

**Enquiries to:** Planning Policy  
**Direct line:** 01730 234280  
**Email:** neighbourhoodplans@easthants.gov.uk  
**My reference:** Alton Proposed NP  
**Your reference:**  
**Date:** 3rd July 2015

Dear Mr P Hicks

**Proposed Alton Neighbourhood Plan  
Legal Check under Schedule 4B of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990**

I write to you on behalf of East Hampshire District Council (EHDC) to confirm our receipt of the submission version of your proposed neighbourhood development plan (the Alton Neighbourhood Plan), along with accompanying supporting documentation.

Firstly, thank you for what is a comprehensive package of information and congratulations on reaching such an advanced stage in the plan making process.

As you may be aware, under Paragraphs 5 and 6 of Schedule 4B of the Town and Country Planning Act (TCPA) 1990 there is now a requirement for EHDC, as the local planning authority, to undertake a check of the compliance of the plan along with its process to date. The relevant legal tests are set out in both the TCPA and relevant sections of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (PCPA) 2004. It is then an obligation of the local planning authority to issue a written statement clarifying the compliance (or otherwise) of the plan. Accordingly, this letter comprises the formal view of EHDC and recommends whether it should be made available for independent examination.

At this stage it is not a duty of the local planning authority to consider the plan proposal against the 'basic conditions' tests set out under Paragraph 8(2) of the TCPA 1990.

A detailed consideration of the plan submission against both the TCPA 1990 and the PCPA 2004 is set out as an attachment to this letter. However, in summary, I am pleased to confirm the following on behalf of EHDC:

- The plan **DOES** accord with all provisions of the PCPA 2004 in that it: specifies a plan period; does not include any provision for excluded development; and does not relate to more than one neighbourhood area;
- The plan **DOES NOT** comprise a 'repeat proposal' as defined under Paragraph 5 of the TCPA 1990;

- The plan **HAS** been prepared by a qualifying body who are authorised to deliver a neighbourhood plan;
- The submission **DOES** comprise the relevant documentation required under Paragraph 1 of Schedule 4B of the TCPA 1990 and as prescribed by Regulation 15 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) (Amendment) Regulation 2015 ('the Regulations');
- The statutory consultation undertaken to date **DOES** comply with the requirements and regulations set out under Paragraph 4 of the TCPA 1990 and as prescribed by Regulation 14 of the Regulations; and
- The plan **DOES** comply with all other provisions under section 61E(2), 61J and 61L of the TCPA 1990.

**The Alton Neighbourhood Plan will now be publicised under Regulation 16 of the Regulations with a view to then making the plan available for independent examination.**

EHDC are now required to publicise the plan along with details of how to make response to it on our website for a minimum of 6 weeks. We will undertake this process shortly. In parallel we will shortly contact you to confirm the ways in which we expect the Town Council to aid the publicity of the plan to ensure as a local authority we fulfil the requirements of the regulations. Additionally, we will seek to meet with Alton Town Council at a suitable time to discuss the appointment of an examiner along with the arrangements for the examination itself. I trust that the views set out in this letter are welcome. We look forward to speaking with you further in due course.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "V Potts". The letters are cursive and slightly slanted.

Victoria Potts  
**Planning Policy Team Manager**