

From: DPD
Subject: FW: Local Plan Scoping Report

From: Rose Freeman
Sent: 13 August 2013 16:31
To: DPD
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Our Ref.: C/5205

Local Plan Review Scoping Report

Thank you for your letter of 4 July consulting The Theatres Trust on the Scoping Report for the Local Plan Review.

The Theatres Trust is The National Advisory Public Body for Theatres. The Theatres Trust Act 1976 states that *'The Theatres Trust exists to promote the better protection of theatres.* It currently delivers statutory planning advice on theatre buildings and theatre use through the Town & Country Planning (General Development Procedure) (England) Order 2010 (DMPO), Articles 16 & 17, Schedule 5, para.(w) that requires the Trust to be consulted by local authorities on planning applications which include *'development involving any land on which there is a theatre.'*

Infrastructure

Local planning authorities are advised at item 156 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) that their Local Plans should set out strategic priorities to deliver the provision of health, security, community and cultural infrastructure and other local facilities.

We suggest that mention is made for any new community, social and cultural facilities to reflect the NPPF guidelines. This includes NPPF item 28 for a prosperous rural economy, which promotes the retention and development of local services and community facilities in villages, such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship.

Development Management Policies

The replacement of detailed national planning guidance by the NPPF means the adopted Core Strategy (Local Plan Part 1) is silent on some matters important to the local community and so it is essential that policies for development management are updated to consider them. Local Plans should set out the opportunities for development and clear policies on what will or will not be permitted and where. Only policies that provide a clear indication of how a decision maker should react to a development proposal should be included in the plan.

We support the merging of LP3 policies into the Local Plan document into their respective sections provided it does not make the whole document unwieldy.

Item 70 in the NPPF on page 17 states that to deliver the social, recreational and cultural facilities and services that the community needs, planning policies and decisions should plan for the use of shared space and guard against unnecessary loss of valued facilities. Also to ensure that established facilities and services are retained and able to develop for the benefit of the community.

With regard to the above and specifically to community facilities, LP3 should include a policy to protect and enhance your existing facilities to reflect item 70 of the NPPF. And so that guidelines are clear and consistent, and for clarity, we recommend a succinct description for the term 'community facilities' be included with a suitable policy and in the Glossary - *community facilities provide for the health and wellbeing, social, educational, spiritual, recreational, communications, leisure and cultural needs of the community.* This would obviate the need to provide examples.

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