

West Bletchley Neighbourhood Plan Review Consultation Statement

February 2025

1 Introduction

Legal Requirements

1.1 This consultation statement has been prepared to fulfil the legal obligations of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012 in respect of the review of the West Bletchley Neighbourhood Plan. As required by Part 5 of the Regulations, Section 15(2) a consultant statement should contain the following:

- Details of the persons and bodies who were consulted about the proposed Neighbourhood Plan;
- Explain how they were consulted;
- Summarises the main issues and concerns raised by the persons consulted;
- Describe how these issues and concerns have been considered, and where relevant, addressed in the proposed Neighbourhood Plan.

2 The Neighbourhood Plan Area

- 2.1 The review of the Neighbourhood Plan has been carried out by West Bletchley Council, which is the designated qualifying body for the Neighbourhood Area covering the whole of the parish of West Bletchley. The Neighbourhood Area was approved by the then Milton Keynes Council on 10 December, 2013. The first West Bletchley Neighbourhood Plan, was made part of the Development Plan on 20th March, 2015.
- 2.2 The Neighbourhood Area for the West Bletchley Neighbourhood Plan is shown in Figure 1 below:

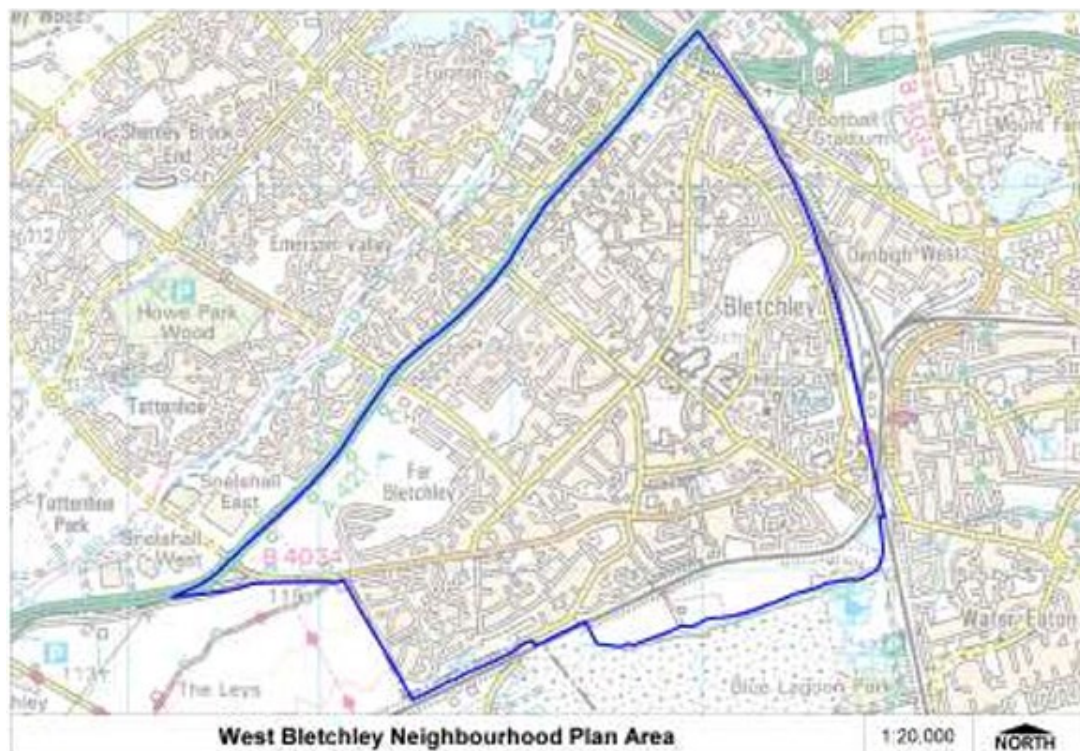


Figure 1: Neighbourhood Plan Area

3 Engagement and awareness raising

- 3.1 Engagement and awareness raising for the review of the Neighbourhood Plan has made extensive use of the parish council's Open Door parish newsletter. As set out in Section 4 below, during consultation on the Regulation 14 draft revised plan, the newsletter was supplemented by articles in the parish website, social media and the parish noticeboards across the parish area.

Steering Group

- 3.2 A Steering Group comprising parish councillors and representatives from local residents' and community organisations was formed at an early stage in the review of the neighbourhood plan to support the review process. The first meeting of the Steering Group took place on 4 April. The Steering Group received a paper setting out the reasons for the review of the Neighbourhood Plan and the process that was being undertaken. As at 4 April, a review of the plan's evidence base had been carried out, as well as an assessment of the existing neighbourhood policies against the strategic policies of Plan:MK and the NPPF. A table was considered by the Steering Group setting out some proposed changes to the existing policies and background text, together with a justification for the proposed change.
- 3.3 A second meeting of the Steering Group on 1 July 2024 considered an updated table of proposed changes, reflecting the discussion in April, as well as considering a paper on consultation arrangements for the revised neighbourhood plan. The parish council's Environment Committee on 8 July 2024 then considered and approved the proposed changes for final sign-off by Full Council in August.

Open Door parish newsletter

- 3.4 The newsletter is published 4 times a year and is delivered to some 9,500 homes across the parish. It is the main vehicle for communicating events and important information to the community. An example of the newsletter, which illustrates the wide range of information and advice that is typically published in Open Door can be seen on the following link: [October 2024 Open Door newsletter](#)
- 3.5 The first article about the review of the Neighbourhood Plan was published in the Open Door edition of October 2023. The review was mentioned in the Parish Clerk's Introduction and there was a one page article announcing the review and providing some background information.

- 3.6 Further articles about the review of the Neighbourhood Plan were published as follows:

March, 2024 – a one page article updated the progress on the review of the Neighbourhood Plan and announced the appointment of a Steering Group to oversee the work. The article invited anyone to make comments on issues affecting the parish that they would like to see considered as part of the review process. The article is attached at Appendix 1.

May, 2024 – a second article was published in the May 2024 edition of Open Door, again inviting residents to share any views or issues for consideration as part of the review of the plan.

August 2024 – a mention in the Chair's Welcome and a one page article announced the start of the public consultation period on the draft revised Neighbourhood Plan. The consultation period started on 2 September and closed on 31st October. A copy of the article is attached at Appendix 2.

4 Regulation 14 Consultation

- 4.1 The draft revised Neighbourhood Plan was consulted on for 8 weeks from 2 September 2024 to 31 October 2024.
- 4.2 Direct emails were sent to a number of consultees, these are listed at Appendix 3.
- 4.3 The Regulation 14 consultation on the draft revised Neighbourhood Plan was advertised on the parish website: see [Review of West Bletchley Neighbourhood Plan \(Aug 30, 2024\)](#). This post was kept updated as the review programme progressed.
- 4.4 As set out in Section 3 above, extensive use has also been made of the Open Door newsletter throughout the review of the Neighbourhood Plan, including an article in the August 2024 edition setting out the details of the Regulation 14 consultation and how to make comments.
- 4.5 During the Regulation 14 consultation, in addition to the newsletter and the parish website, the parish council raised awareness and invited comments using their social media channels and posters on the parish notice boards across the parish area.

Social Media

- 4.6** The parish council operates a Facebook and Instagram account; it also runs the Facebook and Instagram sites for The Frank Moran Centre.
- 4.7** During the Regulation 14 consultation on the draft revised Neighbourhood Plan, a series of social media posts were made, to raise awareness of the consultation and invite comments. Posts were published on the following dates:

West Bletchley Council Facebook (www.facebook.com/westbletchleycouncil) and Instagram (www.instagram.com/westbletchleyparishcouncil):

- 2 September
- 14 September
- 5 October
- 14 October
- 20 October
- 28 October

Frank Moran Centre Facebook (www.facebook.com/frankmoranMARC) and Instagram (www.instagram.com/frankmoranmarc):

- 2 September (Facebook and Instagram)
- 14 September (Facebook and Instagram)
- 14 October (Facebook)

Parish Noticeboards

The Parish council displayed an A4 poster containing the same information as that in the Open Door August 2024 issue at the following noticeboards:

- 221 Whaddon Way WBC offices
- Frank Moran Centre
- Saints estate- St Mary's Avenue adjacent to The Shops
- Racecourses estate - Chepstow Community Centre Shops
- Poets estate - Outside Holne Chase School
- Fairways estate - Walton Heath
- Counties estate - Sussex Road/Whaddon Way
- Scots estate - Kincardine Drive
- Abbeys estate - Melrose Avenue outside Chemist
- Church Green - Green Open Space on Shenley Road (near Dover Gate and CGR)
- Castles estate - Whaddon Way shopping area
- Rivers estate - Trent Road (Open Space Area with Ascot Rail & Litter Bin adjacent to old school site)

External organisations

4.8 The Regulation 14 consultation period and details was publicised by Milton Keynes City Council on its Neighbourhood Planning pages of the Council website, see [Neighbourhood Plans in Milton Keynes | Milton Keynes City Council](#)

- 4.9 Community Action:MK, the infrastructure organisation for the Voluntary and Community section in Milton Keynes also included the details of the consultation in their weekly email newsletter, which is distributed widely across the local VCSE sector.

Responses received

- 4.10 By the close of the consultation period, responses had been received from 6 organisations. Of these, substantive comments were made by Milton Keynes City Council Housing team and by the City Council's Planning team. The parish council response to the consultation comments was considered by the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group on 26th November, 2024. This resulted in a few further changes to the proposed response and the final parish council response was agreed by the Environment Committee 13th January, 2025. In addition to the changes considered by the Steering Group in November, a few additional updates have been made to the Neighbourhood Plan to reflect the implications of the revised NPPF that was published in December 2024.
- 4.11 The table setting out the comments received during the consultation, the parish council's response to those and how the plan has been amended as a result, is attached at Appendix 4.

5 Conclusion

- 5.1 The review of the West Bletchley Neighbourhood Plan has been drawn to the attention of the local parish community throughout the review process. The comments received during the Regulation 14 consultation period have been carefully considered by the parish council and a number of proposed changes are to be made to the revised neighbourhood plan as a result.

Appendix 1

Open Door Article, March 2024

Review of the West Bletchley Neighbourhood Plan

In the last edition we advised that West Bletchley Council has agreed to review and re-adopt the West Bletchley Neighbourhood Plan.

The Council has accordingly now agreed to appoint a Steering Committee as the project board for this review with membership comprised of appointed Members of West Bletchley Council and representatives from the business, public and voluntary and community sectors.

The Council has also been successful in securing a government grant to enable it to appoint planning consultants, Hyas Associates, to provide independent consultancy support for the review.

The first stages of the review are now underway with a review of wider planning policy, census and other local data to provide updated evidence for the revised plan.

The review process will include a period of consultation with local residents but, in advance of that consultation taking place, anyone wishing to make comments, especially on any new issues affecting the parish that have arisen since the Neighbourhood Plan was adopted, may do so by e-mail to:

admin@westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk

The current West Bletchley Neighbourhood Plan can be viewed at:

<https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-policy/west-bletchley-neighbourhood-plan>

Please continue to check the Council's website at www.westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk for further updates.

Appendix 2

Open Door newsletter article, August 2024



Review Of The West Bletchley Neighbourhood Plan

Have your say on the proposed changes

In the last edition of Open Door we told you that we had started a review of the policies in the West Bletchley Neighbourhood Plan.

As a result of the review, we are proposing to make a number of changes to the policies and the background information of the current Plan. These changes will:

- Update the national and local policy context for the Neighbourhood Plan;
- Improve the clarity of certain policies to ensure that they are effective when dealing with planning proposals in the area;
- Reflect the changing priorities of West Bletchley Council.

We would now like your views on the revised Neighbourhood Plan

The consultation period on the draft revised Plan will start on Monday 2 September 2024 and close at 5pm on Thursday 31 October 2024.

Anyone wishing to make comments may do so by e-mail to admin@westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk or by post to West Bletchley Council, 221 Whaddon Way, West Bletchley, MK3 7DZ

The draft revised West Bletchley Neighbourhood Plan can be viewed on the Council's website at westbletchleycouncil.gov.uk Please follow the Quick Link on the Homepage. Paper copies of the Plan are also available from the West Bletchley Council offices.

The current, adopted West Bletchley Neighbourhood Plan can be viewed at milton-keynes.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-policy/west-bletchley-neighbourhood-plan

Next Steps

At the end of the consultation period, all comments received will be read and will be used to consider if further changes need to be made to the draft revised Neighbourhood Plan. The final version of the Plan will then be submitted to Milton Keynes City Council for a further round of consultation, after which the plan will be reviewed by an independent planning inspector.

We hope to have the new, updated Neighbourhood Plan in place early in 2025.

Appendix 3

Statutory consultees for Regulation 14 neighbourhood plan

Schedule 1 of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations, 2012 (as amended),

Consultation Bodies

Adjoining authorities	County, district and parish councils, where appropriate Buckinghamshire Council: Newton Longville Parish Council Shenley Brook End & Tattenhoe Parish Council: Bletchley & Fenny Stratford Town Council: Milton Keynes City Council:
Homes England	
Natural England	
Environment Agency	
Historic England	
Network Rail	
Highways England	
Telecomms operators	
Health - MK Clinical Commissioning Group	Bedford, Luton, MK CCG Northamptonshire CCG
Electricity and Gas companies	National Grid Western Power Southern Gas Networks Cadent
Water and Sewerage	Anglian Water
Canal and Rivers Trust	
Bedford Group of Drainage Boards	
Voluntary Bodies	Those local to the parish Community Action:MK MK Community Foundation
Bodies which represent the interests of different	Equality Council

racial, ethnic or national groups in the neighbourhood area;	
Bodies which represent the interests of different religious groups in the neighbourhood area;	<p>Council of Faiths – c/o Co-ordinator</p> <p>St Mary's Church</p> <p>All Saints Church</p> <p>Whaddon Way Church</p> <p>St Andrews Baptist Church</p>
Bodies which represent the interests of persons carrying on business in the neighbourhood area; and	<p>MK Chamber of Commerce –</p> <p>Bletchley Park Trust:</p> <p>MK College:</p> <p>SCIoT: Alex Warner, Principal:</p>
Bodies which represent the interests of disabled persons in the neighbourhood area.	Milton Keynes Centre for Integrated Living

Other consultees with a local interest:

Bletchley Park Area Residents Association (BPRA)

Rectory Cottages

Windmill Hill Golf Course

Taylor Wimpey

Appendix 4

Regulation 14 consultation comments received and the parish council's response to those, setting out how the plan will be changed

Ref	Consultee details	Comments	WBC response
1	National Highways	The Neighbourhood Plan is unlikely to have a severe impact on the operation of the Strategic Road Network. No further comments.	Noted. No change to the plan required
2	Avison Young for National Gas Transmission	National Gas Transmission has no record of any assets including high pressure gas pipelines in the Neighbourhood Plan area. No further comments	Noted. No change to the plan
3	Avison Young for National Grid Electricity Transmission	National Grid Electricity Transmission has no record of any assets including high voltage electricity assets in the Neighbourhood Plan area. No further comments	Noted. No change to the plan
4	Anglian Water	Supportive of the vision and objective points added to the neighbourhood plan regarding climate change, including new developments using sustainable construction methods and to maintain and enhance the area's biodiversity. No other representations to make on this occasion.	Noted. No change to the plan
5	MK City Council Housing Strategy team	Para 3.10 (Redevelopment of REEMA Construction Blocks): Whilst the council and any registered provider it may work with or sell the land to in order to provide more housing will attempt to maximise social housing, it may be necessary to have a small amount of private sale to cross subsidise the build. Infill new build can be more costly than other building	Change to para 3.9: delete the last sentence ('The Parish Council wishes...') and replace with the following text: "Whilst the Parish Council wishes to see the replacement of the REEMA

	<p>and private sale homes may be required to make the sites viable.</p> <p>I point out no plans have been considered as yet on how the sites will be considered by the council for build or sale.</p>	<p>construction blocks with 100% social housing to meet the needs of our local residents, it acknowledges that the achievement of this will depend on viability considerations. To that end, the Parish Council will consider a small amount of shared ownership homes, to cross subsidise the social rent homes. These shared ownership homes should be reserved for people with eligible local connection criteria, helping people onto the housing ladder and freeing up rental homes for those unable to buy.”</p> <p>Reason: the addition of the caveat re viability considerations is necessary to avoid raising unrealistic expectations that 100% social housing will be deliverable</p>
	<p>Policy BH2: Whilst 100% delivery of Reema sites as social rent homes would help meet need and would be our preference as well, in reality this would be very difficult to deliver.</p> <p>It is possible for registered housing providers to currently claim grant for affordable housing through the Affordable Homes Programme 21-26 managed by Homes England.</p> <p>Affordable housing eligible for grant is:</p>	<p>Amend the last sentence of para 7.3 to add the text underlined below: “For the redevelopment of the REEMA Construction Blocks and Mellish Court, the parish council’s aspiration is for these to come forward as 100% social housing, <u>however, it acknowledges that the achievement of this will depend on viability considerations. To that end, the Parish</u></p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Affordable housing additional to that in a s106 agreement • Affordable housing delivered on a site that is 100% affordable <p>The new government has stated it will support social rent homes above other tenures, and we can be fairly confident that a new grant programme will follow the end of the current one in 2026.</p> <p>However, it would be very difficult for a site to be delivered as 100% social rent affordable housing, due to the low rent levels. The payback periods for any borrowing would be extremely long. We find that to make social rent housing delivery work on any site registered providers wish to have a mix of including affordable rent along and shared ownership properties to cross subsidise the social rent homes.</p> <p>Having said that, the new government may amend the grant funding levels on a new programme to be more generous. I think the deliverability of 100% social rent sites will depend entirely on the amendments to the grant funding programme.</p> <p>It might be worth considering a small amount of shared ownership homes, which could help cross subsidise the social rent homes and could be reserved for people with eligible local connection criteria, helping people onto the housing ladder and freeing up rental homes for those unable to buy.</p>	<p><u>Council will consider a small amount of shared ownership homes, to cross subsidise the social rent homes. These shared ownership homes should be reserved for people with eligible local connection criteria, helping people onto the housing ladder and freeing up rental homes for those unable to buy</u></p> <p>Recommendation: The revised NPPF, published in December 2024, provides greater clarity and support for the delivery of social rent housing. Paragraph 71 in the revised NPPF notes that ‘mixed tenure sites can provide a range of benefits, including creating diverse communities and supporting timely build-out rates and local planning authorities should support their development through their policies and decisions (although this should not preclude schemes that are mainly or entirely for Social Rent or other affordable housing tenures, from being supported..’</p> <p>The proposed changes to the Neighbourhood Plan are in line with</p>
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			the new NPPF guidance, in that there is recognition of the benefits that a mixed tenure scheme could bring, whilst continuing to state the parish council's aspiration for 100% Social Rent homes.
		<p>Policy BNH3: As above, whilst ambitious and laudable, this may be difficult to deliver financially.</p> <p>For both this point and the one above, I think actual wording may be dependent on any amends made to the wording in the NPPF later this year but also the launch of any new affordable housing grant funding programme in 2026, plans for which may be shared publicly in 2025 as part of the new governments plans to increase social housing</p>	Noted – see above comments
6	MK City Council Planning	<p>General: The West Bletchley Neighbourhood Plan is expected to comply with the Government's National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the strategic planning policies within Development Plan for West Bletchley. Ignoring the Waste and Minerals Plans, the main document to assess changes to this Neighbourhood Plan against is the current Local Plan, Plan:MK, adopted in March 2019.</p> <p>Milton Keynes City Council (MKCC) has started the process of replacing Plan:MK with a new Local Plan, the Milton Keynes City Plan 2050. Public consultation on the regulation 18 version of the MK City Plan concluded on</p>	<p>Noted. In preparing the modifications to the West Bletchley Neighbourhood Plan, WBC has had regard to the list of strategic policies at Appendix 1 of Plan:MK.</p> <p>WBC has considered the implications of the revised NPPF, December 2024 and the revised Neighbourhood Plan has been updated to amend references to NPPF paragraphs accordingly.</p>

	<p>Wednesday 9 October 2024. The MK City Plan is expected to be adopted in 2026.</p> <p>The Government is also revising the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). Following consideration of public consultation responses, a final version of the NPPF is expected to be published either later this year or early in 2025.</p> <p>Changes to the NPPF and the adoption by MKCC of a new Local Plan are likely necessitate an early review of the West Bletchley Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p>NPPF paragraph numbers quoted in the Neighbourhood Plan should be checked to see that they have not changed when the new version of the NPPF appears</p>	
	<p>General: it would be helpful to number separate bullet points in policies</p> <p>Foreword: The authors of the Neighbourhood Plan may wish to amend the Foreword to reflect the position on the NPPF and the MK City Plan 2050.</p>	<p>Noted. Bullets in policies will be amended to use numbers instead.</p> <p>Replace existing Foreword with the following:</p> <p>This is our Neighbourhood Plan for West Bletchley. It is a formal Development Plan, and will help us shape and guide development up to 2040. It will help us to ensure we have sustainable and well-planned development that enhances our community and it will also help us to resist poor developments that would diminish our quality of life.</p>

			<p>The Neighbourhood Plan was adopted in 2018, following an extensive consultation process and an independent examination. The Plan's policies have been used since 2018 to inform West Bletchley Council's comments on planning applications in our area. Since the plan was adopted, there have been a number of changes of national and local planning policy, with updates to the National Planning Policy Framework and the adoption of a new local plan Milton Keynes – Plan:MK. The City Council has recently consulted on a draft New City Plan which, once adopted, will replace Plan:MK and run to 2050. The Bletchley area has also benefitted from government investment through the Towns Fund and Milton Keynes City Council has prepared new planning and design guidance for sites within our area. As a result of all of these changes, it was felt that it was timely to review the Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p>The revised Neighbourhood Plan was consulted on over 8 weeks in September and October 2024. This</p>
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		submission version of the revised Neighbourhood Plan includes some further changes to the plan arising from the consultation responses.
		Milton Keynes City Council will now consult on this latest version of the revised Neighbourhood Plan and arrange for and independent examination to take place.
	Figure 2: quite difficult to read	Noted – we will try to improve the legibility for the next version
	Figure 5: the numbering is difficult to read	Noted – as above, we will try to improve the legibility
	Paragraph numbering is out – see pages 19, 20, 21, 22	Noted – this will be addressed.
	Para 3.10: The Parish Council wishes to see the replacement of the REEMA construction blocks with 100% social housing. While this is a Parish Council aspiration, the percentage of affordable housing on site will depend on viability considerations (see comments from Housing Strategy Team).	Change to final sentence of para 3.9 as already set out above.
	New policy BNH2 – new para is 7.3. See also comments from housing Strategy.	Amend Policy BNH2 as follows:
	Plan:MK policy HN3 has caveats about the development of supported and specialist housing. E.g. Local primary health care providers can sustainably accommodate the increase in the demands associated with the occupiers of the supported and specialist housing	Make point (iii) a standalone paragraph within the policy (i.e. remove the (iii) numbering. Add additional criteria so that this part of the policy reads: “The development of sheltered, extra-care and care homes, supported and

			<p>specialist housing to meet local need, will be supported where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) It is in an area close to and with easy accessibility to facilities and services for pedestrians and those with impaired mobility; b) It would not result in an over-concentration of that type of accommodation in that area; c) Local primary health care providers can meet the increased demand on their services associated with occupiers of such accommodation <p>Reason: the additional caveats for specialist and supported housing bring the NP into line with the strategic policies of Plan:MK (specifically Policy HN3).</p> <p>Noted – the locations of the REEMA blocks and Mellish Court will be added to Figure 5.</p> <p>See comments and proposed additional Background Text above for this issue.</p>
		<p>Amend para 7.5: This is new paragraph 7.6.</p> <p>The REEMA blocks and Mellish Court should be shown on the Policies Map.</p> <p>Re: 100% social housing aspiration: Similar comment to one made earlier. While this is a Parish Council aspiration,</p>	

		the percentage of affordable housing on site will depend on viability considerations. See also comments of Housing Strategy Team.	
	<p>Policy GC2 Background text: MKCC is reviewing its Parking Standards SPD but a new version is not expected to be adopted until next year. Where it refers to parking standards, it is suggested that a note is added somewhere that the SPD referred to should be the 2023 standards or the most up to date adopted version. That would then cover any future changes or replacement of the current SPD.</p> <p>Policy GC2 redevelopment of garage courts – not sure that garage courts by their nature are appropriate for the same form of development as the general character of the surrounding area. They actually provide an opportunity to provide some variety.</p>	<p>Amend first sentence of para 8.4 of Background Text to read: “It is important that where parking courts are proposed for redevelopment for housing that sufficient parking to serve the new and existing properties is available in line with the Milton Keynes City Council Parking Standards in force at the time.”</p> <p>Amend second sentence of para 8.4 to read (add in underlined text and delete the struck-through text) : In line with the parish council’s commitments under the climate change emergency and the requirements of the current Milton Keynes City Council’s Parking Standards SPD-2023;</p> <p>Reason: to clarify which Parking Standards should be used.</p>	
	<p>Policy PR1: Noted</p> <p>New Policy PR2a: Noted</p>	<p>No change</p> <p>No change</p>	
	<p>Policy BP3:</p>	<p>Amend Policy BP3 as follows: Number the bullets</p>	

	<p>a) Appendix J on page 278 of Plan:MK identifies policy ER2 as a strategic policy to be considered when preparing a Neighbourhood Plan. The text to Plan:MK policy ER2 (Protection of Existing Employment Land and Premises) says “<i>in general marketing of a property should be for a minimum of six months ...</i>”</p> <p>The New City Plan proposes to increase the marketing period to 12 months. That changed policy will not replace policy ER2 in Plan:MK until the City Plan is adopted.</p> <p>However, in the case of Bletchley Park the marketing of buildings on this historic heritage site may take longer than 6 months and the period of two years is already in an existing Neighbourhood Plan policy. In the circumstances retain the two year marketing period in policy BP3.</p> <p>b) The last two bullet points should be amalgamated and should cover: length of marketing, offer at reasonable market value; offering the freehold of the site.</p> <p>Historic England’s advice on heritage marketing in paragraphs 49 and 50 of HE’s Good Practice Advice (GPA) Note 2 Managing Significance in Decision Taking and paras 32/33 of GPA4 Enabling Development and Heritage Assets Historic England provides useful guidance and possible wording for this policy. If you require help with the wording of this policy, the Council’s Heritage and Design Manager will be able to assist.</p>	<p>Delete the last 2 bullets in the first part of the policy to say:</p> <p><u>“No viable economic use can be found for the site or building with evidence of open marketing provided over at least a period of 2 years at a price that reflects the market value of the asset and its condition and offering the freehold of the asset.”</u></p> <p>Replace the entire second part of the policy (including the three bullets) with the following:</p> <p><u>“Development Proposals, where all the above criteria have been fulfilled, should respond to the specific war time character and appearance of this part of the conservation area, having particular regard to factors such as layout, plan form, scale, form, massing, design, appearance, fenestration, materials”</u></p> <p>Reason: to align the policy criteria with Historic England guidance.</p>
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	<p>c) Replace this text with:</p> <p><i>“Development Proposals, where all the above criteria have been fulfilled, should respond to the specific war time character and appearance of this part of the conservation area, having particular regard to factors such as layout, plan form, scale, form, massing, design, appearance, fenestration, materials etc.”</i></p>	
	<p>Page 67 – refers to Parking Standards 2016. This is not the latest version, and the Standards are currently being reviewed. It would be better to leave out the date.</p>	<p>Under the delivery section amend the reference to parking standards as follows (delete ‘SPD’ and the date)</p> <p>:</p> <p>Milton Keynes Parking Standards SPD (2016)</p> <p>Reasons: omitting the date allows for subsequent versions of the Parking Standards to be used.</p>
	<p>Chapter 11: The Parish Council’s support for preserving the stock of accommodation for smaller local businesses is supported and noted.</p> <p>Policy E2: There is a reference to policy E4 in policy E2 but policy E4 does not appear within the plan.</p> <p>An additional question raised by the current wording of this policy is how the proposals to enhance the jobs and training</p>	<p>Noted - no change</p> <p>Policy E2,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add the word ‘they’ to the end of the first paragraph of the policy (..where it can be demonstrated that they..”)

	<p>prospects of local people will be monitored and by whom? The Parish Council may wish to reconsider this aspect of the policy and consider deleting this wording.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• delete the first bullet point entirely.
	<p>Page 71, Community Action: Although the Parish Council are not proposing any amendment or changes to this text in the WBNP, to avoid any potential misunderstandings MKCC would comment as follows.</p> <p>MKCC is not currently imposing obligations for skills & training, except for S106 contributions for skills training to support Further Education through MK College or otherwise. However, we do encourage developers to provide skills and training opportunities, along the lines identified, as part of their corporate social responsibility activities.</p>	<p>Reason: Policy E4 no longer exists so reference to it need to be removed from the plan.</p> <p>Replace the Community Action Note after Policy E3 with the following text:</p> <p>“We want to ensure that major new developments provide opportunities for local people to train and develop their skills. The Parish Council will work with MKCC as the planning authority to require developers and occupiers of new employment proposals to provide Section 106 contributions for skills training to support Further Education through MK College.</p> <p>The Parish Council also encourages developers to provide skills and training opportunities such as those listed below, as part of their corporate social responsibility activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- School and college work experience placements;

	<p>Policy E3: The text to Plan:MK policy ER2 (Protection of Existing Employment Land and Premises) which is a strategic policy, suggests that marketing of a property should be for a minimum period of 6 months.</p> <p>However, the New City Plan proposes to increase the marketing period to 12 months. That changed policy will not replace policy ER2 in Plan:MK until the City Plan is adopted.</p> <p>Two years is a long time to market a property, which could be vacant and prone to vandalism. As a compromise we suggest the wording in policy E3 refers to marketing for a minimum period of 12 months rather than two years.</p> <p>Para 11.17: Suggest para 11.17 be updated as follows to reflect current projects located within or close to West Bletchley.</p> <p><i>“In 2021, the Bletchley and Fenny Stratford area (which includes part of West Bletchley) was awarded £22.7 million</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Construction curriculum support activities through local schools and colleges; - Opportunities for apprenticeships and employment through construction activity; - NVQ skills achievements for employees; and - Opportunities for employment and skills development during occupation.
	<p>Amend the first bullet of Policy E3 to refer to a continuous marketing period of 12 months instead of 2 years</p>	<p>Update para 11.17 to read:</p> <p><i>“In 2021, the Bletchley and Fenny Stratford area (which includes part of West Bletchley) was awarded £22.7 million of funding from the</i></p>

		<p><i>of funding from the Government's Town Fund. The funding will be used to deliver a number of projects that will address the challenges that the area faces in terms of skills, economic opportunities, investment, transport and physical connectivity. West Bletchley Council is represented on the Town Deal Board which develops and oversees the delivery of the programme of interventions in the area. Several Town Deal projects are located in West Bletchley including the Tech Park project at the SCIoT, transformation at Bletchley Park and the Transport Hub."</i></p> <p>NB The transport hub is on the boundary with Bletchley & Fenny Stratford Town Council.</p>	<p>Government's Town Fund. The funding will be used to deliver a number of projects that will address the challenges that the area faces in terms of skills, economic opportunities, investment, transport and physical connectivity. West Bletchley Council is represented on the Town Deal Board which develops and oversees the delivery of the programme of interventions in the area. <u>Several Town Deal projects are located in West Bletchley including the Tech Park project at the SCIoT, transformation at Bletchley Park and the Transport Hub."</u></p>
	<p>Page 72: might be helpful to include a plan showing extent of Station Quarter Opportunity Area, together with the SPD opportunity areas and the development brief site.</p> <p>Page 73, para 11.21 : London Midland is no longer the train operator. Best to just say the train operator.</p>	<p>Reason: to provide the most up to date context for the Bletchley towns Fund projects.</p> <p>Noted – a plan will be prepared to show these areas.</p>	<p>In para 11.21, delete 'London Midland' and remove the brackets around the train operator: revised para to be as follows:</p> <p>11.21 The Parish Council will work with MKCC, our neighbours Bletchley</p>

			and Fenny Stratford Town Council, Network Rail (the station site owners), the train operator and other relevant stakeholders including the police and fire service, to ensure the regeneration of the Station Quarter is of a high quality and secures benefits for local people and businesses.
Policy BS4: Second paragraph is supporting text rather than part of the policy. It was previously included under the heading 'Delivery'.		The second para of Policy B4 needs to be removed from the policy and renamed 'Delivery'	
		Reason: to correct the error which has amalgamated the delivery paragraph into the policy.	
Policy LSC2: As mentioned earlier it would be helpful to number separate bullet points in policies		Noted. Bullets in policies will be numbered	
Policy C1: Noted. Plan:MK policy CC3 (Protection of Community Facilities) does not mention a time limit for marketing a site		Noted	
Policy SSA1: Title of policy doesn't relate to subject of policy. 'Local Road Network' would be more accurate description		Policy SSA1 rename policy to "Local Road Network"	
		Reason: the new policy title is more relevant to the matters that the policy addresses.	
Policy SSA2: See earlier comments on numbering bullet points		Noted – policy bullets will be numbered.	

		<p>Glossary: Needs to have regard to uses defined in para 11.6. Some former B use classes such as Offices, Research and development and industrial processes now in class E.</p> <p>No mention in glossary definition of community facilities of primary healthcare facilities, schools, allotments</p>	<p>Amend Glossary definition of Community Facilities to read: <u>“Includes Primary healthcare facilities, schools, allotments together with community buildings such as community centres, village halls, church halls, public houses, post offices, indoor and outdoor sports facilities available for public and community use and public open space including green infrastructure”</u></p> <p>Amend Glossary definition for Economic Development to say ” Development, including those within the B and E Use Classes, public and community uses, and main town centre uses (but excluding housing development)</p> <p>Add new Glossary term & definition: Use Classes Order: a piece of legislation that regulates the use of land and buildings. It puts uses of land and buildings into categories, known as ‘use classes’. Change of use can occur within the same Use Class or from one Use Class to another. In some cases, a Change of</p>
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			Use may require an application for planning permission or prior approval.
			Reason: to make the Glossary as comprehensive as possible.
		Suggest documents referred to or listed in the WBNP are referenced ideally with a link so one can view them.	Noted, links will be added where appropriate