

Planning Policy
Medway Council
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please reply to:

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2024-02-19

Dear Medway Council,

Draft Hoo St Werburgh and Chattenden Neighbourhood Plan

Railfuture is Britain's leading and longest-established national independent voluntary organisation campaigning exclusively for a better railway across a bigger network for passengers, and freight users, to support economic (housing and productivity) growth, environmental improvement and better-connected communities.

We seek to influence decision makers at local, regional and national levels to implement pro-rail policies in development and transport planning.

1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of the Neighbourhood Plan

1.2 Status of the Neighbourhood Plan

2. Background Information – Support

Re. 2.3 Liaison with Medway Council - we are fully engaged with Medway Council on the development of their Local Plan, most recently responding to the "Setting the direction for Medway 2040" consultation.

2.1 The Area – Key Characteristics

2.2 Engagement with the Community

2.3 Liaison with Medway Council

3. Vision and Aims – Support

No further comments.

3.1 Vision

3.2 Planning Aims

3.3 Delivering the Vision and Aims

www.railfuture.org.uk www.railfuturescotland.org.uk www.railfuturewales.org.uk
www.railwatch.org.uk



4. Employment and Community Facilities – Support
No further comments.

HOO1: Village Centres and Employment

HOO2: Community Facilities

HOO3: Industry and Distribution

5. Housing – Support
No further comments.

HOO4: Housing Growth and Mix

HOO5: Housing Standards

6. Place and Heritage – Support
No further comments.

HOO6: Design

HOO7: Local Heritage

7. Landscape and Natural Environment – Support
No further comments.

HOO8: Landscape and Environment

HOO9: Local Green Space

HOO10: Air Quality

8. Travel Infrastructure – Support
Re. Purpose - To promote balanced and sustainable transport infrastructure. Investment to secure a revival of passenger use of the western end of the Hoo Peninsula Railway, with a new station at Hoo St. Werburgh and a new south-facing chord towards Higham and Strood for the Medway Towns and Medway Valley Line, will provide a transformational change to the transport capacity and travel choices available to current and future residents. We are in discussion with Medway Council and representatives of other key stakeholder organisations to explore ways in which this can be brought about.

HOO11: Sustainable Transport and Active Travel

HOO12: Paths

9. Infrastructure – Support
Re. Sustainable transport, see comments in previous section 8.

9.1 Planning Infrastructure Priorities

Yours faithfully,

Roger Blake BA, MRTPI (Rtd), MTPS
Railfuture
Vice-Chairman, London & South East regional branch
Director for Infrastructure & Networks, national Board

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