



Bassetlaw Local Plan 2020-2038  
Planning & Design Group on behalf of  
Welbeck Estates Company Limited  
Supporting Hearing Statements  
November 2022

## Quality Control

<b>Project No.</b>	FP22.036			
<b>Client</b>	The Welbeck Estates Company Limited			
<b>Title</b>	Hearing Statements			
<b>Location</b>	Bassetlaw Local Plan			
<b>File Ref</b>	FP.22.036			
<b>Issue</b>	Date	Prepared By	Reviewed By	Authorised By
<b>1.</b>	03.11.2022	CJ/JW/DH	CJ	CJ

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**1.0 WRITTEN STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF THE BASSETLAW LOCAL PLAN 2020 – 2038 EXAMINATION  
MATTER 1: LEGAL COMPLIANCE AND OVERARCHING ISSUES**

1.1. This Written Statement is made on behalf of our clients, Welbeck Estates Company Limited (Welbeck), in response to the Inspector’s Matters, Issues and Questions of the 7 October 2022 for the examination hearings of the Bassetlaw Local Plan 2038.

**2. MATTER 1a: LEGAL COMPLIANCE**

**ISSUE 1 – HAS THE COUNCIL COMPLIED WITH THE DUTY TO CO-OPERATE AND OTHER RELEVANT PROCEDURAL AND LEGAL REQUIREMENTS IN THE PREPARATION OF THE LOCAL PLAN.**

**Q. 1.1 In preparing the plan did the Councils engage constructively, actively and on an on-going basis with neighbouring authorities and other relevant organisations on cross-boundary issues, in respect of the Duty to Co-operate?**

**[Note: this question concerns the engagement undertaken by the Councils during the preparation of the plan and does not directly relate to the content of the plan and whether or not it is sound which is considered under other Matters]**

2.1. P&DG believe the Council has carried out its ‘Duty to Co-operate’ engagement correctly.

**Q.1.2 Has the plan been prepared in accordance with the adopted Local Development Scheme (May 2022)?**

2.2. P&DG believe the plan has been prepared in accordance with the adopted Local Development Scheme.

**Q.1.3 Has consultation on the plan been carried out in accordance with the Council’s Statement of Community Involvement (Jan 2020 and June 2021 Update) and the requirements of the 2004 Act (as amended) and the 2012 Regulations?**

2.3. P&DG believe the plan has been prepared in accordance with the Council’s Statement of Community Involvement.

**Q.1.4 Does the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) provide a comprehensive and robust basis to inform the strategy and contents of the plan, particularly in terms of:**

- a) Its assessment of the likely effects of the plan’s policies and allocations?**
- b) Its consideration of reasonable alternatives, including the eight spatial strategy options? Does it capture all reasonable alternative site options put forward in the plan preparation process? Can these be compared on a like for like basis?**
- c) Its explanation of why the preferred strategy and policies were selected?**

**d) Its assessment of the amount of development that would arise as a result of the provisions in the plan?**

**[Note: This question focusses on the legal compliance of the SA in broad terms. The implications of the SA for the soundness of the plan is considered under other Matters.]**

- 2.4. In a broad sense, P&DG believes the SA to be legally compliant. Notwithstanding this, there are findings in the appraisal which have not made it into policy in the plan. These are discussed under other 'Matters.'

**Q.1.5 Is the Habitats Regulations Assessment (May 2022) adequate and does the plan include all the recommendations identified in the assessment as necessary to ensure compliance with the Habitats Regulations? Is it robust and convincing in its conclusion that the plan will have no likely significant effects on the integrity of any European sites?**

- 2.5. P&DG believes the Habitats Regulations Assessment to be adequate in this case.

**Q.1.6 Does the plan include policies to address the strategic priorities for the development and use of land in Bassetlaw?**

- 2.6. It is P&DG's view that yes, the plan does include policies to address strategic priorities for the development of land in Bassetlaw, but they are flawed and incomplete. As set out under other 'Matters' for the Examination in Public (EiP), P&DG believes the strategic policies are lacking and require further refinement and consideration.

**Q.1.7 Does the plan include policies designed to ensure that the development and use of land in Bassetlaw contributes to the mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change?**

- 2.7. It is P&DG's view that yes, the plan does include policies to mitigate and adapt to climate change, but again they are flawed and incomplete. As set out under other 'Matters' for the EiP, P&DG believes these policies are lacking and require further refinement and consideration.

**Q.1.8 How have issues of equality been addressed in the Local Plan?**

- 2.8. P&DG has no comment to make in relation to this question.

**Q.1.9 Does the plan comply with all other relevant legal requirements, including in the 2004 Act (as amended) and the 2012 Regulations?**

- 2.9. It is P&DG's view that the plan does comply with all other relevant legal requirements.

**3. Matter 1b: OVERARCHING MATTERS**

**Q.1.10 Is the plan period (2020 – 2038) justified, effective and consistent with national policy? If so, should the requirements/timescales for review of the plan be set out in policy?**

- 3.1. The Plan period is justified, effective and consistent with national policy (please note that P&DG does not believe all aspects of the plan are sound and are discussed under various other ‘Matters’). The Plan should include a policy which commits to a review of the Plan including timescales and National Planning Policy Framework requires Plans to be reviewed at least every five years (Paragraph 33).

**Q.1.11 Are there any ‘made’ Neighbourhood Plans, or any being prepared or in the pipeline? If so, how have these been taken into account and where is this evident? How has the emerging Worksop DPD been taken into account in the preparation of the plan?**

- 3.2. It is P&DG’s view that there are ‘made’ Neighbourhood Plans that have not been fully considered by plan. This is set out in the response to ‘Matter 2’.