



South Tyneside Council

The response of the local planning authority (LPA) to the Commencement of Examination Procedural Note - East Boldon Neighbourhood Plan by Independent Examiner, Rosemary Kidd

21st May 2021

LPA response to Q4

Correspondence from the East Boldon Neighbourhood Forum to the LPA (dated 5th March 2018) requested that the Council provide 'A housing requirement figure for the East Boldon Neighbourhood Area'. The LPA responded as follows:

'It is our intention that the Local Plan will apply the 2016-based household projections which are due to be released in May 2018. This will determine the Local Plan's housing requirement and therefore the scale of growth that we will need to accommodate. I note from the draft Planning Practice Guidance (published recently) that authorities will not be bound to provide such figures. I also note there is no clear mechanism as to how borough wide figures can then be broken down to local areas (which as we comment on below in the context of the SHMA) is complicated given the Forum's area does not follow administrative boundaries.

The Council is strongly committed to the delivery of housing to meet the needs of the Borough and in the context of your request I would be keen to explore whether there is a desire for the emerging Neighbourhood Plan to identify deliverable sites for development.'

The Forum subsequently responded in turn (dated 23rd March 2018) as follows:

'The Forum has made the decision not to designate housing sites in its neighbourhood plan, however, it does intend to comment on the housing sites chosen through the Local Plan process. The Forum would like to generate policy options on housing type, size and tenure for its neighbourhood area to ensure that the housing sites designated through the Local Plan meet the needs of the East Boldon community. To ensure these policy options will be based on robust evidence, the Forum requested in its letter to the Council dated 5th March 2018, if they could assist with this through the review of their Strategic Housing Market Assessment by providing data outputs at the Forum boundary level. This would enable the Forum to drill down into the particular requirements of the East Boldon community to ensure the type, size and tenure of new dwellings is aligned with the community needs.

Your response stated it will be extremely difficult to undertake analysis at this level, given that the neighbourhood area is not an administrative boundary, and if the Forum wishes to have definitive data analysis at this level then it will have to undertake its own primary research. The Forum would like the Council to reconsider its view on this matter given they are currently undertaking work on housing needs for the Borough, and the ease at which this information can be broken down to lower

output areas as demonstrated in the Equality and Diversity Report provided as part of the Forum application submission.'

LPA response to Q5

The Regulation 18 Pre-Publication Draft Local Plan was approved by Cabinet on 7th August 2019 for an 8 week consultation between August and October 2019. The document library for the Pre-Publication Draft Local Plan is at: <https://www.southtyneside.gov.uk/article/36020/Supporting-Documentation-and-Evidence-Base-Studies>

A report - South Tyneside Local Plan: Spatial Options Review was considered by the Cabinet meeting of 17th March 2021. The full report can be viewed at the following location (Item 8): <https://www.southtyneside.gov.uk/article/60220/Committee-meeting?formid=147785&pageSessionId=0117472b-f720-4ca7-961d-a048323b3235&fsn=25112092-ab2c-4b75-b87b-dff2f78de7e7>

The report stated that there are 2 options in respect of the South Tyneside Local Plan. These were as follows:

- **Option 1:** To progress the current Pre-Publication Draft (Regulation 18) Local Plan to a Publication Draft (Regulation 19) Local Plan. Subject to Cabinet endorsement, consult on the Regulation 19 draft Local Plan.
- **Option 2:** To review the spatial options and progress to a new draft Regulation 18 Local Plan to be informed by that review. Subject to Cabinet endorsement, consult on the new draft Regulation 18 Local Plan.

The report sought Cabinet approval for either Option 1 or Option 2 and recommended Option 2. Cabinet authorised Officers to review the spatial options for the distribution of development and prepare a new Regulation 18 Local Plan.

In the view of the LPA therefore, the status of the Regulation 18 Pre-Publication Draft Local Plan that was approved by Cabinet on 7th August 2019 is that it carries very limited weight as, subject to Cabinet approval, it will be superseded by a new Regulation 18 draft Local Plan. In the view of the LPA therefore, only very limited weight can be attributed to Policy H1 within the previous version of the Regulation 18 Pre-Publication Draft Local Plan.

LPA response to Q7

Full details of the scheme and a map showing the location of the scheme are available at the following location:

<https://www.southtyneside.gov.uk/article/72567/Walking-and-Cycling-Improvements-Moor-Lane-Cleadon-East-Boldon-Informal-consultation>

The status of the scheme is that it is the subject of a public consultation and that, depending on the feedback that the Council gets, the proposals may change, or may not go ahead.