

## **Examination of the Sandwell Local Plan 2024-2041**

### **Hearing Statement prepared on behalf of the Police and Crime Commissioner for the West Midlands (PCCWM)**

**(Respondent ID Ref: 1482 to 1509)**

#### **MATTER 6:**

#### **Health and Wellbeing**

#### **Introduction**

The Tyler Parkes Partnership Limited has previously made detailed representations at the Regulation 19 stage on behalf of the PCCWM (November 2024, Respondent ID Ref: 1482 to 1509). Those substantive representation are already before the Inspectors, available in full, online at the following url: [Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council - Sandwell Local Plan - Reg 19 Publication](#)

#### **Nature and Extent of this Statement**

This Hearing Statement is submitted in direct response to the specific questions raised by the Inspectors under Matter 6: Health and Wellbeing (selected questions only).

It is not the intention to restate, verbatim, what has been submitted previously, however some repetition will occur as each question is addressed in turn, below.

## **Inspectors' Questions**

**Issue 6 – Whether the plan is positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy with regard to its policies for health and wellbeing.**

**Q6.2 Are the requirements of policy SHW2 justified and appropriately flexible? Should police and emergency services infrastructure be added?**

### **Response:**

The PCCWM's objections noted that Policy SHW2 – Healthcare Infrastructure requires an assessment of proposals for major residential developments of ten units or more to be assessed against the capacity of existing healthcare facilities and / or services to support that development.

In this context the PCCWM objected to the omission of a similar policy requirement for developer contributions to police and emergency infrastructure. The local plan acknowledges that these services also have additional demands placed upon them arising from growth

Policy SHW2 (and its justification) could be expanded to include the need for other social infrastructure in such instances, on the following lines

*“Policy SHW2 – Healthcare, **wellbeing and safety** infrastructure...*

*3. Proposals for major residential developments of ten units or more must be assessed against the capacity of existing healthcare facilities and **other services that contribute to community wellbeing and safety such as police and emergency services infrastructure** as set out in local development documents. Where the demand generated by the residents of the new development would have unacceptable impacts upon the capacity of these facilities, developers will be required to contribute to the provision or improvement of such services, in line with the requirements and calculation methods set out in local development documents...*

*5. In the first instance, infrastructure contributions will be sought to deal with relevant issues on the site or in its immediate vicinity. Where this is not possible, however, any contribution will be used to support offsite provision of healthcare infrastructure **and other services that contribute to community wellbeing and safety.**”*

**Q6.6 In terms of this issue, are any main modifications necessary for soundness?**

PCCWM suggestions for main modifications have been identified above.