

Wiltshire Council

Full Council

18 July 2023

Item 10 – Wiltshire Local Plan Review

From Gavin Simmonite

To Cllr Nick Botterill – Cabinet Member for Finance, Development Management and Strategic Planning

Preamble

The Pre-submission Local Plan document notes that the electricity infrastructure is constrained across most of Wiltshire.

Question (P23-12)

Has the Council identified how the housing provision will affect the electricity infrastructure in Salisbury?

Response:

While energy capacity may be constrained, Distribution Network Operators have a duty to plan and provide for upgrades to infrastructure. The council will continue to engage with them to enable upgrades to be put in place. The draft Plan is promoting onsite renewable energy to help reduce pressures on the network.

Question (P23-13)

Has the Council identified when the Distribution Network Operator (DNO) will be in a position to deliver the required additional infrastructure to the Salisbury area to support the identified sites? [This may well be beyond the timeframe of the Local Plan of 2036 as is the case in other regions.]

If the Council cannot answer at least one of these questions in the affirmative, it cannot arrive at the conclusion that the proposed housing allocation meets the social and economic aspect of its sustainable development conclusions. The table (P597) illustrating the assessment scores for each site for sustainability performance is, therefore, flawed. The SWOT analysis for Place Shaping Priorities is similarly also flawed.

Response:

See response to Question P23-12.