

Inspectors P Lewis and E Worthington The Planning Inspectorate Temple Quay House 2 The Square Temple Quay Bristol BS1 6PN

3 January 2025

Dear Inspectors,

#### South Worcestershire Development Plan review – Fortnightly Update

Please find below an update on the progress of the South Worcestershire Development Plan review (SWDPR).

If you have any further questions about the work we are doing regarding the evidence or general queries, please do not hesitate to let us know.

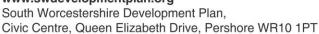
Yours sincerely,

Ian Macleod

Director of Planning and Infrastructure Malvern Hills and Wychavon District Councils

**Duncan Rudge** Head of Planning Worcester City Council

T: 01386 565000
E: contact@swdevelopmentplan.org
www.swdevelopmentplan.org











#### **Progress Update**

Item	Status	Comment
Analysis of Proposed Policies against December 2023 Written Ministerial Statement Resource: SWC Officers	This has been published on the Examination website.	Submitted to Inspectors 17.09.2024
Curlew at Mitton – 'Review of Natural England's Position Statement June 2024' - Supplementary report relating to SWDPR 54: Land at Mitton: A report in response to Natural England's Position Statement re SA54 (EXAM 8)	This has been published on the Examination website.	Submitted to Inspectors 12.09.2024
Updated Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (HOU3) Resource: SWC Officers and external consultant	The updated GTAA has been published on the Examination website.  An updated topic paper will be produced by the end of October.  Further work regarding intensification of existing sites due to be submitted by 31.12.2024.	The updated GTAA was submitted to Inspectors 25.09.2024  Topic paper submitted to Inspectors 24.10.2024  GTAA Intensification Report submitted 20.12.2024
Updated Retail and Town Centres Study (ECO12, EXAM4 and EXAM4A – EXAM4C) Resource: SWC Officers and external consultant	This has been published on the Examination website.	Submitted to Inspectors 01.07.2024

## DevelopmentPlan

Item	Status	Comment
Economic Land Monitoring Report to 31 March 2023 Resource: SWC Officers	This has been published on the Examination website.	Submitted to Inspectors 24.09.2024
Additional evidence base report relating to Areas of Informal Recreation Allocations (ALL1) Resource: SWC Officers and external consultant	This has been published on the Examination website.	Submitted to Inspectors 12.09.2024
Updated Historic Environment Topic Paper and Heritage Appraisals (SP24 – SP26) Resource: SWC Officers and external consultant	This has been published on the Examination website.	Submitted to Inspectors 17.09.2024
Updated Housing Requirements for Designated Neighbourhood Areas (HOU6) with 2021 Census data Resource: SWC Officers	This has been published on the Examination website.	Submitted to Inspectors 24.09.2024
Updated Economic Development Needs Assessment (ECO1 – ECO11) Resource: SWC Officers and external consultant	This will be submitted by 31.10.2024 alongside a topic paper.	Submitted to Inspectors 23.10.2024
Updated Housing Topic Paper (HOU4) Housing Topic Paper Resource: SWC Officers	This will be submitted to the Inspectors by 31.10.2024	Submitted to Inspectors 23.10.2024

T: 01386 565000

E: contact@swdevelopmentplan.org www.swdevelopmentplan.org South Worcestershire Development Plan, Civic Centre, Queen Elizabeth Drive, Pershore WR10 1PT







## DevelopmentPlan

Item	Status	Comment
Update Housing Trajectory (HOU5) Resource: SWC Officers	This will be submitted to the Inspectors by 31.10.2024	Submitted to Inspectors 23.10.2024
Transport Modelling (SWTM) with sensitivity analysis Resource: Worcestershire County Council, National Highways, external consultants and SWC Officers	The transport modelling will be completed by 02.12.2024 and will be submitted to the Inspectors by 31.12.2024	Submitted to Inspectors 20.12.2024
Updated Infrastructure Delivery Plan (INF1), incorporating output from updated evidence documents and Transport Modelling with sensitivity analysis.  Resource: SWC Officers and external consultant	Draft will be submitted by 31.12.2024	Submitted to Inspectors 20.12.2024
Updated SWDPR and Community Infrastructure Levy Viability Review (VIA1), incorporating output from updated evidence documents.  Updated Retail and Commercial Community Infrastructure Levy Viability Review (VIA2), incorporating output from updated evidence documents.	Draft will be submitted by 31.12.2024	Submitted to Inspectors 20.12.2024
Updated Strategic Site Local Plan Viability Report (VIA3), incorporating output from		

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# DevelopmentPlan

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updated evidence documents and Transport Modelling with sensitivity analysis.		
Resource for all above: SWC Officers and external consultant		
Suggested modifications to the Plan put forward by SWC Officers.  Resource: SWC Officers	Prior to Hearings	Officer proposed suggested modifications will be incorporated into the Councils responses to the Matters, Issues and Questions, as directed by the Inspectors.
HRA evidence re nutrient neutrality Resource: SWC Officers and external consultant	We intend to send these to the proposed timescale prior to examination.	Officers are working to address any issues in relation to Nutrient Neutrality, as relates to the River Wye SAC catchment (River Lugg SSSI component only). This concerns a small area of the Malvern Hills District and, further, the SWDPR does not propose any site allocations within this area. Whilst Natural England did not raise any issues regarding Nutrient Neutrality during the Regulation 19 consultation stage, they have since raised concerns directly to the Councils. It is proposed that a Statement of Common Ground sets out any actions the Councils intend to take in response to the issues raised. The Inspectors of the SWDPR can then instruct if an update of the HRA (CD6 and CD7) is considered necessary.
All Statements of Common Ground	Prior to Hearings	Statements of Common Ground are progressing, and we intend to send these to the proposed timescale.

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