

Lickey & Blackwell and Cofton Hackett
C/O Lisa Winterbourn – Executive Officer
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SENT BY EMAIL

14th February 2019

Dear Lisa,

Lickey & Blackwell and Cofton Hackett Neighbourhood Development Plan Submission

I write further to your submission of the Lickey & Blackwell and Cofton Hackett Neighbourhood Development Plan to Bromsgrove District Council on the 12th December 2018.

The District Council have considered the submitted documents and are satisfied that all of the requirements under Regulation 15(1) of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended) have been met. This letter represents the formal view of the Council in advance of its duties under Regulation 16 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended)

The Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering group have worked very closely with the District Council in the preparation of a joint Neighbourhood Development Plan for Lickey & Blackwell and Cofton Hackett. Please find a formal response to the plan itself below:

- The vision and objectives for the Lickey & Blackwell and Cofton Hackett Neighbourhood Development Plan are recognised as appropriate for the sustainable development of the neighbourhood area for the duration of the plan period. Furthermore the key issues identified, which the plan seeks to address, are acknowledged as relevant to the local issues faced in the neighbourhood area.
- The Lickey & Blackwell and Cofton Hackett Neighbourhood Development Plan policies offer clear policy guidance for prospective development proposals within the Neighbourhood Plan area. The topics covered by the policies are considered to be suitable for the local issues based on supporting evidence, including evidence from extensive consultation with a range of stakeholders.
- It is acknowledged in Objective 2 of the Neighbourhood Development Plan that the Parish Councils will engage with the Green Belt Assessment to be undertaken by the District Council as part of the District Plan Review.

A report was considered by the District Council's Cabinet on 13th February 2019. This report recommends that the Lickey & Blackwell and Cofton Hackett Neighbourhood Development Plan proceeds to a statutory representation period for six weeks in line with the regulations.

It is further proposed that the District Council should appoint an independent examiner to conduct an examination of the Neighbourhood Development Plan, its supporting documents, and relevant representations received during the six week representation period. The examiner will recommend whether the Lickey & Blackwell and Cofton Hackett Neighbourhood development Plan is considered to meet the 'basic conditions' as set out in the regulations.

Finally, on receipt of the examiner's report, should the Lickey & Blackwell and Cofton Hackett Neighbourhood Development Plan be deemed to meet the basic conditions it can proceed to a public referendum. The referendum will ask eligible voters whether they want Bromsgrove District Council to use the Neighbourhood Development Plan for Lickey & Blackwell and Cofton Hackett to help in determining planning applications in the neighbourhood area.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me or my colleague Claire Holmes.

Yours sincerely,



Mike Dunphy
Strategic Planning and Conservation Manager

cc. Lickey & Blackwell and Cofton Hackett Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group
cc. Lickey & Blackwell Parish Council
cc. Cofton Hackett Parish Council