

ITEM 4(a)(ii)

Reasons for call in of decision to go to consultation on Additional sites as part of the Allocations plan process.

Councillor McDonald

A. The papers as presented

The paper presented for the Cabinet member to authorise was incomplete in following aspects

1. These sites had not previously been included in SHLAA and were only published on November 7th 2 days after the consultation ended on the original 50 sites.

The reason given is that these sites have been submitted as a result of a call for sites in the consultation that ended on November 5th. However these are council owned sites so it is clear these could have been included in the original consultation. The implication here is that there has been political interference to include these sites.

None of the above explanation was included in the delegated decision paper.

2. The options given in the paper were either to approve all sites or to approve none. The obvious option to approve some but not all was not given. This is inconsistent with the principles of democracy as despite all three ward councillors and 20 residents not wanting this to go ahead the cabinet member was enticed to choose only one of the options put before them.
3. The resources and risk section and other implications of the papers are clearly wrong as it says there are no risks in this major policy change.
4. In the sustainability section on page 12 it says there is an initial appraisal in the coloured boxes on each site but there is not. The cabinet member could therefore not make an informed decision.

B. Other reasons

1. Major Policy change

The attempt to sneak through a major policy change to the core strategy should not be allowed without full council approval. The infilling of amenity value and public open space on established estates is a major change that will affect all of Milton Keynes not just the sites identified in this document.

2. Contrary to Core Strategy CS17

Infilling key public spaces is contrary to Policy CS17 which says “The council will increase access to local services and facilities by implementing core strategy and future plan:MK policies that protect public open space, leisure, recreation, sport and community facilities, local centres and village shops, pubs and Post offices”

3. Contrary to Core Strategy CS19

The policy states “Green infrastructure will be protected and enhanced. Open spaces will be provided in line with the Council’s standards”. These early estates were provided with green space in line with that standard. To take them away is clearly against this policy.

4. Against the principles of democracy

The decision taken was against the wishes of the residents and the locally elected representatives on the council

5. Contrary to Five themes of MKC

5.1 Cleaner, Greener, safer, healthier MK

“Improve health and well-being, reduce health inequalities and work with partners to reduce crime and disorder to improve quality of life in MK.

This proposal is likely to have the opposite effect on health, crime and disorder and quality of life.

5.2 Living in MK

“ensuring people are satisfied with MK as a place to live”

6 Contrary to Core principles adopted by Council on 10 September 2014

“That the Council therefore resolves to:

(a) be a Co-operative Council following values and principles of:

(i) **Social partnership:** We will strengthen the co-operative partnership between citizens, communities, enterprises and Councils, based on a shared sense of responsibility for well-being and mutual benefit.

(ii) **Democratic engagement:** Supporting the active engagement of the full range of residents in decision making and priority setting.

(iii) **Co-production:** Developing systems that enable citizens to be equal partners in designing and commissioning

public services and in determining the use of public resources.

- (iv) **Enterprise and social economy:** Promoting community-based approaches to economic development that focus on supporting the creation of jobs and businesses and providing an environment for co-operative and mutual enterprises to thrive.
 - (v) **Maximising social value:** Supporting the development of a framework and criteria for social value, which gives substance to the idea and which will give Councils the tools to ensure better local social and economic outcomes.
 - (vi) **Community leadership and a new role for councillors:** Exploring ways for councils to act as a platform for helping the community to contribute to local outcomes, and re-thinking the role of councillors as community connectors, brokers and leaders.
 - (vii) **New models of meeting priority needs:** In exploring new ways of meeting the priority needs of our communities we will encourage models, such as cooperatives and mutuals, which give greater influence and voice to staff and users.
 - (viii) **Innovation:** Embracing innovation in how we work with local communities to drive positive change.
 - (ix) **Learning:** We will capture and 'expand' the experience and learning from individual projects and approaches in order to encourage broader application of co-operative principles within the Council and across the Network.
- (b) ask the Council, the Cabinet and officers to consider the above principles when formulating policy.”

7. Village Greens

All 3 sites are quasi village greens and should be adopted by Milton Keynes council under section 15 (8) of the 2006 of the Commons Act.