

## Warwick District Local Plan 1996 - 2011 Topic Response Analysis – First Deposit Version

### Topic: Plan Introduction

#### Summary of matters raised in objections.

1. It is commented that the separation of rural and urban policies means that rural policies apply to many areas on the edge of urban built up areas (Conservative Group ref: 54/AA).
2. Object to Para 1.45 on the grounds that more detail should be included regarding the content of supplementary planning guidance documents (Conservation Group ref: 54/AB).
3. Para 1.9 should refer to PPG's / PPS's (Warwickshire County Council ref: 109/AH).
4. The introduction should include a simple A4 identification plan showing the main settlements and infrastructure within the district (Advantage West Midlands 168/AA).
5. Paragraph 1.22 should refer to the regional strategies which influence the plan in particular the Coventry, Solihull High Technology Corridor (Advantage West Midlands 168/AA).
6. Object to the use of the word 'fair' in Para 1.5 (James Mackay ref: 199/AA, Coten End and Emscote Residents Association ref: 193/AA).
7. Supports the core strategy and four aims and the achievement of sustainable development however there is concern that the policies within the local plan do not contribute to achieving these (James Mackay ref: 199/AB, Coten End and Emscote Residents Association ref: 193/AB).
8. Object to Para 1.8 on the grounds that many of the policies do not contribute towards 'providing a framework for planning decisions which gives certainty for local people and other parties' (James Mackay ref: 199/AC, Coten End and Emscote Residents Association ref: 193/AC).
9. Object to paragraphs 1.9 and 1.10 on the grounds that the proposals maps do not adequately define where policies, designations and allocations are applicable (James Mackay ref: 199/AD, Coten End and Emscote Residents Association ref: 193/AD).
10. Object to Para 1.14 on the grounds that the plans text is not as user friendly and concise as possible (James Mackay ref: 199/AE, Coten End and Emscote Residents Association ref: 193/AE).

11. It is suggested that Para 1.17 should be reworded on the grounds that limiting the response to development pressure to 'managing and directing it to specific areas' is insufficient (James Mackay ref: 199/AF, Coten End and Emscote Residents Association ref: 193/AF).
12. Object to Para 1.26 on the grounds that the policies in the local plan are insufficient to achieve the objectives of the Local Transport Plan (James Mackay ref: 199/AG, Coten End and Emscote Residents Association ref: 193/AG).
13. It is considered that the consultants report received by the Council assessing the sites for Park and Ride in Warwick and Leamington should be made publicly available and the plan should be reconsidered in light of any comments received (James Mackay ref: 199/AH, Coten End and Emscote Residents Association ref: 193/AH).
14. Supports the priorities set out in the Council's Corporate Strategy however there is concern that the policies in the local plan do not do enough to contribute to meeting these (James Mackay ref: 199/AJ, Coten End and Emscote Residents Association ref: 193/AJ).
15. Object to Para 1.35 on the grounds that the retail consultants report should be made publicly available (James Mackay ref: 199/AK, Coten End and Emscote Residents Association ref: 193/AK).
16. Object to Para 1.37 on the grounds that the sustainability appraisal should be subjected to public consultation and both the sustainability appraisal and plan should be reworked in light of any responses (James Mackay ref: 199/AL, Coten End and Emscote Residents Association ref: 193/AL).
17. Object to paragraphs 1.39 and 1.40. The plan should include a schedule detailing the expected date of inquiry and adoption of the document (James Mackay ref: 199/AM, Coten End and Emscote Residents Association ref: 193/AM).
18. To ensure that developers fully understand their role and responsibility in achieving sustainability objectives the plan should include as supplementary planning guidance a checklist which must form part of every planning application (Warwick and Leamington Green Party ref: 262/AE).
19. Plan should include a statement of Warwick District Council Sustainability Objectives (Warwick and Leamington Green Party ref: 262/AE).
20. Plan should include a paragraph referring to the Nottingham Declaration (Of which the Council is a signatory) and emphasising W.D.C's commitment to alleviating Global Climate Change (Warwick and Leamington Green Party ref: 262/AE).
21. Paragraph 1.23 should be reworded to reflect the current position of Regional Planning Guidance and refer to the strategic relationship between Coventry, Warwick and Solihull. In particular the plan needs to address the land use

implications of policies PA3 and PA4 (Coventry City Council ref: 242/AE).

22. Paragraph 1.35 should be reworded to acknowledge that more work is required to inform retail policy in Kenilworth Town Centre (Kenilworth Town Council ref: 223/AA).

**Response of Head of Planning & Engineering to matters raised**

1. Policies are separated in order to acknowledge the unique circumstances which can operate within the rural area (i.e. limited services, restricted public transport) and to adopt a more flexible approach to direct development to within urban areas. It is acknowledged however that this means that some 'edge of urban areas' may be covered by rural policies and to take this into account each proposal would be considered on individual merit.
2. It is considered that it is unnecessary to set out SPGs in further detail within the introduction as these are likely to change over the lifetime of the plan. The Local Development Scheme will set out details of current SPGs which the council intends to 'save' under the old regulations and its intention to produce SPDs in the future as under the new planning act.
3. PPG's are already discussed in paragraph 1.19 of the introduction and it is considered that this should be extended to refer to PPS's as well. It would not be relevant to refer to government guidance in Paragraph 1.9 as this sets out the structure of the local plan.
4. It is considered that the inclusion of an identification plan is unnecessary as the district wide proposals map already shows the main settlements and infrastructure and in accordance with government guidance the structure of the local plan is intended to be as concise as possible.
5. It is agreed that paragraphs 1.22 and 1.23 need to be reworded to reflect the current status of RPG which forms part of the development plan since the commencement of the new Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act. Other regional strategies which may have informed the plan are referred to in the text where appropriate.
6. The overriding objective of the local plan is to contribute towards the vision set out in the Community Plan. As the statement in Para 1.5 is directly replicated from the Community Plan it would not be appropriate to amend this in any way in the local plan.
7. The policies in the local plan have been written to provide a planning framework through which to meet the aims and objectives of the core strategy. The relationship between individual policies and the aims of the core strategy is set out in the Annual Monitoring Report 2004.
8. It is hoped that the structure of the local plan provides (as far as possible) a concise framework to guide users to the policies which are relevant to individual planning proposals and direct development. In the case of individual applications the development control system provides the framework to engage in

consultation with local people and other parties.

9. The user guide is intended to outline the relationship between the proposals maps and policies within the local plan. It is considered unnecessary to replicate this within the introduction. It is considered that that the proposals maps are reasonably clear and we will seek to maximise clarity where possible.
10. It is not accepted that the wording of the policies is not user friendly. Further clarity may be added to policies as part of any amendments which are made in the Second Deposit Version in response to objections.
11. The local plan provides a planning framework through which to direct development to certain areas within the district. It is not considered that the plan can do anymore to respond to development pressures as these are dictated by the market.
12. The local plan contains a series of policies which are intended to contribute towards the objectives and aims of the Local Transport Plan. It should be noted however that this document can only provide a planning policy framework through which to direct new development.
13. The council can not insist that the consultants report is made publicly available as it was commissioned by the County Council. However the County Council's objection to the Park and Ride site was supported by a revised consultant's report which is in the public domain.
14. It is considered that the local plan has been written as far as possible to reflect and reinforce the aims of the corporate strategy and as such it is not considered necessary to amend policies further.
15. It is agreed that Para 1.35 should be amended to reflect the current position of the retail consultants report (It has been superceded by a revised report completed in 2004 since the publication of the first deposit draft). The report is publicly available and can be purchased from Riverside House.
16. A full sustainability appraisal (compliant with the SEA directive) will be prepared for the second deposit version of the local plan. This will include consultation with statutory bodies in accordance with government guidance and will inform the preparation of the revised version.
17. It is considered unnecessary to include a schedule of expected dates of the inquiry and adoption of the local plan as these are subject to change according to the nature and volume of representations received during the redeposit period. It is agreed however that paragraphs 1.39 and 1.40 will require rewording to reflect the current position. In addition the local development scheme sets out the likely timescale for different stages of the local plan process.
18. It is not necessary to include a specific sustainability checklist in the local plan as the aims and objectives of the core strategy set out the approach to sustainable development in Warwick District. In addition the aim of the Development Policies is to act as a sustainability checklist, once all the other policies have been met.

19. See above comment to representation 18.
20. It is agreed that it may be beneficial to refer to the Council's commitment as a signatory of the Nottingham Declaration to reducing climate change.
21. It is agreed that Para 1.23 should be reworded to reflect the current position of the Regional Spatial Strategy following the commencement of the new Planning Act. Any amendments which are required in relation to policies of the R.S.S would be addressed in the future through local development documents such as the core strategy.
22. It is acknowledged that it would be beneficial to include a reference to the current work which is being carried out to inform retail policy in Kenilworth. However, it would be more appropriate to include an additional paragraph to refer to this within the introduction to the town centre policies (Chapter 7).

**Recommended revision (s)**

1. No change required.
2. No change required.
3. Amend paragraph 1.19 to refer to Planning Policy Statements (PPS's).
4. No change required.
5. Amend paragraph's 1.22 and 1.23 to reflect the current position of Regional Planning Guidance.
6. No change required.
7. No change required.
8. No change required.
9. No change required.
10. No change required.
11. No change required.
12. No change required.
13. No change required.
14. No change required.
15. Amend paragraph 1.35 to reflect the current position of the retail consultants report.
16. No change required.
17. No change required.
18. No change required.
19. No change required.
20. No change required.
21. See response to representation 5.
22. Include additional paragraph within the Chapter 7 introduction (Town Centre Policies) to refer to the work being carried out to investigate retail development in Kenilworth.