

Hartlepool Borough Council
Planning Policy
Team Level 1 Civic Centre
Victoria Road
Hartlepool
TS24 8AY

Our ref: NA/2008/101961/SF-
07/PO1-L01

Your ref:

Date: 16 August 2017

Dear Sir/Madam

Hartlepool Borough Council Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA), Level 2 SFRA and Sequential Test and Exception Test

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to comment on the updated documents, which are listed below:

Hartlepool Borough Council Level 1 SFRA V1.2 August 2017
Hartlepool Borough Council Level 1 SFRA Detailed Maps (1-22) 10 August 2017
Hartlepool Borough Council Local Plan Sites Assessment V1.3 (Excel spreadsheet)
Hartlepool Borough Council Level 2 SFRA – Site Screening V1.4 August 2017
Hartlepool Flood Risk Sequential Test July 2017
Hartlepool Flood Risk Exception Test July 2017

We have reviewed the above documents and we now consider that the Publication version of the Local Plan is **sound**.

In our previous response to the Publication version of the Local Plan we found the plan to be unsound as a number of site allocations were within flood zones 2 and 3 and had not been assessed within the council's SFRA which had not been updated since 2010. We also identified that sequential and exception tests should be applied to the site allocations. The SFRA has now been updated to take account of these sites and sequential and exception tests produced. We consider that these documents have addressed our previous concerns.

We suggest the following additional minor amendments are made in respect of the submitted documents which will provide consistency between the documents but are not dependent upon our conclusion that the Local Plan is now considered to be sound.

Sequential Test

The updated sequential test describes the vulnerability classification for EMP6 as

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Essential Infrastructure. However, the updated Level 2 SFRA details EMP6 as a More Vulnerable classification. We advise that the same classification is given in both documents for consistency purposes.

Exception Test

The exception test details that 100% of the RC16 Seaton Front Local Centre designation area is in Flood Zone 2 and 3a. The Level 2 SFRA identifies, however, that 13% of the designation area is in Flood Zone 2 and 3a. We suggest that the figure is amended in the exception test to reflect the Level 2 SFRA.

If you have any questions in respect of this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

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