

## Paul Lester - Principal Planning Officer

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**From:** Paul Lester - Principal Planning Officer  
**Sent:** 24 July 2023 16:21  
**To:** Ventham, Kathryn; Martin, Holly  
**Cc:** Solanki, Chetan  
**Subject:** RE: \*EXTERNAL:RE: Application reference: 21/01830/FUL

Hi Kathryn,

Thank you for your recent emails. As mentioned previously, a meeting was held on Thursday to discuss the application and among other things, Policy 13 and the open space position. Following this discussion, my colleagues in policy have now published the new open space study [Open Space Study - redditchbc.gov.uk](https://www.redditchbc.gov.uk). This is the final version of the study and is an update on the document that was previously made available to me. I am currently seeking clarification of the changes made.

Given the publication of this report, I would welcome Stantec's updated comments in the context of Policy 13, which would assist in the final consideration of the proposal. It would be helpful to me if you could confirm whether you will be seeking to provide any comments.

On a related matter, the new housing Land Supply Document has recently been published [RBC-HLA-Report-22-23.pdf \(redditchbc.gov.uk\)](https://www.redditchbc.gov.uk). This confirms that LPA's five-year land supply has increased slightly from 9.45 to 9.83 years. You have previously not sought to comment on this matter, and I understand the reasoning behind this. However, just so you are aware of my recent experience at the Redditch Planning Committee. The need (or perceived lack thereof) for housing continues to be a discussion point among members. This is even the case when need is not relevant to the application, as was the case for a reserved matters phase for Brockhill, several members initially questioned the need for the development before being corrected on the evening.

In relation to reconsultation, I don't consider that the scheme has changed significantly from the last full reconsultation in April, and I was not proposing to undertake this exercise. As you will have seen from the public record, the public has had ample opportunity to comment and has taken full advantage. In terms of the planning committee, as discussed previously, the Chair of Planning is not available for the 9th August meeting. I am on leave for the reserve date on 23rd August, so I am currently working towards the 13th September meeting.

Regards

Paul Lester  
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Bromsgrove District Council and Redditch Borough Council

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