

Matter 30 – Huddersfield housing allocations: Green Belt releases

Issue – Are the proposed Green Belt release housing allocations in the Huddersfield Sub-Area justified, effective, developable/deliverable and in line with national policy?

Sites H351 and H1747

Question a. What is the relationship between sites H351 and H1747? Should they be combined in a single text box/policy and a joint Masterplan required?

Whilst site H351 (at the quantum of development stated in the draft Allocations and Designations document) does not have a significant individual traffic impact on the strategic road network, site H1747 does have a significant individual impact. Therefore, when considered together, the cumulative impact of these two sites will be greater.

The draft Allocations and Designations document states that in terms of development impact the sites should be considered alongside each other as part of a wider masterplan. Given the potential cumulative impact of both sites, Highways England would support the consolidation of both sites into a single policy and the requirement of a joint masterplan in order to better understand and mitigate this impact.

In relation to this, the Proposed Modifications to the Local Plan submission document includes the following for site H1747:

“Additional mitigation on the wider highway network will be required. Development of this site has the potential for a significant impact on the Strategic Road Network. Measures will be required to reduce and mitigate that impact. The transport assessment will need to demonstrate that any committed schemes are sufficient to deal with the additional demand generated by the site. Where committed schemes will not provide sufficient capacity or where Highways England does not have committed investment, development may need to contribute to additional schemes identified by Highways England and included in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) or other appropriate schemes. If development is dependent upon construction of a committed scheme, then development will need to be phased to take place following scheme opening.”

Highways England would reiterate our support for this proposed modification.