

Braintree District Section 2 Local Plan

Statement of Common Ground between Braintree District Council and Uttlesford District Council - April 2021

Introduction

Braintree District Council submitted a Local Plan for examination in October 2017. The Plan was made up of two parts, the Section 1 which had parts identical to the Plans of Colchester Borough Council and Tendring District Council which were submitted at the same time, and the section 2 Plan which dealt with Braintree specific issues.

Uttlesford District Council submitted their Local Plan on 18 January 2019 and the Plan was withdrawn from examination in April 2020. It is currently in the early stages of Plan preparation and the first consultation on the plan finished 21 April 2021.

The North Essex Authorities signed a Statement of Common Ground with Uttlesford as part of the section 1 examination. That statement of common ground confirmed that Uttlesford District Council believed that the Duty to Co-operate had been met and the authorities had dealt with cross boundary strategic issues in an appropriate way. That Statement can be found on the Section 1 examination website as SCG/009 and an update SCG/009A. The Statement particularly considered the matter of the West of Braintree Garden Community; a proposed cross boundary new settlement which has since been removed from the Section 1 Local Plan.

Purpose of this Statement of Common Ground

In order to provide clarity for the section 2 Inspectors and recognising the time which has passed since the original statement of common ground had been signed, a further Statement of Common Ground has been prepared which sets out the issues specifically in relation to policies and allocations contained within the section 2 Plan.

Area of Agreement

Whilst Duty to Cooperate has been dealt with within the Section 1 examination, the parties agree that the Duty to Co-operate has been met.

Uttlesford District Council did not make any specific comments or raise concerns about any allocations or policies within the section 2 Plan during its consultation in 2017. (Its comments were restricted to vision, strategic policies and the West of Braintree Garden Community, all of which were part of the section 1 examination) It remains the case that Uttlesford District Council has no objections to the contents of the section 2 Local Plan.

Areas of Disagreement

There are no areas of disagreement.

Emma Goodings

Head of Planning and Economic Growth

Signed on behalf of Braintree District Council

Stephen Miles

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Signed on behalf of Uttlesford District Council