

Epping Forest District Local Plan Submission Version 2017

Statement of Common Ground between the Epping Forest District Council and Essex County Council

January 2019

Introduction

Epping Forest District Council (EFDC) is the Local Planning Authority responsible for the production of the Local Plan for Epping Forest District. Essex County Council (ECC) is the highway authority; education authority; minerals and waste planning authority; lead local flood authority; and lead advisor on public health for the Epping Forest District.

Epping Forest District has prepared a Local Plan which will supersede the Local Plan 1998 and Alterations 2006. The new Local Plan will cover the period to 2033 and set out the overall vision, objectives, and planning policies to guide future development in the District. EFDC and ECC have cooperated effectively in the production of the LPSV. EFDC sought expert advice from ECC on a wide range of planning matters at each stage of plan making, and comments received helped shape many of the policies in the LPSV. The Council has also agreed a number of Memoranda of Understanding with ECC and other Local Planning Authorities covering strategic housing and employment matters (EB1200, EB1201, EB1202 and EB1203).

This Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has therefore been prepared jointly by EFDC and ECC to inform the Inspector and other interested parties about the areas of agreement, on-going cooperation and matters not yet agreed between the two parties for the purpose of the independent examination of the Epping Forest District Local Plan Submission Version 2011 - 2033 (referred to hereafter as LPSV).

ECC representation

ECC submitted a number of representations through the LPSV Regulation 19 publication (Representation Reference: 19STAT0024) and raised concerns over a number of policies and supporting text in the LPSV. There are five main areas of concern including Highways, Education, Employment, Flood Risks and Health and Well-being. Since the Regulation 19 publication, further discussions have taken place between the Council and ECC based on the concerns raised and further evidence base work has been commissioned. As a result of this further work, the parties have agreed that, subject to a number of proposed modifications to the LPSV, ECC will withdraw some of the objections raised. These 'resolved objections', together with proposed modifications agreed by both parties, are detailed in Appendix 1. All outstanding objections are detailed in Appendix 2 with a summary of each parties' position on the respective objections.

Both parties acknowledge that this SoCG does not preclude any further written or verbal representations that EFDC or ECC may wish to make as part of the Local Plan Examination, in relation to any other matters which may not have been agreed and/or which do not form part of this SoCG.

Legal Compliance and Duty to Co-operate

All the representations ECC made to the LPSV are in relation to soundness matters as defined under paragraph 182 of the 2012 NPPF. Both EFDC and ECC are satisfied that the LPSV is compliant with relevant legal and procedural requirements, and that EFDC has fully fulfilled its obligations with ECC under the Duty to Cooperate.

Signatures

Name	
Position	
Signature	
Organisation	Epping Forest District Council
Date:	

Name	
Position	
Signature	
Organisation	Essex County Council
Date:	