

Warwick District Local Plan 1996 - 2011
Topic Response Analysis – Revised Draft Deposit Version

Topic: Plan Introduction

Summary of matters raised in objections.

1. Suggests the inclusion of an additional paragraph to reflect the District Councils support of the Local Biodiversity Action Plan, the Government's Biodiversity Strategy for England 2002 and the West Midlands Regional Biodiversity Strategy 2004 (Warwickshire Wildlife Trust ref: 1/RAC, Warwick County Council Ecology ref: 150/RAG).
2. Objects to the lack of clarity in labeling the Proposals Maps (Barford, Sherbourne and Wasperton Joint Parish Council ref: 52/RAA).
3. Objects to the vague wording throughout the plan which dilutes the precision and enforceability of policies particularly in RAP3, 4 and 7 (Barford, Sherbourne and Wasperton Parish Council ref: 52/RAE).
4. There is concern that local plan policies are not adequately followed when determining applications and are dictated by Central Government. The plan should indicate how policies will be adhered to (Barford, Sherbourne and Wasperton Joint Parish Council ref: 52/RAJ).
5. Suggests the inclusion of a new Para 1.44 to ensure that the needs to the local community are taken into account (Barford, Sherbourne and Wasperton Joint Parish Council ref: 52/RAF).
6. There are serious misgivings concerning the Warwick Retail Studies. It is suggested that the Council should seek further consultation with traders to ensure both parties are satisfied with the findings (The Warwick Society ref: 66/RAA).
7. The introduction should refer to the Regional Economic Strategy particularly given the location of Warwick District in relation to the Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire High Technology Corridor (Advantage West Midlands ref: 168/RAF).
8. Suggests rewording to paragraphs 1.16 and 1.17 to recognise the split of population in relation to land and that towns cannot continue to absorb further development (R Richmond ref: 191/RAA, The Leamington Society ref: 195/RAA, D G Goodyear ref: 349/RAA).
9. Objects on the grounds that Para 1.7 does not adequately reflect the variation in communities across the district and suggests that a targeted customer focus is required in order to improve the environment in all areas (The Leamington Society ref: 195/RAA).

10. It is suggested that paragraph 1.35 should clarify the status of the Warwick Retail Studies undertaken by DTZ and the weight the Council is placing on them. Further information should be included within an appendix on the conclusions drawn on quantitative and qualitative need from the studies (Tesco Stores Ltd ref: 350/RAA).

Response of Head of Planning & Engineering to matters raised

1. In keeping with a style consistent with the new planning framework it is not possible to refer to every document which may have informed the preparation of the plan. However the policies have been drafted where appropriate to reflect the objectives of relevant strategies. In addition para 4.22 of DP3 refers to the Habitat Biodiversity Audit and Geodiversity and Biodiversity Action Plans.
2. It is agreed that to improve clarity the proposals maps should be labeled accordingly.
3. It is not accepted that the wording of the plan is vague. Every effort has been made to ensure the style is clear and reflects the approach of the new planning system.
4. The preparation of local policy is to a certain extent controlled by the requirement for local plans to be in conformity with regional and national planning policy. The plan led system ensures that the development plan is the primary consideration when assessing planning applications. As such paragraph 2.8 of the user guide refers to local plan policies as one of the factors which are considered when assessing planning applications.
5. Policies throughout the local plan are intended to reflect the needs of the local community and have been informed as a result of public involvement throughout the plan making process.
6. As part of the preparation of the 2002 DTZ report (which was updated by the 2004 report) consultation was carried out through a series of stakeholder events. On this basis it is considered unnecessary for further consultation.
7. In keeping with a style consistent with the new planning framework it is not possible to refer to every document which may have informed the preparation of the plan. However the policies have been drafted where appropriate to reflect the objectives of relevant strategies.
8. The format of the local plan recognises the differences between rural and urban areas and as such includes separate policies to reflect this. Para 8.4 outlines the proportion and population of the district within the rural area and the Urban Areas chapter sets out the population within each of the districts towns. I feel that in order to be consistent with the concise style of the local plan it is unnecessary to detail the split within the introduction.
9. Throughout the local plan, policies seek to reflect the different needs of communities within the district particularly through the objectives of the core

strategy. As such where different communities and areas require specific policies these are provided.

10. The council has formally received the reports and clearly a number of the broad principles have informed policies within the local plan. Paragraphs 7.8 and 7.8A detail those issues raised which policies in the plan seek to address. I feel this is sufficient to clarify the status of the reports and it is therefore unnecessary to add any further text within the introduction. In addition the policy framework is sufficient to assess the quantitative and qualitative implications of proposals without the need to include the figures within an appendix.

Recommended revision (s)

1. No change required.
2. Label all proposals maps correctly.
3. No change required.
4. No change required.
5. No change required.
6. No change required.
7. No change required.
8. No change required.
9. No change required
10. No change required.