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Royal Borough  
of Windsor &  
Maidenhead

24<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Planning Policy Team  
West Berkshire District Council  
Council Offices  
Market Street  
Newbury  
RG14 5LD

Dear Sir/Madam

**Regulation 19 Consultation on the Proposed Submission West Berkshire Local Plan Review 2022-2039**  
**Response from the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead**

Thank-you for consulting the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead on the Proposed Submission West Berkshire Local Plan Review. Please find below this Council's response to the Regulation 19 consultation.

The Royal Borough notes that West Berkshire can currently demonstrate a 6.4 years' housing supply and welcomes the intention of West Berkshire to accommodate its housing need in full. We acknowledge that this is expressed as a range, with the upper end of the range allowing for approximately 5% additional homes on top of the 2022 Local Housing Need. We support the inclusion of a buffer to allow for delays and non-implementation that may occur during the plan period.

We also note that the identified shortfall in Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Show People pitch provision is intended to be addressed via the preparation of a separate Development Plan document. The Royal Borough has also identified needs for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Show People and intends to produce a Traveller Local Plan in order to meet these needs, and as such we welcome West Berkshire's approach to meet the accommodation needs of these groups in full.

The Royal Borough recognises that West Berkshire have identified a shortfall in office and industrial space and have committed to seek to address this matter at the first five-year review of the Local Plan. We have welcomed the opportunity to engage positively with you on this and other matters, through the Duty to Cooperate mechanism. However, I would revert to my letter, dated 24<sup>th</sup> February 2023, and reiterate that the Royal Borough is unable to assist in meeting some or all of your unmet employment land and space needs over the plan period, for the reasons detailed in that letter.

**Tony Reeves – Interim Chief Executive**

Town Hall, St. Ives Road, Maidenhead, SL6 1RF

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The Council supports the objective to mitigate the impact of planned growth on the strategic road network and to promote low emission transport choices. We are also pleased to see the West Berkshire Local Plan Review includes a policy (SP5) on responding to climate change, in particular setting ambitious expectations that new development will achieve net zero operational carbon (policy SP5 c.) and 10% Biodiversity Net Gain (policy SP11).

In conclusion, the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead has no concerns or objections to the Regulation 19 version of the Local Plan Review. This response has been approved by Councillor Haseler, Cabinet Member for Planning, Parking, Highways & Transport and the Council's Head of Planning, Adrien Waite.

Yours sincerely,



Ian Motuel  
Planning Policy Manager  
Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead