

Our Ref: T17 057

8th February 2021



Louise St John Howe
Programme Officer
PO Services
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Dear Louise

Response to the consultation on EX223 Treatment of Green Belt boundaries of allocations in the Welwyn Hatfield Local Plan

We write on behalf of Hill Residential Ltd and the Royal Veterinary College with regards the consultation on the Treatment of Green Belt boundaries of allocations in the Welwyn Hatfield Local Plan and in particular site HS22.

We do not agree with the suggestion in the Proposed Approach that “*as a general rule, the tree-planting and other strategic landscaping needed to strengthen the green belt boundary will take place adjoining but outside the development allocation, and within the green belt.*” The approach must depend on the particular circumstances of the site. Firstly, any new Green Belt boundary should be set where those boundaries are defensible and appropriate. Then, the mitigation for Green Belt impact should then take place based on the particular circumstances of the site and where the impact will be mitigated, whether that be on site or off.

With regards to HS22, land west of Brookmans Park, it is agreed that given the particular circumstances of the land to be released from the Green Belt that it is appropriate for mitigation measures to be undertaken within the area to be released from the Green Belt. The broad approach to that is set out in EX232, the Statement of Common Ground between the parties and the council.

Yours sincerely

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