



Much Wenlock Town Council

Corn Exchange
Much Wenlock
Shropshire
TF13 6AE

01952 727509
townclerk@muchwenlock-tc.gov.uk
www.muchwenlock-tc.gov.uk

Town Clerk: Trudi Barrett BA (Hons)

9th June 2021

Mr E West
Planning Policy and Strategy Manager
Shropshire Council
Shirehall
Shrewsbury
SY6 2ND

Dear Mr West

Shropshire Council Local Plan Review 2016 – 2038 and Much Wenlock Neighbourhood Development Plan

Following the recent elections, Much Wenlock Town Council has reviewed its response to Shropshire Council's proposals in the Draft Local Plan. The Council now formally withdraws its previous comments and objects to the proposals which affect Much Wenlock.

The Council has serious concerns about the quality of the consultation process undertaken by Shropshire Council. This did not meet the requirements set out in the Statement of Community Involvement, in particular, that the Local Plan Review process fundamentally ignored the key policy ambitions of the community set out in the Much Wenlock Neighbourhood Plan. The Draft Local Plan does not explain or justify why these have been overridden. In addition, the Town Council feels that there are many outstanding issues associated with the Local Plan which have not been resolved nor discussed with the community. These include many which have been identified in Shropshire Council's own Place Plan for the area: the catchment-wide flood risk, substantial weaknesses in local infrastructure, poor public transport and the significant and serious cumulative impact of increased traffic arising from the Draft Local Plan's proposals.

Much Wenlock Town Council now makes the following requests:

1. That Shropshire Council change the draft Local Plan and remove the allocation of the proposed site MUW012 VAR.
2. That Shropshire Council commit to providing an indicative housing target for the town (until 2038) in the Draft Local Plan that is submitted for Examination in Public.

3. That Shropshire Council agree the best planning solutions for development in the town should be identified through a formal review of the Much Wenlock Neighbourhood Development Plan.
4. That Shropshire Council now meaningfully engages with the Town Council and its community to undertake the review of the Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Please also find enclosed a letter submitted to Shropshire Council regarding the development of the strategic housing site at the former Ironbridge Power Station and its impact on Much Wenlock.

Town Councillors would like to arrange a meeting with Shropshire Council officers to discuss the points above at your earliest convenience. They would like to hold this prior to the meeting of Shropshire Council's Cabinet in July, which will consider the Draft Local Plan.

We look forward to your response to this letter within 10 working days.

Yours sincerely

Trudi Barrett
Town Clerk

Enc