Date:23/07/2024 Your Ref:

Our Ref:

Bolton Council

Mr David Kaiserman Penny O'Shea Consulting **Planning Strategy**

Planning Service 3rd Floor (South Side Office) Town Hall Victoria Square, Bolton BL1 1RU

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Dear Mr Kaiserman,

Council's further comments on Examiner's response to EQ2 replies

We are writing to you regarding your detailed response to the replies of ourselves and the Over Hulton Neighbourhood Forum to Examiner Question 2 (EQ2). Having corresponded with the forum we are still of the opinion that an informal meeting with you would be of benefit.

In terms of the format for this, we note your clear preference for an in-person meeting but we would still like to request that, if possible, the meeting is a hybrid meeting to allow specific online participants to join. The primary reason for this is that Troy Planning (the Neighbourhood Forum's Planning Advisor) is based a significant distance away from Bolton and therefore would be unlikely to be able to attend an in-person meeting. The council considers that it essential that Troy Planning plays an active role in any discussions to be able to properly advise the Forum on the way forward.

We would also like to clarify, as you have stated that the meeting will be held in public, whether a general invite is issued for members of the public to attend or only to those who responded to the regulation 16 publicisation. This would be useful in gauging the size of potential venue required.

Given your comments about the relatively limited guidance you can offer at this stage, we would welcome a clear agenda and written guidance about the remit for the meeting. Its limited scope, who will be permitted to participate, and the role of parties and the public, will need to be made very clear in advance to perhaps avoid unrealistic expectations. As you will fully appreciate, we are keen to avoid any misunderstanding that this meeting will provide the opportunity to discuss any wider planning matters within the Over Hulton area.

We look forward to hearing from you and collaborating with you and the forum to find a suitable time, date and venue to hold the meeting.

Yours sincerely,

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Andrew Chalmers

Principal Development Officer (Planning Strategy)

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Copied to:

Thomas Godley - Assistant Development Officer (Planning Strategy) - Bolton Council Diane Parkinson - Chair of Over Hulton Neighbourhood Forum