

NeighbourhoodPlanning

From: Sustainable Places, SWX [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 May 2023 12:37
To: NeighbourhoodPlanning
Subject: RE: Blandford + Neighbourhood Plan Review - Regulation 16 Consultation

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for consulting the Environment Agency on the Blandford Neighbourhood Plan Review. We have no comments to make in relation to the proposed modifications as listed in the Modification Proposal Statement. We note that the allocations are consistent with the made plan and therefore our comments to these remain unchanged. We do however recommend the plan review considers the following points in relation to changes in policy and our understanding of delivering sustainable development with respect to meeting the demands of climate change.

Managing and adapting to climate change

Our latest Adaptation report, [Living Better with a Changing Climate](#), shows that England will inevitably face significant climate impacts, and that early action is essential. Significant climate impacts are inevitable especially for flood risk, water management, freshwater wildlife and industrial regulation. On-going policy reform presents an opportunity to strengthen the role the planning system plays in mitigating and adapting to climate change, and to ensure a fair transition to a low carbon economy. Therefore your plan should ensure any policies, site allocations and design of development, takes the future challenges of climate change into account.

Environmental Net Gain and biodiversity

Biodiversity Net Gain is already established in the National Planning Policy Framework paragraphs 174d, 179b and 180d., for new developments and planning policies. Under the Environment Act 2021, all planning permissions granted in England (with a few exemptions) will have to deliver at least 10% biodiversity net gain from an as yet unconfirmed date, expected to be in November 2023. As part of the government's [Environmental Improvement Plan 2023](#) and [25 Year Environment Plan](#) there is also the target to incorporate wider Environmental Net Gain into our planning decisions and strategic planning.

We are pleased to see the plan considers delivering biodiversity net gain. As part of this review you should also consider provisions to meet future requirements and preferably identify where your plan can go beyond any minimum requirements to deliver wider environmental net gains.

Strategic water planning and water quality

In February 2011, the Government signalled its belief that more locally focussed decision making and action should sit at the heart of improvements to the water environment. This is widely known as the catchment-based approach and has been adopted to deliver requirements under the Water Framework Directive. This seeks to:

- deliver positive and sustained outcomes for the water environment by promoting a better understanding of the environment at a local level; and
- to encourage local collaboration and more transparent decision-making when both planning and delivering activities to improve the water environment.

Neighbourhood Plans provide an opportunity to deliver multi-functional benefits through linking development with enhancements to the environment. You can find more information on the challenges that threaten the water environment and how these challenges can be managed for your plan area in your [River Basin Management Plan](#).

We encourage you to seek ways in which your neighbourhood plan can improve the local environment as part of this review. For your information, together with Natural England, English Heritage and Forestry Commission we have published joint guidance on neighbourhood planning, which sets out sources of environmental information and ideas on incorporating the environment into plans. This is available at: <https://neighbourhoodplanning.org/toolkits-and-guidance/consider-environment-neighbourhood-plans/>

Kind regards,
Matt

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External: [REDACTED]



From: NeighbourhoodPlanning <NeighbourhoodPlanning@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk>
Sent: 11 April 2023 13:55
To: NeighbourhoodPlanning <NeighbourhoodPlanning@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk>
Subject: Blandford + Neighbourhood Plan Review - Regulation 16 Consultation

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to let you know that the Blandford + Neighbourhood Plan Review has been submitted to Dorset Council for examination.

Dorset Council, as the local planning authority, is required to carry out a consultation on the submitted modified plan. The consultation will commence on **Friday 14th April 2023** and will run until the end of **Friday 26th May 2023**. This will give individuals and organisations the opportunity to comment on the modified plan. An independent examiner will be appointed and any comments received will be passed to him/her for consideration as part of the examination process.

The submission documents, including the plan itself, and the other associated documents relating to the consultation will be available to view online via the following link:
<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/blandford-neighbourhood-plan>

Kind regards,

Community Planning Team
Spatial Planning
Dorset Council

[01258 484201](tel:01258484201)
dorsetcouncil.gov.uk



Dorset
Council



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