From: To: Cc:



Subject: RE: Consultation on the West Berkshire Local Plan Review 2022-2039 Proposed Main Modifications

**Date:** 30 January 2025 16:44:35

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## Dear Planning Policy Team,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed Local Plan Review main modifications. Regional Flood and Coastal Committees (RFCCs) play a vital role in managing flood and coastal erosion risks in the UK and in protecting communities. Thames RFCC has financially supported the proposed East Thatcham flood alleviation scheme in your Council's area, which aims to better protect homes and livelihoods from flooding.

On page 51 of the schedule of Proposed Main Modifications, there is reference to existing flood alleviation measures, but not to the planned ones. It is important to reference the surface water management schemes being planned by West Berkshire Council in this area, including 'East Thatcham'. The RFCC would ask the local planning authority to mention both existing and planned surface water schemes in their plans and to consider these schemes in a comprehensive flood risk assessment when planning development in this area.

Kind Regards,

## Paula Hewitt Chair of the Thames Regional Flood and Coastal Committee

From: PlanningPolicy < PlanningPolicy@westberks.gov.uk>

**Sent:** 06 December 2024 10:30

Subject: Consultation on the West Berkshire Local Plan Review 2022-2039 Proposed Main

Modifications

The West Berkshire Local Plan Review 2022-2039 (LPR) is currently being independently examined by a Planning Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State. The Inspector's role is to assess whether the LPR has been prepared in accordance with the Duty to Cooperate, legal and procedural requirements and whether it is sound (positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy). If the Inspector concludes that the LPR is sound and meets the necessary tests, it can then be adopted by the Council and will form the Local Plan for the

District.

The Inspector issued his preliminary findings on 31 July 2024, and a note on the Main Modifications consultation on 24 October 2024. The findings are without prejudice to his final report but set out the Main Modifications he considers are required in order to make the LPR sound. These proposed Main Modifications are now subject to an 8-week public consultation from Friday 6 December 2024 to 31 January 2025.

It is important that any proposed Main Modifications do not undermine the sustainability process that has informed the preparation of the LPR. The Council has therefore updated the Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment (SA/SEA), and produced an addendum to the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA), both of which accompany the LPR.

We are therefore now inviting representations on the following documents between **Friday 6 December 2024 and 11:59pm on Friday 31 January 2025**:

- Schedule of Proposed Main Modifications to the West Berkshire Local Plan Review 2022-2039 (November 2024)
- Schedule of Proposed Changes to the Policies Map (November 2024)
- Updated Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment (SA/SEA) Report Proposed Main Modifications (November 2024)
- Addendum to the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) of the Proposed Main Modifications (November 2024).

All documents relating to the Consultation on Proposed Main Modifications can be viewed electronically on the Council's website at <a href="https://www.westberks.gov.uk/lpr-proposed-main-modifications">https://www.westberks.gov.uk/lpr-proposed-main-modifications</a>.

**Please note that representations may only be made in relation to the documents as set out above.** If you previously submitted representations to the earlier consultations on the LPR the Inspector has already considered these during the examination and there is no need to make them again.

Representations must be received no later than 11:59pm on Friday 31 January 2025. Late representations cannot be taken into consideration by the Inspector. The Statement of Representations Procedure attached explains where the relevant documents are available for inspection and how your comments should be submitted. I hope this is helpful, but if you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Planning Policy Team on the contact details below:

Email: planningpolicy@westberks.gov.uk

Tel: 01635 519 111

Yours faithfully,

Clare Lawrence
Executive Director for Place