

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Neighbourhood Planning \(MBC\)](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fw: Otham Neighbourhood Plan
Date: 27 November 2020 16:27:12
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
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To whom it may concern:

Thank you for consulting Historic England on the submission version of the Otham Neighbourhood Plan. Historic England are the government's advisor on planning for the Historic Environment, including the conservation of heritage assets and champion good design in historic places. As such we limit our review of neighbourhood plans to areas that fall within our remit and silence on other areas should be treated as agreement or consent.

I am happy to confirm that we have no objections to raise with regard to the proposals set out in the plan. We do support the direction of Policy HC2 with regard to the protection of important views but do consider the policy wording to be somewhat lacking in clarity. As such we suggest it is amended slightly to read: "Protection of views: Development proposals must give consideration to identified short- and long-range views across the countryside and the village and, where appropriate, should seek to safeguard these views. Where development could affect views that are a part of the setting of heritage assets, supporting material should identify the contribution the views make to the significance of these assets and the measures that have been taken to avoid or minimise any harm".

From the material included in the plan and its supporting documents it is clear that Otham boasts an array of stunning heritage assets that merit the protections for buildings and spaces that are set out in the plan and in particular that anti-coalescence policy AC1 sets out a balanced and proportionate approach to decision affecting land that has moderate and high anti-coalescence value as defined by the community. As such, we commend the plan to the examiner.

We would be pleased to answer any queries the examiner may have arising from our comments or to provide further information if necessary.

Yours faithfully

Robert Lloyd-Sweet

[Robert Lloyd-Sweet | Historic Places Adviser | South East England | Historic England](#)
[REDACTED]
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attachments unless you trust the sender and were expecting the content to be sent to you

Otham Parish Council has prepared a Neighbourhood Development Plan that sets out a sustainable vision for the neighbourhood area and a series of policies that the community is proposing to be used in the determination of planning applications.

Public consultation on the plan will commence on 16th October and closes at 5pm on Friday 27th November 2020. Representations received after the closing date will not be considered.

Copies of the Otham Neighbourhood Development Plan and the supporting documents are available to view and download at: <https://localplan.maidstone.gov.uk/home/neighbourhood-planning>

A representation Guidance Note has been produced and outlines what your representation must include. It is available to view and download at: <https://localplan.maidstone.gov.uk/home/neighbourhood-planning>

Representations must be made in writing (including electronic) to one of the following addresses:

- By email to neighbourhoodplanning@maidstone.gov.uk
- Or by post to Strategic Planning, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ.

Representations will be considered alongside the Neighbourhood Development Plan by an independent Examiner. Representations may include a request to be notified of the Borough Council's decision following a referendum and/or when the Neighbourhood Plan is made.

All representations will be publicly available. All personal data will be processed in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulation. Your information will only be processed for the analysis of consultation responses.

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Kind regards,

Anna Ironmonger

Planning Officer (Strategic Planning)

Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6JQ

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