BERRYS

Eddie West Local Plan Team Leader Shropshire Council Shirehall Abbey Foregate Shrewsbury SY2 6ND

By email only: <u>Planningpolicy@Shropshire.gov.uk</u>

Our Ref: SA31949/ST/ML **Date:** 1st February 2021

Dear Eddie,

Shropshire Local Plan – Regulation 19 consultation

Our client, Mr Lee Jones, has the following comments on the emerging Shropshire Local Plan. For your ease of use these are also replicated on the attached forms:

Part A: Consultees' details

Part B: representations on:

- Policy: Strategic Policy SP2 'Strategic Approach'
- Policy: Strategic Policy SP9 'Managing Development in Community Clusters'
- Policy: Settlement Policy S8.3 'Community Clusters: Ellesmere Place Plan Area'
- Policy Map: Inset S8 'Ellesmere Place Plan Area'

Strategic Policy SP2 'Strategic Approach'

This policy's aspiration to accommodate, "investment and new development that contributes to meeting needs and making its settlements more sustainable" is supported.

The identification of Elson as a Community Cluster settlement accords with the Local Plan's vision in this regard, given Elson's employment opportunities and its location on the B5068 less than 1km from Ellesmere, a key service centre for this area of the County.

BERRYS

Strategic Policy SP9 – 'Managing Development in Community Clusters'

Q4. Why the Plan is unsound

The objective of Policy SP9 to maintain or enhance the sustainability of Community Cluster settlements through the provision of modest levels of development is supported.

Community Clusters are sustainable locations for development in the rural area.

The current pandemic has highlighted the benefits of rural living and we anticipate greater demand for homes and business to locate in the countryside in the future.

It is therefore very disappointing that section 2.c of Policy SP9 seeks to limit development in Community Clusters to "small-scale infill sites of 0.1ha or less, which are clearly within and well related to the built form of the settlement, have permanent and substantial buildings on at least two sides and are for up to a maximum of 3 dwellings".

This section runs counter to the Government's key objective of, "significantly boosting the supply of homes" expressed in paragraph 59 of the Framework and in more recent Ministerial Statements. It makes the Local Plan's job of delivering the housing development that Shropshire needs more difficult than it needs to be.

In our view, Community Clusters should be allowed the flexibility to deliver larger sites with a greater number of dwellings on them, so long as the proposals do not conflict with the criteria in section 4 of policy SP9 (criteria which provide sufficient control over the delivery of new development to ensure that new development is of an appropriate scale).

For the reasons set out above, the Plan fails the 'positively prepared', 'justified', 'effective' and 'consistent with National Policy' tests of soundness.

Q5 Modifications necessary to make the Plan sound

To make the Plan 'sound' requires section 2.c of the policy to be rephrased to enable larger developments (subject to the criteria in the remainder of the policy being met). Our client's land in Elson (submitted under Shropshire's 'Call for Sites' and identified by the Council as ELS001 'Land adjoining Mayfield, Elson, Ellesmere', provides an example of a site that is larger than 0.1ha. but would otherwise accord with the criteria in the policy and should therefore be supported as a sustainable windfall development that would make a greater contribution to the overall need for housing in Shropshire. An indicative site layout is attached as an Appendix to this representation.

<u>Settlement Policy S8.3 - 'Community Clusters: Ellesmere Place Plan Area'; and</u> Inset S8 – 'Ellesmere Place Plan Area'

The designation of Elson as a Community Cluster settlement in Policy S8.3 and as identified on Inset S8, is strongly supported as this is seen as vital to ensuring the settlement's long-term future.

The settlement of Elson lies in close proximity to, and has a strong relationship with, the key service centre of Ellesmere. It is also the location of significant employment



premises. Elson therefore provides a highly sustainable location for the provision of additional residential development.

Next Stages

I trust you will take these representations into account. If you have any queries whatsoever, please don't hesitate to contact me to discuss.

Yours sincerely,

Stuart Thomas BA(Hons) MA MRTPI Head of Planning For and on behalf of Berrys DDI: 01743 267069 <u>stuart.thomas@berrys.uk.com</u>

Shropshire Council: Shropshire Local Plan



Representation Form

Please complete a separate **Part B Representation Form** (this part) for each representation that you would like to make. One **Part A Representation Form** must be enclosed with your **Part B Representation Form(s)**.

We have also published a separate **Guidance Note** to explain the terms used and to assist in making effective representations.

Part B: Representation

Name and Organisation: Stuart Thomas (BERRYS) on behalf of MR LEE JONES					
Q1. To which documer	nt does this repre	sentation relate	e?		
Regulation 19: Pre-S	Regulation 19: Pre-Submission Draft of the Shropshire Local Plan				
Sustainability Apprai Local Plan	Sustainability Appraisal of the Regulation 19: Pre-Submission Draft of the Shropshire Local Plan				
Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Regulation 19: Pre-Submission Draft of the Shropshire Local Plan (Please tick one box)					
Q2. To which part of the	ne document does	s this represent	ation relate?		
Paragraph:	Policy: SP2	Site:	Policies Map:		
Q3. Do you consider the Regulation 19: Pre-Submission Draft of the Shropshire Local Plan is:					
A. Legally compliant		Yes:	No:		
B. Sound		Yes: 🗹	No:		
C. Compliant with the Duty to Co-operate Yes: No: (Please tick as appropriate).					
Q4. Please give details of why you consider the Regulation 19: Pre-Submission Draft of the Shropshire Local Plan is not legally compliant or is upsound or					

fails to comply with the duty to co-operate. Please be as precise as possible.

If you wish to support the legal compliance or soundness of the Regulation 19: Pre-Submission Draft of the Shropshire Local Plan or its compliance with the duty to co-operate, please also use this box to set out your comments.

This policy's aspiration to accommodate, "investment and new development that contributes to meeting needs and making its settlements more sustainable" is supported.

The identification of Elson as a Community Cluster settlement accords with the Local Plan's vision in this regard, given Elson's employment opportunities and its location on the B5068 less than 1km from Ellesmere, a key service centre for this area of the County.

Q5. Please set out the modification(s) you consider necessary to make the Regulation 19: Pre-Submission Draft of the Shropshire Local Plan legally compliant and sound, in respect of any legal compliance or soundness matters you have identified at Q4 above.

Please note that non-compliance with the duty to co-operate is incapable of modification at examination. You will need to say why each modification will make the Regulation 19: Pre-Submission Draft of the Shropshire Local Plan legally compliant or sound. It will be helpful if you are able to put forward your suggested revised wording of any policy or text. Please be as precise as possible.

(Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

Please note: In your representation you should provide succinctly all the evidence and supporting information necessary to support your representation and your suggested modification(s). You should not assume that you will have a further opportunity to make submissions.

After this stage, further submissions may only be made if invited by the Inspector, based on the matters and issues he or she identifies for examination.

Q6. If your representation is seeking a modification to the Regulation 19: Pre-Submission Draft of the Shropshire Local Plan, do you consider it necessary to participate in examination hearing session(s)?

Please note that while this will provide an initial indication of your wish to participate in hearing session(s), you may be asked at a later point to confirm your request to participate.



No, I do not wish to participate in hearing session(s)

Yes, I wish to participate in hearing session(s)

(Please tick one box)

Q7. If you wish to participate in the hearing session(s), please outline why you consider this to be necessary:

(Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

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Signature:	nature: S. Thomas			01/02/2021
		Office Lles Only	Part A Reference:	
		Office Use Only	Part B Reference	ce:

Shropshire Council: Shropshire Local Plan



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Q1. To which document o	does this representation re	elate?			
Regulation 19: Pre-Sub	Regulation 19: Pre-Submission Draft of the Shropshire Local Plan				
Sustainability Appraisal Local Plan	Sustainability Appraisal of the Regulation 19: Pre-Submission Draft of the Shropshire Local Plan				
Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Regulation 19: Pre-Submission Draft of the Shropshire Local Plan (<i>Please tick one box</i>)					
Q2. To which part of the	document does this repres	sentation relate?			
Paragraph: Policy: SP9 Site: Policies Map:					
Q3. Do you consider the Regulation 19: Pre-Submission Draft of the Shropshire Local Plan is:					
A. Legally compliant	Yes:	No:			
B. Sound	Yes:	No: 🗹			
C. Compliant with the Duty to Co-operate Yes: No: (Please tick as appropriate).					
04. Please give details of why you consider the Regulation 19: Pre-Submission					

Q4. Please give details of why you consider the Regulation 19: Pre-Submission Draft of the Shropshire Local Plan is not legally compliant or is unsound or fails to comply with the duty to co-operate. Please be as precise as possible.

If you wish to support the legal compliance or soundness of the Regulation 19: Pre-Submission Draft of the Shropshire Local Plan or its compliance with the duty to co-operate, please also use this box to set out your comments.

The objective of Policy SP9 to maintain or enhance the sustainability of Community Cluster settlements through the provision of modest levels of development is supported. Community Clusters are sustainable locations for development in the rural area.

The current pandemic has highlighted the benefits of rural living and we anticipate greater demand for homes and business to locate in the countryside in the future.

It is therefore very disappointing that section 2.c of Policy SP9 seeks to limit development in Community Clusters to "small-scale infill sites of 0.1ha or less, which are clearly within and well related to the built form of the settlement, have permanent and substantial buildings on at least two sides and are for up to a maximum of 3 dwellings".

This section runs counter to the Government's key objective of, "significantly boosting the supply of homes" expressed in paragraph 59 of the Framework and in more recent Ministerial Statements. It makes the Local Plan's job of delivering the housing development that Shropshire needs more difficult than it needs to be.

In our view, Community Clusters should be allowed the flexibility to deliver larger sites with a greater number of dwellings on them, so long as the proposals do not conflict with the criteria in section 4 of policy SP9 (criteria which provide sufficient control over the delivery of new development to ensure that new development is of an appropriate scale).

For the reasons set out above, the Plan fails the 'positively prepared', 'justified', 'effective' and 'consistent with National Policy' tests of soundness.

(Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

Q5. Please set out the modification(s) you consider necessary to make the **Regulation 19: Pre-Submission Draft of the Shropshire Local Plan legally** compliant and sound, in respect of any legal compliance or soundness matters you have identified at Q4 above.

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To make the Plan 'sound' requires section 2.c of the policy to be rephrased to enable larger developments (subject to the criteria in the remainder of the policy being met). Our client's land in Elson (submitted under Shropshire's 'Call for Sites' and identified by the Council as ELS001 'Land adjoining Mayfield, Elson, Ellesmere', provides an example of a site that is larger than 0.1ha. but would otherwise accord with the criteria in the policy and should therefore be supported as a sustainable windfall development that would make a greater contribution to the overall need for housing in Shropshire. An indicative site layout is attached as an Appendix to this representation.

(Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

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After this stage, further submissions may only be made if invited by the Inspector, based on the matters and issues he or she identifies for examination.

Q6. If your representation is seeking a modification to the Regulation 19: Pre-Submission Draft of the Shropshire Local Plan, do you consider it necessary to participate in examination hearing session(s)?

Please note that while this will provide an initial indication of your wish to participate in hearing session(s), you may be asked at a later point to confirm your request to participate.



No, I do not wish to participate in hearing session(s)



Yes, I wish to participate in hearing session(s)

(*Please tick one box*)

Q7. If you wish to participate in the hearing session(s), please outline why you consider this to be necessary:

Office Use Only	Part A Reference:		
	Part B Reference:		

In order to participate in, and therefore assist in ensuring, comprehensive consideration of the appropriateness of the constraints placed upon residential growth in Community Cluster settlements (including Elson).

(Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary)

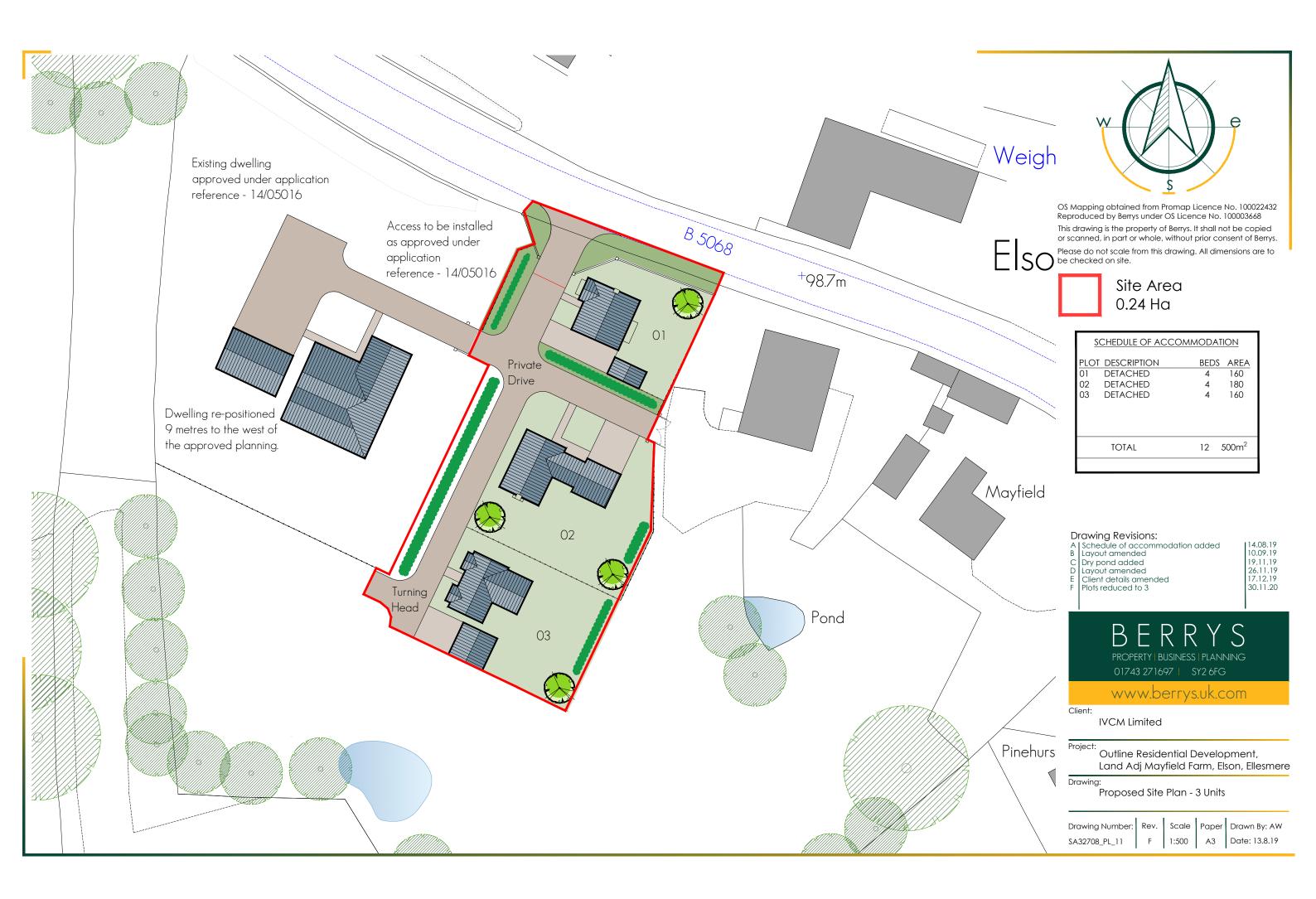
Please note: The Inspector will determine the most appropriate procedure to adopt to hear those who have indicated that they wish to participate in hearing session(s). You may be asked to confirm your wish to participate when the Inspector has identified the matters and issues for examination.

Signature:

S Thomas

Date: 01/02/2021

Office Use Only	Part A Reference:
	Part B Reference:



Shropshire Council: Shropshire Local Plan



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	Sustainability Appraisal of the Regulation 19: Pre-Submission Draft of the Shropshire Local Plan					
	Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Regulation 19: Pre-Submission Draft of the Shropshire Local Plan (Please tick one box)					
Q2. To which part of the document does this representation relate?						
Paragra	aph: F	Policy: S8.3	Site:		Policies Map:	S8
Q3. Do you consider the Regulation 19: Pre-Submission Draft of the Shropshire Local Plan is:						
A. Le	egally compliant		Yes:		No:	
B. S	ound		Yes:	\checkmark	No:	
C. Compliant with the Duty to Co-operate Yes: No: (Please tick as appropriate).						
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