Statement of Representations Procedure and Availability of Documents

Title of document: Maidstone Local Plan Review

Subject matter and area covered: Maidstone Borough Council has published the Draft for Submission version of the Maidstone Borough Local Plan Review and its Sustainability Appraisal for a six-week period of consultation.

The Local Plan Review sets out the Borough Council’s proposed vision, strategic objectives and policies, including the strategy for development and use of land within the Borough over the period 2022-2037. These are supported by strategic thematic policies, area-based policies and detailed site allocations, as well as development management policies on a range of topics. It also sets out how the Plan will be delivered and monitored.

The Local Plan Review is accompanied by a Policies Map that shows the areas covered by area based and site-specific policies. The Local Plan Review, when adopted, will be used to guide decision making, including on planning applications.

How to view the documents: During the consultation period the Local Plan Review, Policies Map, Sustainability Appraisal and other supporting documents will be available to view on the Council’s Local Plan web page at https://localplan.maidstone.gov.uk/home/local-plan-review and are available for inspection at the following locations:

- All libraries in Maidstone Borough during normal opening hours.

Period for representations: The consultation period for receipt of representations on the Local Plan will be from 9.00am on Friday 29 October 2021 to 11.59pm on Sunday 12 December 2021. Duly made representations must be received by the Borough Council within this period. No representations will be accepted outside of this period.

Making representations: Representations can be made during consultation period set out above directly online via the consultation portal at https://maidstone.objective.co.uk/kse/

Representations at this stage should relate to matters of compliance with legal and procedural requirements and the soundness of the Local Plan Review, as these are the matters that will be examined. Guidance on these matters is set out in the response form and can be downloaded from the website.

Alternatively, representations may be made by email and post using the downloadable response form on the Local Plan Review web page, or in writing using a paper response form.

- By email to: ldf@maidstone.gov.uk
- By post to: Strategic Planning, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, ME15 6JQ
Paper copies of the response form can be printed using the downloadable form on the Local Plan Review web page. A paper response form can be requested by phoning 01622 602000. Posted response forms must be received by the Borough Council within the stated consultation period set out above.

All duly made representations will be submitted to the Secretary of State alongside the Local Plan and its supporting documents, together with a summary of the main issues raised during the consultation period. The representations will be considered as part of a public Examination held by an independent Planning Inspector.

Your name will be published alongside your representation on our consultation portal. All demographic and contact data will be removed. Please note, if you are under 18 we will not publish your name, only your representation, please do specify your age if this is the case.

All consultation comments will be made publicly available on the consultation portal (https://maidstone-consult.objective.co.uk/portal/) in due course. This is so that interested parties can view all the responses that have been received. Published information will include the comment and responder name. All demographic and contact data will be removed. All data is processed in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018.

Representations arising from the Regulation 19 consultation will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate with the Local Plan Review documents and supporting evidence. It is likely that responses to this regulatory stage will result in further proposed changes to the Plan as part of the Examination in Public and these will also be submitted with the other documents.

Receiving notification of the progress of the Local Plan: By using the representation form (via the online consultation portal or by downloading a copy from the Local Plan Review web page) you can state if you wish to appear at a hearing session of the public Examination and be notified of future stages of the Local Plan. Future stages of the Local Plan include:

- Submission of the Local Plan Review for Independent Examination
- Notification of the publication of the recommendations of the Planning Inspectorate
- Notification of the adoption of the local plan.