



**Directorate for Planning, Growth & Sustainability  
Planning and Environment**

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Mr Paul Clark BA MA MRTPI  
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9 June 2020

**Ref:**

Dear Mr Clark

**Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan. Abolition of Aylesbury Vale District Council and creation of Buckinghamshire Council.**

As you are no doubt aware, on 1 April 2020, under The Buckinghamshire (Structural Changes) Order 2019, the districts of Aylesbury Vale, Chiltern, South Bucks and Wycombe were abolished as local government areas and the district councils which related to these areas were wound up and dissolved. In their place a new non-metropolitan district, Buckinghamshire, was created and a new district council, Buckinghamshire Council, was established as the sole principal authority for this new, non-metropolitan, district. In short, since 1 April 2020, Aylesbury Vale District Council has ceased to exist and Buckinghamshire Council has taken its place.

Under the Local Government (Structural Changes) (Transitional Arrangements) (No. 2) Regulations 2008, anything done by a predecessor council, (which includes Aylesbury Vale District Council), in the exercise of its functions and where those functions are now to be exercised by Buckinghamshire Council, (which includes planning functions), those actions shall have the effect as if done by Buckinghamshire Council. Therefore the preparation of the Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan, undertaken by Aylesbury Vale District Council prior to 1 April 2020, as part of its planning functions is to be treated as having been undertaken by Buckinghamshire Council (see reg. 4).

Furthermore, provision is made for the treatment of Local Development Documents, including a Local Plan, which has been prepared by a predecessor authority, in this case Aylesbury Vale District Council, but which is not yet adopted. The regulations allow the prepared but as yet un-adopted local plan to be adopted, with or without modification, by the successor authority, in this case Buckinghamshire Council (see regulation 19(1)(5) &(6)).

Therefore these transitional arrangements enable Buckinghamshire Council to continue with the promotion of the Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan up to, and including, its adoption. I hope it is therefore clear that Buckinghamshire Council has the necessary lawful authority to continue with the VALP.

*Continued overleaf...*

In light of the above in the continued promotion of the VALP and in particular in the responses to the consultation replies to the Main Modifications to VALP, references will no longer refer to "AVDC" or "Aylesbury Vale District Council" but will rather refer to "Buckinghamshire Council" or "the Council".

Hopefully the above is self-explanatory but if you need any further clarification then please do not hesitate to ask.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SB', written in a cursive style.

Steve Bambrick  
Service Director – Planning and Environment  
Planning, Growth & Sustainability