

MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL

RECORD OF DECISION OF THE STRATEGIC PLANNING, SUSTAINABILITY AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Decision Made: Tuesday 06 October
2015

Report of the Head of Planning and Development - North Loose Neighbourhood Development Plan

Issue for Decision

The Committee to consider the proposed Maidstone Borough Council consultation response to North Loose on their Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Decision Made

1. That the Committee approves the report as the basis for formal representations on the Regulation 16 North Loose Neighbourhood Development Plan (August 2015);
2. That the Committee agrees the Council's consultation responses to the Regulation 16 North Loose Neighbourhood Development Plan (August 2015) summarised below.

The North Loose Neighbourhood Development Plan (August 2015):

- a) Is in general conformity with the strategic policies of the adopted Maidstone Borough-Wide Local Plan 2000;
- b) Has been assessed, at this stage, to not require a Strategic Environmental Assessment or Habitats Regulations Assessment;
- c) Is not in line with national policy in respect that it fails to adequately indicate how it has contributed, and will contribute, to the emerging Maidstone Borough Local Plan's Objectively Assessed Housing Need since the beginning of the emerging Local Plan's period. It is suggested that the forum specifies the site boundaries and quantum of development anticipated for each site;

- d) Is not in line with national and local policy in relation to the Plan's references to low housing density standards across the Neighbourhood Plan area;
- e) Is not in conformity with the emerging Maidstone Borough Local Plan Regulation 18 Consultation Draft 2014 (MBLP 2014) in relation to the non-allocation of the New Line Learning draft housing allocation. Related to this, clarification is needed on the identification of open spaces as they relate to this site and countryside links;
- f) Should seek to ensure the Plan is 'future proofed' in relation to references to the Code of Sustainable Homes; and,
- g) Should include adequate justification and detailed costing where policies refer to the seeking of development contributions.

<p>Should you wish to refer this decision to Policy and Resources Committee, please submit a Decision Referral Form, signed by three Councillors, to the Head of Finance and Resources by: 15 October 2015</p>
--