

Addendum to Publication Local Plan document (Appendix 1 to Item 10, Planning Committee 21 June 2012)

Page 10, para 1.20 – insert the following paragraph after 1.20

The Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) has indicated that the scale and distribution of growth and development that the Local Plan is seeking to achieve in the Borough is likely to have a number of negative effects on protected habitat sites both within and outside the Borough. These effects include disturbance to certain bird species and loss of supporting habitat either directly or as a result of excessive recreational pressures. A number of policies in the Local Plan have been amended in light of these findings to avoid negative impacts on protected habitat sites, and the Council will, where appropriate, work in partnership with other local authorities and relevant bodies to avoid and manage cumulative and in combination impacts of development on these sites.

Page 21, para 2.21 – remove reference to vulnerable agricultural sector

*The manufacturing industry in West Lancashire has been in decline and **this** is coupled with ~~a vulnerable agricultural sector in the rural areas~~ and a stronger concentration of service sectors in Ormskirk.*

Page 31, Objective 7 – amend wording

*To ensure that development is designed to a high quality, ~~and~~ is appropriate for its locality, ~~maximising efficiency in the~~ **and makes efficient** use of land and resources, avoiding areas of significant constraint and minimising pollution.*

Page 48, part 2 of Policy SP2 – amend wording and move criterion (ix) to (ii) and renumber remaining criteria accordingly

*~~i. Development linking~~ **To enhance the Town Centre offer and to ensure the long term vitality and viability of the Town Centre, including the Concourse Centre, new development is required to link** the Concourse and Asda / West Lancashire College ~~to~~ **and must** include a range and mix of uses including retailing (food and non-food), leisure, entertainment (including a cinema), office space, residential and green space. **Any scheme should not harm the viability and vitality of the Concourse Centre and must provide sufficient linkage to the Concourse.***

*~~ix.~~ **ii.** To ensure maximum practical integration, an improved western entrance into the Concourse Centre to link with the new town centre development **and a relocated or renovated bus station**, and re-use of the top floor of the Concourse Centre to provide office, leisure or retail uses. **Enhancements to the existing Concourse Centre to improve the retail offer and attractiveness of the Centre will also be encouraged.***

Page 128, para 8.33 – insert the following paragraph after 8.33

The Council is carrying out further study work with its partners Lancashire County Council and Merseytravel to understand the best route for any rail link to

Skelmersdale off the Kirkby-Wigan line and where a new station could be most realistically achieved and delivered. At the present time it is thought most likely that any new station will be located in the area adjacent to the Pimbo Industrial Estate or White Moss Business Park, given the difficulties that may be associated with getting a new line under the M58 motorway and into the built up area of Skelmersdale, with strong linkages made between the station and the town centre. However, it is recognised that it would be desirable to locate any new station as close as possible to the town centre.

Page 142, part (a) of Policy EN2 – amend the final paragraph of part (a)

Where there is reason to suspect that there may be protected species on or close to a proposed development site, planning applications should be accompanied by a survey assessing the presence of such species and, where appropriate, making provision for their needs. In particular, the HRA of the Local Plan identifies a series of sites (in Appendix 8 of that document) where the potential of the site to support important habitat for birds associated with Martin Mere SPA cannot be ruled out at this stage. For those sites (and any others which may support suitable habitat) the applicant should submit an Ornithology Report containing sufficient information to demonstrate that consideration has been given to the potential for effects on SPA birds and, if necessary, that suitable mitigation measures will be implemented to address this to the satisfaction of the Council and ensure no adverse effect on site integrity. The report could, depending on the site, be a confirmation that no suitable habitat is in fact present and therefore no loss of supporting habitat would result. This will allow the Council to screen the project against the Habitats Regulations (or current equivalent legislation) and relevant national and local policy.

Add Appendix G – Minor Amendments to the Green Belt boundary

This would involve the inclusion of the table provided in Appendix 7 of the Publication Local Plan Report (Item 10)