APPENDIX K

Full Council October 2026 – Draft Local Plan

The agenda for this meeting contains the links to the documents making up the Rother DC Submission Draft Local Plan.

This is the Regulation 19 stage of consultation, which is the final stage before it is submitted to the Planning Inspectorate. RDC are required to carry out a public consultation on the text of the draft Plan, and that is what is currently taking place. At this stage our comments must focus on whether the draft plan is 'sound' and complies with its legal requirements.

As this consultation closes on the 24th of November, it is an agenda item for this October Full Council meeting.

Some Key Questions

When considering a response to the Rother Draft Local Plan it may be helpful to consider some or all of the following questions:

Do Cllrs have any comments on the detailed policies that relate to Bexhill e.g. Town Centre?

Are there any policies missing or are there additions that Cllrs would like to see included?

Do Cllrs have any comments on the sites that the plan proposes to allocate?

Have any sites been left out that Cllrs think should have been included?

Do Cllrs have any feedback on the proposed number of new dwellings for Bexhill e.g. in relation to the infrastructure that is proposed?

Cllrs will also see that David Dennis has included a much longer list of questions in his reports.

Information from David Dennis

As Cllrs will be aware, part of the arrangement with David Dennis is that he provides advice to the Town Council on planning matters.

APPENDIX K

He has therefore compiled a report focusing on some key aspects that can help to inform Cllrs, and potentially the response of the Town Council. Please note that these are the views of David Dennis, and it is up to Cllrs to determine what to include.

This report can be found in Appendix K i on the Agenda.

Additional Private Meeting for Cllrs on the 18th of November

As Cllrs will be aware, there is a session for all Cllrs on the 18th of November with Steve Tilbury on the review of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Given the timing of this consultation, I've agreed with Steve that this session will also cover a discussion of the points to feed back to RDC on the Draft Local Plan as well. This is to give all Cllrs every opportunity to contribute to the response being submitted by the Town Council.

So, at this meeting, there will be an opportunity for Cllrs to feed back any points they wish to make, ahead of the further discussions on the 18th and the response of the Town Council being finalised.