

Department for Education

Sanctuary Buildings Great Smith Street London SW1P 3BT



www.gov.uk/dfe

Our Ref: DfE/Local Plan/Stroud 2021 20/07/21

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Stroud District Local Plan Review – Presubmission Draft Plan 2021

Consultation under Regulation 19 of Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012

Submission of the Department for Education (DfE)

- 1. The department welcomes the opportunity to comment on the presubmission version of the Stroud Local Plan Review, following our responses to Regulation 18 consultations submitted on 3rd December 2020 and 22nd January 2020.
- 2. We would like to offer the following comments in response to the above consultation document.

Policy G2 - Land at Whaddon

- 3. Earlier this year the department approved the Beacon School to meet an immediate need for secondary school places in and around Gloucester, and we are working to deliver this school through the department's free schools programme.
- 4. We support the safeguarding of education land within the Whaddon site allocation for this school, provided that the allocation specifically includes a Section 106 education site with independent highway access and services, that meets the department's external land requirement set out in our BB103 space standards (5.4ha), and that is capable of being brought forward separately and in advance of any housing. Subject to these prerequisites, the site allocation is capable of providing education land for the Beacon School to meet current need.
- 5. Please notify the department when the Local Plan is submitted for examination, the Inspector's report is published and the Local Plan is adopted. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries regarding this response. DfE looks forward to continuing to work with Stroud District Council to support a sound Local Plan which will aid in the delivery of new schools.

Yours faithfully,

