

Response on behalf of Stillingfleet Parish Council (“SPC”) to the revised SDC Local Plan (“the Local Plan”) – sent 19 April 2024

As the Local Plan does not propose development within the vicinity of Stillingfleet Parish, SPC do not have comment on any of the specific identified sites included in the Local Plan. SPC would encourage SDC to allocate land for development with a bias toward brownfield land and within the vicinity of existing conurbations. Where development is required in more rural settings, this should be smaller in scale to mitigate its impact on rural infrastructure, the environment and heritage.

SPC supports the Local Plan on the basis that the proposed Heronby development has been removed. SPC strongly believe Heronby should never have been included within the previous draft local plan and in doing so SDC wasted its time and its already limited resources in producing a draft local plan with Heronby as the proposed new town.

It was demonstrated during the consultation of the previous local plan (the results of which, disappointingly, still have not yet been published) that including Heronby new town rendered the draft local plan:

- a) unsound due to SDC failing to meet the legal and procedural requirements contained in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (“PCPA”) s 18 and s39(2), the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) Regulations 2012 and the NPPF
- b) not effective, having been made with no meaningful consultation with the neighbouring local authorities such as City of York Council (“CYC”)
- c) inconsistent with the policies contained in the NPPF, NPPF Guidance and policies issued by the Secretary of State.

The fact based reasons relating to the relevant issues to remove the proposed Heronby development from the previous draft local plan were clearly stated by SPC and all adjacent Parish Councils, the Halt Heronby Action Group that was formed, the 1000+ residents in the local community and CYC. We trust this data will be taken into account in development of the future NYC Plan by all those involved in the process, as failing to do so would be a further waste of public resources and would render any new local plan open to legal challenge.