

BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL: Further Statement

Thank you for letting me know when the hearing will take place, unfortunately there is no one available to represent the Town Council and therefore I am forced to withdraw the request to speak at the Hearing.

I have therefore clarified the points set out in the Town Council's original responses based on the discussions held at the time of the submission, but understand that these points may not be taken into consideration due to the lack of representation from the Town Council:

- *Do you agree that the CIL rates proposed (£ per square metre) strike an appropriate balance between the desirability of funding infrastructure through CIL and associated economic viability?*


The Town Council considered that it was unable to make any comments as there is not sufficient information to be able to answer this. The documents provided at the time failed to provide information to be able to properly assess whether there is a balance between CIL and economic viability. The Town Council is not aware of any recent work that the District Council has undertaken in terms of Blandford Forum's economic viability.

- *Do you have any views on the content of the Council's Draft Regulation 123 list?*

The degree of flexibility in the report does not show how the Blandford + area will receive the appropriate amount of CIL required to fund the infrastructure needed. It is also disappointing to see that the way CIL is proposed to be spent, the report or evidence did not take regard of any Neighbourhood Plans in progress or those already adopted. Historically Blandford Forum has been left with a number of developments being built without the accompanied infrastructure and not enough CIL or any other means of providing that much needed infrastructure. By not taking into account information provided by local communities, including the relevant authorities regarding the said infrastructure, or not indicating that the District Council has, the information presented does not adequately show how CIL will fund the missing infrastructure that the District Council has not planned for.

- *Do you believe that the Council's proposed Instalments Policy achieves the best spread of payments?*

The policy does not include implementation and monitoring processes of the proposed instalments. The District Council does not invest in its enforcing abilities and it is known that this service is under threat as it is not statutory. It is therefore not clear how it will be realistically achieving its Instalments Policy.


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