



8 August 2021

Bracknell Forest Council
Time Square
Market St
BRACKNELL
RG12 1JD

FAO Spatial Policy Team, Development Management Team

Planning Application: WNP consultation

Thank you for consulting The Gardens Trust (GT) in its role as Statutory Consultee with regard to modifications to the Warfield Neighbourhood Plan. The Berkshire Gardens Trust (BGT) is a member organisation of the GT and works in partnership with it in respect of the protection and conservation of historic sites and is authorised by the GT to respond on GT's behalf in respect of such consultations within Berkshire.¹ One of the key activities of the Berkshire Gardens Trust (BGT) is to help conserve, protect and enhance designed landscapes within Berkshire.

Warfield Parish comprises an increasingly large number of new housing developments to the south of the parish, a number of green spaces to the longer established housing developments, the Warfield Conservation Area and the central and northern portion is washed over by Metropolitan Green Belt. Part of the proposed modifications to the WNP are to measure the impacts of a Habitat Regulations Assessment.

As Warfield Parish does not contain any Registered Parks & Gardens or designed landscapes (not otherwise covered by Historic Environment policies) the proposals to modify the policies of the WNP are beyond the scope of the GT's activities.

It is noted however that the HRA modifications include policy WNP2: Hayley Green Allocation (235 dwellings) and is screened in for 'Appropriate Assessment' due to the potential harmful impacts from:

¹ The Gardens Trust, a national body recently published a guidance leaflet to explain the place of historic designed landscapes in the planning system, the importance of assessing significance, the statutory consultation obligations, and the role of County Gardens Trusts, in raising awareness of historic designed landscapes as heritage assets. 'The Planning System in England and the Protection of Historic Parks and Gardens' can be downloaded at www.thegardenstrust.org. BGT's own website: www.berkshiregardenstrust.org

- Atmospheric pollution
- Recreational pressure
- Loss of functionally linked habitats

The remainder of the WNP policies have been assessed to have 'No likely Significant Effects' on nearby European sites (Thames Basin Heaths, Thursley, Ash, Pirbright & Chobham SAC and Windsor Forest & Great Park SAC).

Berkshire Gardens Trust supports the proposed modifications to the WNP where it relates to the HRA.

Yours sincerely

Helen Parvin

Planning Advisor of the Berkshire Gardens Trust