



Email to lan.Church@Wokingham.gov.uk

Your ref: Letters/HurstVS/Housing

16th July 2021

Dear Mr Church,

HOUSING IN HURST

Thank you for your letter of 7th July 2021.

However, unfortunately all your letter did was to provide me with information and facts that I was already aware of. Your statement "An updated Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (HEELAA) is therefore being prepared" was a general statement referring to "the assessment of areas of land promoted for future development" and I'm afraid gave me no confidence that you had fully understood the concerns, and the implication of those concerns, raised in my letter specifically in relation to sites 5HUO30 and 5HUO02.

For the avoidance of doubt; Hurst Village Society is concerned that there is compelling evidence to show that the allocations for housing in the Draft Local Plan is not consistent with the agreed methodology set out in the HELAA and Sustainability Appraisal. The assessment of Sites 5HUO30 and 5HUO02 fails to give due consideration to the significant impacts of development on the Sites and their surroundings particularly those that conflict with national and local planning policies regarding landscape character, the environment; flood risk; historic conservation; highway and pedestrian safety. The allocation of Sites 5HUO30 and 5HUO02 in the 2020 is perceived to be flawed and therefore the Plan was unsound in this respect and not in accordance with The National Planning Policy Framework in relation to plan preparation and housing delivery.

This is clearly hugely important, and that is why HVS believes that the reassessment of these two sites is undertaken as soon as possible so that if the matters raised above are effectively proven, the sites are removed from the revised Draft Local Plan "as proposed housing sites" in advance of the next public consultation which I believe is anticipated to take place this Autumn. HVS would be grateful to receive your reassurance on this matter, and the Society's approach is supported by Hurst Parish Council from whom you may have received separate correspondence.

I am also aware you have received a letter and a document of representation from Dr and Mrs. Lade regarding this matter.

Yours sincerely,s

John Osborne on behalf of Hurst Village Society

Hurst Village Society hopes that these comments are helpful to WBC in their role as Planning Authority in considering this application

John Osborne on behalf of Hurst Village Society