

Capel Neighbourhood Development Plan

Examination Arrangements Update

Purpose of this Note

This Note updates the earlier notes on the arrangements for the examination.

It takes account of the Borough Council's decision about the next stages of the Tunbridge Wells Local Plan following its assessment of the Inspector's findings. On 13 December 2023 the Council proposed to remove the Tudeley Village allocation from the submitted Plan, and that housing in Paddock Wood and east Capel (STR/SS1) be reduced with all housing being on Flood Zone 1 and employment land on Flood Zone 2 (together with proposed changes within Hawkhurst parish).

It also concluded that the Local Plan should be pursued on the basis that it will meet housing needs for the next 10 years and will therefore need to be subject to an early review. These matters have a bearing on the nature and content of the submitted Capel Plan.

The examination route map

Stage 1: Background Reading

This stage remains unchanged from the earlier note.

Stage 2: Visit to the neighbourhood area

This stage remains unchanged from the earlier note.

Stage 3: Clarification Note

As an update from the earlier note, I will now send the clarification note in early January 2024. This will allow me to assess more fully the relationship between the submitted neighbourhood plan and the emerging Local Plan following the Borough Council's recent decisions.

Stage 4: Decision about the need for a hearing

This stage remains unchanged from the earlier note.

Stage 5: The Examination Report

This stage remains largely unchanged from the earlier note.

I will publish a timetable for the examination at the same time as I issue the clarification note. The timetable will take account of the scale and nature of the questions raised in the note.

Andrew Ashcroft

Independent Examiner

Capel Neighbourhood Development Plan

20 December 2023