

Council Response to the Inspector's note on Further Amendments to Main Modifications

Settlement boundaries (MM12, MM13)

All of the existing Residential Development Boundaries in the current Stafford Borough Local Plan 2001 will be removed when the new Plan for Stafford Borough is adopted. The Council intends to establish settlement boundaries for those settlements listed in Spatial Principle 3 (SP3); i.e. the settlements named in the Sustainable Settlement hierarchy. There is no intention to establish settlement boundaries for any other smaller settlements within Stafford Borough outside of the Sustainable Settlement hierarchy. Therefore these smaller settlements will not have settlement boundaries as part of the new Local Plan.

The Council has amended MM12 and MM13 to clarify that a boundary for each settlement within the Sustainable Settlement hierarchy will be defined through the Site Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD), but may be established prior to adoption of the Site Allocations DPD through the process of producing Neighbourhood Plans.

Stafford North SDL (MM25, MM29, MM108, AM51)

The Council proposes to delete the proposed new road route shown across the North of Stafford Strategic Development Location (SDL) from all maps and diagrams within the Plan for Stafford Borough. The Council has also amended the boundary of the Stafford North SDL in the Stafford Town Key Diagram.

The Council proposes to add a new modification, as suggested by the National Grid representation, as part of the Schedule of Additional Modifications, to take account of the high pressure gas pipeline running across the extended area of the Stafford North SDL.

Parking Standards (MM81)

The Council proposes to amend the wording of Appendix B to set out that the Car Parking Standards are a general guide against which proposals can be considered. MM81 has been amended to reflect the wording suggested by the Staffordshire County Council representation.

English Heritage (AM63, AM71, AM72, AM116)

The Council proposes to add the modifications proposed by English Heritage through the Statement of Common Ground to Policies E1, E2, N1 and N9 as part of the Schedule of Additional Modifications.

Other amendments (AM109, MM82, MM98)

- The Council proposes a new additional modification which alters the definition of green infrastructure to reflect the definition given in the NPPF.
- The Council proposes to remove a semi colon from MM82.
- The Council has corrected an inconsistency within the Schedule of Main Modifications table as a textual clarification. As part of MM98 amend the 'policy / paragraph' column to read 'Policy Stone 2 – West and South of Stone'. MM97 corrects the original typo in Appendix E.