

## **POOLE HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS**

### **Port of Poole Master Plan**

#### **Statement pursuant to regulation 16(4) of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulation 2004 ("the Regulations")**

##### **How environmental considerations have been integrated into the Master Plan**

Poole Harbour Commissioners ("PHC") instructed environmental consultants Ramboll UK Ltd ("Ramboll") to prepare an environmental report pursuant to regulation 12 of the Regulations. As such, Ramboll first considered the contents of the exposure draft published in September 2011, together with the informal responses received as a result of the first consultation process. Having regard to those responses, Ramboll then advised PHC as to how environmental considerations should be reflected in the amended draft Master Plan that was published in September 2012. Both the main consultation draft Master Plan and the environmental report were then the subject of formal consultation, in accordance with the requirements of regulation 13.

##### **How the environmental report has been taken into account**

As stated, the environmental report informed the content of the main consultation draft Master Plan, published in September 2012.

##### **How responses to both the initial consultation and the formal consultation pursuant to Regulation 13 have been taken into account**

Ramboll were instructed to prepare a response document that summarised the opinions expressed as part of both consultation exercises, and to advise on the extent to which, if at all, the environmental report should be amended. In parallel, PHC's planning consultants, Adams Hendry, were instructed to prepare a response document with regard to the opinions expressed during the consultations in relation to the Master Plan itself (as opposed to the environmental report). PHC took these response reports, together with the opinions themselves and the environmental report, into account in determining the final form of the Master Plan to be adopted.

Bearing in mind the strategic nature of the Master Plan, which does not contain detailed proposals, PHC decided that the environmental report did not require amendment for the purpose of informing the policies and contents of the Master Plan. Several consultation responses did, however, raise matters that were relevant to (and would be taken into account during) later stages in the process, for example when individual projects became the subject of consultation during the preparation of environmental statements and prior to the submission of applications for development consents.

##### **The reasons for choosing the final Master Plan, as opposed to other reasonable alternatives**

The policies and proposals included in the final Master Plan were considered to be the most feasible options likely to have least environmental impact. This reasoning is set out in detail in both the Master Plan and the accompanying environmental report.

##### **The measures to be taken to monitor any significant environmental effects of the implementation of the Master Plan**

PHC will keep the Master Plan, which contains policies to maintain long-standing monitoring arrangements in partnership with other stakeholders, under review.. Any of the development options that are taken forward for consent will be the subject of an EIA. At this stage any monitoring measures required will be identified and agreed with all relevant stakeholders. It is anticipated that these measures will be formalised in any consent decisions, as appropriate.