

Milton Keynes Council (MKC) Response to Queries on the Plan:MK Settlement Boundary Study (Actions Points AP49, AP50 & AP51)

During the Plan:MK examination hearings (Matter 3: Part 3: Issues 6 – General Approach to Settlement Boundaries (Thursday 30 August 2018)), the Inspector raised a number of points in relation to the settlement boundaries of specific settlements for which MKC offered to provide a full response after the hearings, following a more detailed review of the issues. The following provides MKC's responses to these queries:

AP49) Settlement Boundary of Little Brickhill

Through comments made during both the Regulation 19 consultation and at the examination hearings, issues were raised by Mr D.Emery with regards to the updated settlement boundary of Little Brickhill and its exclusion of two residential properties (Tantallon and High Acres off Fox Farm Road) at the far western edge of the settlement. MKC offered to review the reason behind their exclusion and reconsider whether the properties should in fact have been incorporated within the updated settlement boundary.

Having reviewed the initial work carried out on the Little Brickhill settlement boundary, it is understood that the two properties were excluded on a mistaken assumption that they were within the curtilage of Fox Farm (located to the south and south-east of these properties), which is an agricultural and therefore rural use, to be excluded from the settlement boundary.

Having reviewed this decision in the light of Mr Emery's submission, MKC is happy for the residential properties of both Tantallon and High Acres to be incorporated within the settlement boundary of Little Brickhill. A further consultation has been carried out with the Parish Council and they have also confirmed that they have no objections to the Council proposing a modification to this end. MKC will therefore propose a further amendment to the settlement boundary of Little Brickhill to include these two residential developments. This will be reflected in the final version of the Settlement Boundary Study and also on the Plan:MK Policies Map.

AP50) Settlement Boundary of Ravenstone

Through their Regulation 19 consultation response, Ravenstone Parish Council highlighted a minor error in the redrawing of the boundary for the village of Ravenstone which has resulted in a property on the eastern side of the village being bisected by the settlement boundary line.

Upon review, MKC agree that a minor mapping error has occurred, as outlined by the Parish Council. It is unclear why this error has occurred but MKC will ensure that this is corrected in the final version of the Settlement Boundary Study and on the Plan:MK Policies Map, so that

the settlement boundary incorporates the entirety of the residential development in question.

AP51) Settlement Boundary of Woburn Sands

MKC have consulted with Woburn Sands Town Council with regards to further amending the settlement boundary of Woburn Sands to include the “second Frost’s site”, given its potential to become enveloped by existing and future development due to the proposed amendment to the SEMK allocation. MKC and the Town Council considered whether to utilise the current opportunity to consolidate the settlement boundary or to leave this site for consideration in a future plan review or neighbourhood plan review.

Following consultation, Woburn Sands Town Council has confirmed that they fully support the inclusion of the Frost’s Garden Centre site within the Woburn Sands settlement boundary. MKC will therefore amend the Woburn Sands boundary through the final version of the Settlement Boundary Study and will propose a modification to the Plan:MK Policies Map to incorporate this site.