**District Councillor Report March 2021**

**Stop Press: Royaldown Update**

A virtual protest meeting organised by SSW Campaign Group and held at midday on Sunday 28th February was attended by 208 members of the public and press. Speakers included:

* Steve Brine MP
* Cllr Jackie Porter, WCC Cabinet Member for Built Environment
* Felicity Roe, HCC Director for Culture (including Estates)
* Tessa Robertson, Chair The Dever Society
* Caroline Dibden, Vice-president Hampshire CPRE

An informative event that showed real opposition to this proposal, and helped to clarify a number of misunderstandings. The consensus on all sides was that this development is not wanted and is not needed. The action for all right now is to respond to the Local Plan Strategic Issues and Priorities consultation ‘Your Place Your Plan’ <https://www.localplan.winchester.gov.uk/> and ensure that they place the third option in the Homes for All section, ‘A strategy that includes one or more completely new strategic allocations or new settlements’, at the bottom of their priority list.

At the Winchester City Council meeting on 24/2/21 James Batho, who made the earlier Freedom of Information requests to HCC, asked a public question “What does it take to remove the County Council’s Royaldown land from the SHELAA?” In reply Cllr Jackie Porter stated *“WCC* *have been in correspondence and met with officers at Hampshire County Council. They have now confirmed in writing that their land (CS03) was submitted for consideration as part of the SHELAA without their authority or consent.”*

*On the basis of this information, WCC have been in contact with the site promoter and asked them to consider updating their submission to reflect the fact that HCC have not given landowner consent.* *They also asked for clarity regarding the possible implications for the wider Royaldown site in relation to access, number of dwellings other infrastructure requirements and deliverability.”*

**Winchester District Local Plan 2038 - Strategic Issues and Priorities Consultation**

**Air Quality Supplementary Planning Document - Consultation Draft**

Winchester City Council has published a ‘Strategic Issues & Priorities’ consultation document and a draft ‘Air Quality Supplementary Planning Document’ for public consultation, both for a period of 8 weeks from 15th February 2021 until 12th April 2021.

**Strategic Issues and Priorities Consultation**

The consultation welcomes views on some of the key issues that the new Local Plan 2038 will need to address.  This consultation will inform the full draft Local Plan, which will be published for consultation in late 2021/early 2022.  WCC want as many people as possible to be part of this process to help create the new Local Plan that will set out the future of the District.

The new Local Plan 2038 will cover all of Winchester District except for the part within the South Downs National Park (which has its own Local Plan). It will set out the development strategy and policy framework for the area and allocate or designate land accordingly.  Once adopted, after many iterative consultations, the Local Plan will be used to guide decisions on planning applications up to 2038.

The **Strategic Issues & Priorities** consultation, which is available on our new website  [www.localplan.winchester.gov.uk](https://scanner.topsec.com/?u=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.localplan.winchester.gov.uk%2F&d=2475&t=c2d8dc0b763620bd37ecb5352c098642b389cd9b) is the first stage in the process and sets out alternative ways in which the District could accommodate the development that it needs to plan for, and what the future strategic vision should be. It sets out a range of questions and provides an opportunity to comment.  The responses to this consultation will help the Council to develop a planning strategy and a full draft Local Plan, for future consultation.

An ‘**Integrated Impact Assessment**’ (including Sustainability Appraisal) has been prepared in association with the Strategic Issues and Priority document, which we would welcome your comments on via the link on CitizenSpace <https://winchester.citizenspace.com/>

WCC are also conducting a new ‘**Call for Sites**’ whereby sites can be submitted to be considered for allocation for a range of purposes in the Local Plan, Housing – including small sites, gypsy and travellers’ sites and custom/self-build sites, Brownfield sites, Employment sites, Renewable Energy Generation sites, Biodiversity offsetting, Carbon offsetting, Nutrient offsetting, Green infrastructure. Anyone can submit a site, whether or not they own it, but cannot say they have the owner’s permission if they don’t! This is also available on the CitizenSpace link above.

The Strategic Issues & Priorities consultation document, the Integrated Impact Assessment and other background / evidence documents can be viewed online at the new local plan website.  If you are unable to view the documents online please call 01962 848508.

WCC are holding a series of **virtual online consultation events** on the Strategic Issues and Priories on 4th March (14.00) 9th March (19.00) 12th March (10.00) and 20th March (10.30).   Anyone is welcome to attend, but you need to register in advance via the new local plan website.

**Air Quality Supplementary Planning Document**

The draft Air Quality SPD supplements the policies in the current Winchester District Local Plan (Parts 1 and 2).  The new Air Quality Supplementary Planning Document will cover the built-up area of Winchester and other areas within 1km of the Winchester settlement boundary, as defined in the existing Local Plan.

This consultation welcomes views on the policies in the draft SPD and will inform the final version of the Air Quality Supplementary Planning Document.  The draft SPD covers matters such as requirements for air quality statements and assessments with proposed mitigations, to be submitted with planning applications.

The draft Air Quality SPD can be viewed on the WCC website in the Planning Policy section, Existing Local Plan, SPDs:

If you are unable to view the air quality documents online please call 01962 848097.  There will be virtual online public meetings held via MS Teams on the draft Air Quality SPD on 11th March (15.00) and 18th March 2021 (17.00).   For details and to receive an invitation to one of these events please send an email marked ‘AIR QUALITY SPD’ to eh@winchester.gov.uk.

**Responses** to the **Strategic Issues and Priorities document,** the **Integrated Impact Assessment,** the **Call for Sites** and the **Draft Air Quality SPD** should be submitted using the online response forms accessed via the respective websites above, **by midnight on 12th April 2021.**

**Cllrs Eleanor Bell, Brian Laming and Hannah Williams**