



The Planning Inspectorate  
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Temple Quay House  
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Bristol  
BS1 6PN  
(FAO Matthew Giles,  
Plans Team)

Local Plan  
St. Helens Council  
Town Hall  
Victoria Square  
St. Helens  
Merseyside  
WA10 1HP

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Tel: 01744 671622

30 October 2020

Dear Mr Giles,

**Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 – Section 20**  
**Submission of St Helens Borough Local Plan 2020-2035**

I am writing to you under the terms of the above-mentioned legislation to submit the St Helens Borough Local Plan 2020-2035 (“the Plan”) for independent examination.

The submission documents include the Plan and other documents as required by Regulation 22 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended). The submitted documents are listed in Annex A to this letter and are being transferred to you by SharePoint.

Please note that the following documents to be submitted have only recently been finalised for publication, and so have not been publicly available previously:

- Green Belt Review Stage 2B proformas (Ref SD021)
- St Helens Borough Local Plan 2020-2035 Schedule of Changes (Ref SD003)
- Infrastructure Delivery Plan Update (2020) (Ref SD013), and
- A number of topic papers to inform the discussion.

As above, one of the documents being submitted is a schedule of proposed changes to the Plan (Ref SD003). Whilst the changes listed have not been subject to consultation, the Council considers that they are of a minor nature, reflecting updated data or other changes in circumstances since the Plan was published, or other editorial changes, including for example, the correction of typographical errors. The Council requests that, if the Inspector appointed to undertake the examination of the Plan comes to the view that one or more of the changes constitute ‘main modifications’ (falling within the scope of Section 20(7C) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004), he or she should consider them as part of the examination. This would be under the provisions set out in paragraph 1.5 of the “Procedure Guide for Local Plan Examinations” published by PINS in June 2019.

The Council also requests, under the terms of Section 20(7C) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, that the appointed Inspector recommends any modifications of the Plan

that he or she may consider would be needed to make the Plan legally compliant and sound. I would be pleased if this letter could be treated as the formal request which is required under that legislation.

The Council would usually expect the public hearing stage of the independent examination to take place at St Helens Town Hall, Victoria Square, St Helens, Merseyside, WA10 1HP. However, given the current circumstances in relation to Covid-19, the Council would be pleased to discuss with the Planning Inspectorate the safest way to hold the public hearing sessions in due course, whilst ensuring the necessary transparency and opportunity for public engagement with the process.

On the basis that the Local Plan contains both strategic and non-strategic policies, and the matters within the Plan to be considered, the Council estimates the duration of the hearing sessions part of the examination process may need to last approximately three weeks. The Council would suggest a preferred timescale for the opening of the hearings of around late Spring / early Summer 2021.

The Council has appointed an independent Programme Officer for the examination, whose contact details are:

Miss Kerry Trueman,  
Programme Officer Solutions Ltd,

Tel: 07582 310364

Email: [KerryTrueman@sthelens.gov.uk](mailto:KerryTrueman@sthelens.gov.uk)

If you have any queries regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Lucy O'Doherty

Development Plans Manager

## **ANNEX A**

### **ST HELENS BOROUGH LOCAL PLAN 2020-2035**

### **TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (LOCAL PLANNING) (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2012 (AS AMENDED)**

### **LIST OF DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED TO SECRETARY OF STATE**

<b><u>Ref</u></b>	<b><u>Document</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Authors</u></b>
SD001	St Helens Local Plan 2020-2035 Submission Draft Written Statement	January 2019	St Helens Council
SD002	St Helens Local Plan 2020-2035 Submission Draft Policies Map	January 2019	St Helens Council
SD003	St Helens Local Plan 2020-2035 Submission Draft Schedule of Changes	October 2020	St Helens Council
SD004	St Helens Local Plan 2020-2035 Regulation 22 Consultation Statement	March 2020	St Helens Council
SD005	St Helens Local Plan 2020-2035 Submission Draft Sustainability Appraisal Main Report	January 2019	AECOM
SD005.1	St Helens Local Plan 2020-2035 Submission Draft Sustainability Appraisal 2019 Non-Technical Summary	January 2019	AECOM
SD005.2	St Helens Local Plan 2020-2035 Submission Draft Sustainability Appraisal 2019 Appendix 5: Scoping Report	January 2019	AECOM
SD005.3	St Helens Local Plan 2020-2035 Submission Draft Sustainability Appraisal 2019 Technical Appendix A	January 2019	AECOM
SD005.4	St Helens Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal, Addendum Report	September 2020	AECOM
SD006	St Helens Local Plan 2020-2035 Submission Draft Habitat Regulations Assessment	December 2018	AECOM
SD006.1	St Helens Local Plan 2020-2035 Submission Draft Habitat Regulations Assessment, Addendum Report	September 2020	AECOM
SD007	Representations received under Regulation 20 to St Helens Local Plan Submission Draft in Plan order – Plan Order Index	September 2020	St Helens Council
SD007.1 - SD007.34	Representations received under Regulation 20 to St Helens Local Plan Submission Draft in Plan order	September 2020	St Helens Council
SD007.35	Representations received under Regulation 20 to St Helens Local Plan	September 2020	St Helens Council

	Submission Draft in Plan order with not all names or addresses provided		
SD008	Representations received under Regulation 20 to St Helens Local Plan Submission Draft in Respondents order – Respondents Order Index	September 2020	St Helens Council
SD008.1 – SD008.26	Representations received under Regulation 20 to St Helens Local Plan Submission Draft in Respondents order	September 2020	St Helens Council
SD008.27	Representations received under Regulation 20 to St Helens Local Plan Submission Draft in Respondents order with not all names or addresses provided	September 2020	St Helens Council
SD009	St Helens Borough Local Plan 2020-2035 Duty to Cooperate Statement	October 2020	St Helens Council
SD010	Liverpool City Region Spatial Planning Statement of Common Ground	October 2019	Halton Borough Council, Knowsley Council, Liverpool City Council, St Helens Council, Sefton Council, West Lancashire Borough Council, Wirral Council and the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority.
SD011	LCR Statement of Cooperation on Local Planning	March 2016	Liverpool City Region authorities District Planning Officers and Planning Policy Managers on behalf of the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Housing and Spatial Planning Board
SD012	Warrington Borough Council – Draft Statement of Common Ground	March 2019	Warrington Borough Council

SD012.1	Warrington Borough Council Draft Statement of Common Ground (March 2019) - St Helens Council Suggested Minor Revisions	October 2020	St Helens Council
SD013	St Helens Borough Council Local Plan 2020-2035 Infrastructure Delivery Plan 2020	October 2020	St Helens Council
SD014	St Helens Council Local Development Scheme 2020	September 2020	St Helens Council
SD015	St Helens Local Development Framework Statement of Community Involvement	November 2013	St Helens Council
SD016	Soundness & Quality Assessment Checklist	October 2020	St Helens Council
SD017	Legal Compliance Checklist	October 2020	St Helens Council
SD018	St Helens Council Annual Monitoring Report 2020	October 2020	St Helens Council
SD019	St Helens Council Draft Nature Conservation Supplementary Planning Document	October 2020	St Helens Council & Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service (MEAS)
SD020	St. Helens Borough Local Plan 2020 - 2035 Green Belt Review 2018	December 2018	St Helens Council
SD021	St Helens Borough Local Plan 2020 – 2035 Green Belt Review Stage 2B Assessments	October 2020	St Helens Council
SD022	Employment Land Need and Supply Background Paper	October 2020	St Helens Council
SD023	Heritage Background Paper	October 2020	St Helens Council
SD024	Parkside Strategic Rail Freight Interchange Background Paper	October 2020	St Helens Council
SD025	Housing Need and Supply Background Paper	October 2020	St Helens Council
SD026	Developing the Spatial Strategy Background Paper	October 2020	St Helens Council
SD027	Bold Forest Garden Suburb Position Statement	October 2020	St Helens Council
SD028	Climate Change Background Paper	October 2020	St Helens Council
SD029	St Helens Council Local Plan Submission Letter to the Planning Inspectorate	October 2020	St Helens Council

Note: This list includes all the documents which must be submitted to the Secretary of State under Regulation 22 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended). It is drawn from a wider examination library which also includes (for example) previously published drafts of the documents and wider evidence base studies.