



Mrs Diane Parkinson  
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### **Letter sent by email**

Mr David Kaiserman  
Independent Examiner  
Penny O'Shea Consulting

Dear Mr Kaiserman

### **Response to your clarification question dated 29 May 2024 regarding Over Hulton Neighbourhood Plan**

Thank you for your formal clarification question, I would just like to confirm how hard the forum has worked in the community over the last five years and we are extremely keen to work with the Examiner in order to help progress the NDP.

The status of the application and other policy changes is down to no fault or reflection on us the Forum, as it is now almost 2 years since the plan has been submitted and in addition to other delays which have happened outside our control (i.e. Covid and planning inquiry).

We are grateful to Bolton Council for confirming the position in their response. We feel the Examination should not be paused, but rather, we suggest we work alongside in partnership with Bolton Council and Troy Planning with the suggested modifications to be forwarded to yourself for consideration.

The NDP was submitted in July 2022 and produced in good faith, reflecting the policy and development framework at that time. The Forum recognises that not only has the position in respect of the Hulton Park application changed, but we now have a new NPPF and 'Places for Everyone' has also been adopted. This is, to some extent, the nature of planning. With a new Government, and further changes to the planning system likely, the framework for the Neighbourhood Plan will no doubt change again, but this does not mean that the NDP shouldn't progress. It is a reflection of the community's aspirations for the area and has been subject to considerable effort and input from the community over a prolonged period. Indeed, and irrespective of the Hulton Park application, the thrust of many of the policies in the Plan remain relevant and aligned with the Localism agenda. Places for Everyone (adoption of which post-dates the Hulton Park appeal decision) makes no change to Green Belt boundaries in Over Hulton though does support the restoration of Hulton Park, and the provision of a Ryder Cup standard golf course and associated leisure and tourism facilities.

It is the Forum's view that the Plan should continue through Examination and that modifications should be made to update the Plan as appropriate to reflect the current policy and development framework, including the position outlined in Places for Everyone. To this end the Forum is keen to work with Bolton Council, the Examiner and the land owner, if it would be helpful, to

suggest a series of possible modifications to the Plan for the Examiner's consideration, including amendments to the text associated with the Hulton Park application and how this might be reflected as appropriate within relevant policies (such as those in respect of the Green Belt and Hulton Park).

I hope this answers your question and would be pleased to answer any further queries, however, we do have very limited funds if we are required to ask for advice.

Our response, along with Bolton Council's and Examiner's question has been uploaded to our website together with the examiner's clarification.

Yours sincerely

Diane Parkinson  
Chair  
Over Hulton Neighbourhood Forum

**Copied to :**

Thomas Godley, Assistant Development Officer, Bolton Council  
Andrew Chalmers, Principal Development Officer, Bolton Council  
John Herbert, Director, Troy Planning + Design