

Brighton & Hove City Plan Part Two Examination

Public Hearing Sessions November 2021

Council Opening Statement

On behalf of the Council, we would like to welcome the Inspector and all participants and observers to the hearing sessions for the examination of the City Plan Part Two.

The Council welcomes this next and important stage in the process towards adopting the City Plan Part Two. Once adopted, the Plan will form part of the statutory development plan and will help shape future development in Brighton and Hove.

In 2016, the City Plan Part One was adopted which sets out the strategic planning framework for the city to 2030. The Part One Plan sets out the vision, spatial objectives, spatial strategy, strategic planning policies and strategic site allocations for delivering the development the city needs.

The role of the Part Two Plan, which is the focus of these examination hearings, is to support the delivery and implementation of the City Plan Part One. It is not to review the overall amounts of development to be planned for, nor to review the spatial strategy or strategic planning policies.

We have carried out extensive community engagement on the Plan particularly at the early and draft plan stages which has helped to shape the Plan. There have been 3 separate stages of public consultation including the Issues and Options Scoping consultation in 2016 which was followed by consultation on the Draft Plan under Regulation 18 in 2018. The Regulation 19 consultation, in Autumn 2020, invited formal representations on the soundness of the Proposed Submission Part Two Plan. Consultation statements are available for each stage of plan preparation.

The Part Two Plan will complement the strategic planning framework in City Plan Part One through making additional strategic site allocations, housing and mixed-use site allocations and by setting out more detailed development management policies to guide both applicants and decision makers. It will help to deliver many of the council's key priorities such as improving housing quality and choice; supporting the local economy and building community wealth; ensuring attractive and accessible spaces

and places for residents and visitors and supporting the transition to a more sustainable and carbon neutral city.

Many of the Part Two development management policies will replace currently 'saved' or 'retained' policies from the 2005 Brighton & Hove Plan. Taken together, the City Plan Part One and Part Two plans will provide a more streamlined and up to date planning policy framework to assist the delivery of sustainable development across the city.

We consider the Part Two Plan we have submitted to be sound. It has been prepared in accordance with the relevant planning legislation, regulations and national planning policy and practice guidance.

The Plan has also been informed and shaped by Sustainability Appraisal to ensure it promotes sustainable development; by Habitats Regulation Assessment and by a combined Health & Equalities Impact Assessment to ensure the plan will assist in supporting inclusive, healthy and vibrant communities in the city. A robust and proportionate evidence base also informs the Plan.

These matters and the relationship between the Part One and Part Two Plans are further addressed in the Councils Matter Statements 1 and 2. These form two of 18 Matter Statements that the Council has submitted in response to the Inspectors Matters, Issues and Questions; all of which are available on the council's City Plan Part Two Examination webpage, alongside all other examination documents.

The Council has also proposed some main and additional modifications to the submitted Plan and has asked the Inspector to consider these and any others proposed through the council matter statements or through the examination hearing sessions where they would ensure the soundness of the Plan.

To conclude, we would like to thank everyone who has contributed to shaping and preparing the Part Two Plan. We now welcome the examination hearing sessions which provide a further opportunity for all participants to expand upon their representations and to be heard by the independently appointed Inspector.

Sandra Rogers, Planning Manager, Policy Projects & Heritage,
November 2021

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