

Agenda Item IMD11

INDIVIDUAL EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISION REFERENCE IMD: 2016/11

TITLE	WBC response on Hurley and the Walthams Neighbourhood Plan (Pre-Submission Plan: consultation version)
DECISION TO BE MADE BY	John Kaiser, Executive Member for Planning and Highways
DATE AND TIME	14 March 2016, 11.30am
WARD	Non-specific
DIRECTOR	Heather Thwaites, Director of Environment
REPORT TO BE PUBLISHED ON	4 March 2106
VENUE	Room SF2, Council Offices, Shute End

OUTCOME / BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY

To ensure that Hurley and the Walthams Neighbourhood Plan has minimal negative impacts upon Wokingham Borough and that any positive benefits are maximised.

RECOMMENDATION

The Executive Member for Planning and Highways

- 1) approves the comments outlined in this report; and
- 2) approves that they be submitted as a formal response to the consultation from Hurley and the Walthams on their Neighbourhood Plan.

SUMMARY OF REPORT

This report details the proposed response of Wokingham Borough Council to Hurley and the Walthams Neighbourhood Plan.

The content of this report includes the following:

- Considering the impact of Hurley and the Walthams Neighbourhood Plan (Pre-Submission Plan: consultation version) on Wokingham Borough Council.

Background

The Parish Councils of Hurley, Waltham St Lawrence and White Waltham and the Parish Meeting of Shottesbrooke are jointly preparing a Neighbourhood Plan for their Neighbourhood Area, as designated by the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead under the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

The Neighbourhood Area of Hurley and the Walthams is located to the west of Maidenhead within the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead. The Neighbourhood Area borders Wokingham Borough, running from Remenham in the north of the Borough down to Hurst, before the boundary runs east-west just to the north-west of Binfield.

Hurley and the Walthams have consulted Wokingham Borough Council to obtain the views of the Council on the pre-submission version of their Neighbourhood Plan.

Analysis of issues

Wokingham Borough Council raise no objection to the Neighbourhood Plan that Hurley and the Walthams have produced when considering that the proposed policies largely relate to very localised issues that would not have a strategic impact upon Wokingham Borough. However it is requested that the following issues are taken into consideration in development of Hurley and the Walthams Neighbourhood Plan.

Star Works

The Star Works Landfill Site is located within Wokingham Borough Council, close to the administrative boundary with the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead and the Hurley and the Walthams Neighbourhood Plan Area. The Landfill site is accessed via Star Lane and Knowl Hill, both of which are located in the Neighbourhood Plan Area. Wokingham Borough Council is in agreement with the wording of Policy HUR 3 'Intensification of non-excluded development at Star Works' which states: '*Proposals to extend and/or intensify business uses or other non-excluded development uses at the Star Works, Knowl Hill, as shown on the Policies Map, will only be supported if they can demonstrate that their impacts on the local highway network in the village can be satisfactorily mitigated*'. Wokingham Borough Council notes that as Star Works falls within its boundaries, all the relevant material planning considerations will be weighed as and when a future planning application for the development of the site is received. Transport and Highways will form one of the material considerations.

Green Belt land

The Neighbourhood Area is located within designated Green Belt and Wokingham Borough Council is aware that the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead are undertaking a Green Belt and Settlement Boundary Review (subject of a recent Individual Executive Member Decision (IEMD) report attached, dated 26th November 2015). In the recent IEMD, Wokingham Borough Council requested that the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead take into consideration the impact of Green Belt

and Settlement Boundary Review on Wokingham Borough Council in terms of cross-boundary movement, infrastructure, jobs and transportation and the Council would ask that Hurley and the Walthams take into consideration the same factors when developing and refining its Neighbourhood Plan.

Conclusions

WBC requests that Hurley and the Walthams continue to consult the Borough as they develop their Neighbourhood Plan. The Council requests that Hurley and the Walthams take into consideration the impact of Green Belt and Settlement Boundary Review on Wokingham Borough Council in terms of cross-boundary movement, infrastructure, jobs and transportation as their Neighbourhood Plan is progressed.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION

The Council faces severe financial challenges over the coming years as a result of the austerity measures implemented by the Government and subsequent reductions to public sector funding. It is estimated that Wokingham Borough Council will be required to make budget reductions in excess of £20m over the next three years and all Executive decisions should be made in this context.

	How much will it Cost/ (Save)	Is there sufficient funding – if not quantify the Shortfall	Revenue or Capital?
Current Financial Year (Year 1)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Next Financial Year (Year 2)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Following Financial Year (Year 3)	N/A	N/A	N/A

Other financial information relevant to the Recommendation/Decision
N/A

Cross-Council Implications (how does this decision impact on other Council services, including property and priorities?)
N/A

SUMMARY OF CONSULTATION RESPONSES	
Director – Finance and Resources	No comment
Monitoring Officer	No comment
Leader of the Council	I support the recommendations

List of Background Papers
Hurley and the Walthams Neighbourhood Plan (Pre-Submission Plan: consultation version) December 2015 Consultation leaflet regarding the same IEMD report dated 26 th November 2015, regarding WBC’s response to RBWM’s Edge of Settlement Analysis (Draft Green Belt Purpose Assessment and Constraints, Opportunities and delivery Assessment Methodologies)

Contact Heather Read	Service Land Use and Transport Team
Telephone No 0118 974 6453	Email Heather.read@wokingham.gov.uk
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