

South Staffordshire Council – Local Plan Preferred Options November 2021

Response of Cannock Chase District Council

Question 3:

- a) Have the correct vision and strategic objectives been identified? Yes/No
- b) Do you agree that the draft policies (Chapters 4 and 5) and the policy directions (Chapter 6) will deliver these objectives? Yes/No

See specific comments below.

Question 4:

Do you support the policy approach in Policy DS1 – Green Belt and Policy DS2 – Open

Countryside? Yes/No

If no, please explain how these policies should be amended?

See response to questions 4,5 and 6 below.

Question 5:

Do you support the policy approach in Policy DS3 – The Spatial Strategy to 2038? Yes/No

If no, please explain how this policy should be amended?

See response to questions 4,5 and 6 below.

Question 6:

Do you support the policy approach in and Policy DS4 – Longer Term Growth Aspirations for a New Settlement? Yes/No

If no, please explain how this policy should be amended?

Response to questions 4,5 and 6.

We support the approach to meeting your needs within your administrative boundary and acknowledge your long term approach to the consideration of the future needs arising from Birmingham and the Black Country authorities. We support your approach to an infrastructure-led spatial housing strategy. We acknowledge that the Greater Birmingham Housing Market Area Strategic Growth Study is a key piece of evidence and support your long term approach to consideration of your Green Belt boundaries and to the future consideration of a new settlement.

Question 7:

a) Do you support the proposed strategic housing allocations in policies SA1-SA4? Yes/No

If no, please explain your reasons for this.

In general we support the your approach of an infrastructure-led spatial housing strategy which supports your local communities and allocates sites which are the most sustainable, deliverable and viable. We do not wish to comment on the individual strategic housing site allocations at this time.

b) Do you agree that given the scale of the 4 sites detailed in policies SA1-SA4, these warrant their own policy to set the vision for the site, alongside a requirement for a detailed masterplan and design code?

Yes/No

Yes

Question 8:

Do you support the proposed housing allocations in Policy SA5? Yes/No

Please reference the site reference number (e.g site 582) for the site you are commenting on in your response.

In general we support your approach of an infrastructure-led spatial housing strategy which supports your local communities and allocates sites which are in sustainable locations, deliverable and viable. A number of sites share infrastructure and services with residents in Cannock and whilst we do not wish to comment on individual site allocations at this time, the infrastructure and service needs of residents who reside across administrative boundaries should also be considered.

Question 9:

A) Do you support the proposed pitch allocations in Policy SA6? Yes/No

Please reference the site reference number (e.g GT01) for the site you are commenting on in your response.

B) Is there another option for meeting our gypsy and traveller needs, including any alternative site suggestions that could be considered? Yes/No

Please provide details, including a plan for new site suggestion

We support your approach of meeting your needs within your administrative boundary and acknowledge this will require the use of land within the Green Belt. I can advise that there is no capacity to assist in meeting your needs within Cannock Chase District. We do not wish to comment on specific site allocations.

Question 10:

Do you support the proposed allocation in Policy SA7? Yes/No

Yes, we support the proposed employment allocation of the West Midlands Interchange as an employment allocation for a Strategic Rail Freight Interchange in accordance with the existing Development Consent Order and acknowledge its removal from the Green Belt.

Question 11:

Do you agree with the proposed policy approaches set out in Chapter 6?

Yes/No

If no, then please provide details setting out what changes are needed,

Policy NB3 – Cannock Chase SAC

Support the general direction of travel. The policy includes reference to expanding the policy to include reference to the potential issue of air quality impacts upon Cannock Chase SAC and other SAC sites.

Policy NB10 – Canal Network

Support the general direction of travel. The policy supports measures to integrate the Canal network into the wider Green Infrastructure network through biodiversity net gain and maintains support for the Hatherton Branch Canal extension.

We would wish the following potential impacts and opportunities to be considered as the policy is developed further:

- **The proximity of the Cannock Extension Canal SAC and SSSI, including any impacts upon the protected habitats from increased road traffic emissions.**
- **Opportunities should be taken to improve and connect to the existing infrastructure and the existing network of canal towpath and public footpaths/bridleways in the area and around Grove colliery, Little Wyrley.**