Mid Sussex District Council



Site Allocations DPD

MSDC-14: Response to Action Point 17

Matter 6.6: Policy SA37: Burgess Hill/ Haywards Heath Multifunctional Network

12th July 2021

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1.0 Introduction

1.1 This note has been prepared in response to the discussion for Policy SA37 at the Matter 6 Hearing session on the 15th June 2021, at the request of the Inspector [ID-05]. This note responds to Action Point 17 which requested:

Sussex Wildlife Trust to suggest additional text to ensure the policy is justified in relation to ecological considerations.

1.2 Sussex Wildlife Trust has provided some suggested additional text [REP-748-002]. The proposed amended wording is copied below for reference.

SA37: Burgess Hill/ Haywards Heath Multifunctional Network

The Council continues to support the delivery of a dedicated multifunctional network, within the lifetime of this plan and will work with key stakeholders to ensure opportunities to deliver the scheme are prioritised and maximised.

Land is safeguarded to support the delivery of the Burgess Hill/ Haywards Heath multifunctional network.

The area shown on the Policies Map illustrates where **SA37** will apply; the precise alignment for the scheme <u>should be carefully designed having a clear consideration of matters such as biodiversity and landscape, in order to avoid impacts on those features. will be informed by detailed design work.</u>

Any proposals for development that may reasonably be considered to impact the delivery of the multifunctional network (as shown on the Policies Map) will be required to demonstrate the proposal would not harm delivery of the scheme.

Planning permission will not be granted for development that would prejudice the delivery or effective operation of the proposed multifunctional network.

2.0 MSDC Response

- 2.1 Policy SA37: Burgess Hill/ Haywards Heath Multifunctional Network safeguards a number of routes which have the potential to deliver a dedicated multifunctional network route between Burgess Hill and Haywards Heath. The Site Allocations DPD does not seek to implement any particular scheme so it is not an allocation policy. The exact route to be delivered is subject to another separate process outside of the Site Allocations DPD as well as being subject to other considerations [MSDC-04].
- 2.2 The Council has no objection to the inclusion of the suggested additional text from the Sussex Wildlife Trust should it be necessary to make the policy sound, bearing in mind the purpose of the policy is to safeguard rather than allocate (and in the context

of the Council's response to the scope of policies SA34 – SA38 as part of Action Point AP2, set out in MSDC-04). However, the Council proposes a minor re-ordering of the policy wording to incorporate both the original text and the suggested additional text from the Sussex Wildlife Trust.

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The area shown on the Policies Map illustrates where **SA37** will apply; the precise alignment for the scheme will be informed by detailed design work <u>and it should be carefully designed having a clear consideration of matters such as biodiversity and landscape, in order to avoid impacts on those features.</u>

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2.3 The Council would also like to remind the Inspector of the already proposed minor modifications for Policy SA37: M46 [DPD2] and M65 [DPD9] in relation to the accompanying map for Policy SA37.