WEST BERKSHIRE MINERALS AND WASTE LOCAL PLAN (MWLP) EXAMINATION

POST-HEARING NOTE FROM THE INSPECTOR

- 1. At the end of the programmed virtual hearings in early February I undertook to write to WBC by 4 March concerning the procedure for the rest of the Examination.
- 2. Since then, WBC and two Representors have submitted additional documents, as had been agreed, and these have been added to the Examination library (EXAM8-19)
- 3. I have considered those documents alongside the evidence given at the hearings.
- 4. I have reached the view that WBC should now, following established practice, proceed to publish a schedule of Proposed Main Modifications (MMs) for public consultation equivalent to the pre-submission Regulation 19 consultation.
- 5. The Proposed MMs should be published in the same form as in the previously submitted Document EXAM2 Version 2, updated January 2022. That is with one exception that <u>MM32 on development in the setting of the AONB should be brought forward into Policy 19</u> but retain its separate reference number to avoid other amendments.
- 6. Prior to publication, the Sustainability Appraisal should be updated to cover the MMs and published alongside the MM Schedule.
- 7. In addition, post-hearing documents EXAM8-19 should also be published alongside the MMs.
- 8. It should be made clear that only representations directly related to the appropriateness of the MMs will be considered and that this further consultation is in no way an opportunity to make fresh representations on the submission version of the MWLP. However, comments on the updates to the SA and documents EXAM8-15 may be considered where relevant (noting that EXAM16-19 were merely copies of previously submitted documents appended to EXAM15).
- 9. On completion of the MM consultation, WBC is asked to provide a report on the representations received together with its response to those relevant to the MMs or the accompanying documents, in a

similar form to Annex 5 to the SOC Regulation 19 Consultation Response Report.

- 10. WBC is also asked to keep me informed of the timescale and progress of the MM consultation and should keep its Local Development Scheme up to date in this respect where necessary.
- 11. Meanwhile, WBC is asked to provide a further copy of the MM Schedule in MS Word and retitled 'Recommended Modifications to the MWLP' and omitting the 'Reason' column. This is ultimately to form the basis of the MM Appendix to my Report.
- 12. On receipt of the report on the MM consultation I shall take into account all the relevant representations along with the responses of WBC before delivering my report and recommendations.

Brian Sims

Inspector

1 March 2022