

Portishead Neighbourhood Plan Examination

Request for further information and questions from the Examiner to North Somerset Council and Portishead Town Council

I have carried out a further review of the Neighbourhood Development Plan and the evidence submitted in support of it and there are a few points where I need some clarification or further information. I would therefore be grateful if both Councils could assist me, as appropriate, in answering the following questions.

Policy PEN2 Portishead's Green and Blue Infrastructure

Policy PEN2 seeks to protect Portishead's Green and Blue Infrastructure network and refers to Figure 4 , where eight different types of designation are mapped, all with different references and names. Please can the Town Council confirm which of these mapped categories are intended to be included in the term "Strategic Green and Blue Infrastructure" referred to in Policy PEN2? I note that there are reference numbers for the Local GBI corridors - ie LGBI1-4 – which are carried through from the Portishead Neighbourhood Development Plan Green and Blue Infrastructure Report to the Neighbourhood Plan mapping but there is no such numbering for the other GBI assets. I would welcome the Town Council's comments.

Policy PEN4 Biodiversity

The second paragraph of Policy PEN4 refers to statutory and non statutory sites in Figure 4 and Priority Habitats in Figure 6 but it is unclear if the same guidance is meant to apply to each. Please can the Town Council clarify what is meant?

Policy PEN7 Other Green Spaces

Policy PEN7 refers to other green spaces to be protected and Figure 9 shows seven different types of other green space – can the Town Council confirm whether the policy is intended to apply to all the "Other green spaces" shown on this map? Open space standards generally only apply to certain types of open space; can the Council confirm which categories of other green or open space, referred to in the second and third bullet points of Policy PEN7, such standards are intended to apply.

Policy PTC1 Protection of Portishead Town Centre Character and Vitality

Policy PTC1 refers to the Portishead Town Centre as defined in the emerging North Somerset Local Plan, under policy DM60. However, this appears to be a policy in the Sites and Policies Plan: Development Management Policies (adopted in 2016), not the emerging plan. It also refers to mapping in Figure 17, although I think this should be Figure 18. Please can the Town Council and North Somerset Council confirm which is the correct mapping for the town centre associated with adopted DM policy DM60. If Map 18 needs to be corrected, please provide an amended plan.

Thank you for your assistance with these questions. Once I have received your responses, I may need to ask for further clarification or further queries may arise as the examination progresses.

Please note that these questions and requests for information is a public document and the answers and any associated documents will also be in the public domain. Both my questions and the responses should be placed on the Councils' websites as appropriate.

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