether the HRA screening undertaken in connection with the Scarcroft Neighbourhood Plan is legally compliant with the judgement, and if not what further work may be required to rectify this.

*Designation of the Neighbourhood Area – Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended).*

5. Please confirm and provide evidence that the Regulation 5, 6 and 7 requirements have been satisfied, with relevant dates, as there is no remaining evidence on the City Council's website. I appreciate that

Council websites are frequently updated to avoid becoming overloaded with information so forgive me if I have missed a link to archived material.

*Consultation with Consultation Bodies – Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended).*

6. Please provide evidence that relevant (Schedule 1) Consultation Bodies were consulted at Regulation 14 stage by the Parish Council and that the same bodies were notified as part of the Regulation 16 Publicity by Leeds City Council.

It would be helpful if you could respond to these questions by Tuesday 7 August 2018.

I will let you know if I have any further questions as the examination progresses.

In order to ensure openness and transparency any questions or points of clarification raised by myself and the City Council's responses to them should be published on the City Council's website.