

Sefton Council
Magdalen House
30 Trinity Road
Bootle
Merseyside
L20 3NJ

Our ref:
Your ref:

Date: 13th January 2016

FAO Tom Hatfield

Sefton Local Plan Examination

We write with regards to our previous objection to some site allocations located within Flood Zones 2 and 3 proposed as part of the Sefton Local Plan.

It was our formal position some of the allocations were not supported by adequate assessments to demonstrate each site could be delivered without increasing flood risk on site or elsewhere, specifically with regards to fluvial and tidal flooding. Since this time we have received a number of site specific Flood Risk Assessments produced or revised to resolve our objection.

In August 2015 the Environment Agency undertook tidal modelling in order to update flood maps. This resulted in a number of the proposed allocations being identified within a flood zone at higher risk than previously identified. Where this has occurred new / amended flood risk assessments have been undertaken and submitted to us for review.

We understand the site specific Flood Risk Assessments when put together are considered by Sefton Council to work as a level 2 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, forming part of the Sefton Local Plan evidence base and informing future applications. Each assessment proposes various methods of mitigation or further work to be undertaken to inform future planning applications and ultimately planning decisions. Providing this is indeed the case we have no specific concerns to this approach providing these actions carry forward.

We have finished our review of each site specific Flood Risk Assessment submitted and based upon the information as submitted consider them to be acceptable in principle in demonstrating each site can be developed without increasing fluvial or tidal flood risk on site or elsewhere.

Environment Agency
Richard Fairclough House Knutsford Road, Warrington, WA4 1HT.
Customer services line: 03708 506 506
www.gov.uk/environment-agency
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Considering the comments above we now withdraw our previous formal position and now consider the Local Plan to be **Sound** and **Legally Compliant** with regards to Flood Risk.

Should you wish to discuss the contents of this letter in more detail please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Yours faithfully

Mr Stephen Sayce
Sustainable Places Planning Advisor