

From: [REDACTED]
To: [External Email for Local Plans](#)
Subject: Local Plan Consultation
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Representations to South Staffordshire Local Plan Review: Publication Plan (Regulation 19) (April 2024) public consultation.

Dr Kate Tobin

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I consider the Local Plan to be Legally Compliant, Sound and Complies with Duty to Cooperate.

I am pleased to support the revised approach to the Greenbelt in the Current Publication Plan. I support the protection of the Greenbelt. The proposed numbers of houses to be built on Greenbelt have been reduced from the inflated figures in the previous version of the plan to a more proportionate scale. Greenbelt should not be released to help contribute to the needs of neighbouring areas. Brownfield sites should be the first priority for development.

Any development should be in the more sustainable locations that have been identified. To reduce car dependency they should be in places with good infrastructure and good public transport links, including bus routes, and with nearby facilities which have the capacity to cater to new residents. Otherwise infrastructure must be improved to cater for this before development takes place.

I am pleased that the Greenbelt site at Langley Road (site 582) is no longer included in plans for development. The site has ecological importance due to being closely linked to the network of three major green and blue corridors, formed by the South Staffordshire Railway Walk Local Nature Reserve, Smestow Valley Local Nature Reserve (LNR), and the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal. In addition the site is important due to the protected Priority species and Priority habitats present. Protecting green spaces such as this will be an important component in future climate change mitigation.

Although I welcome that the amended plan has taken steps to protect the Greenbelt, this is being undermined by indiscriminate and uncoordinated development occurring in Lower Penn Greenbelt for lithium battery storage facilities.

Best wishes,

Kate Tobin