

## Examination in Public – Matter 7 - MLD's Responses to the Planning Inspectors Questions

Below are Medway Liberal Democrats' (MLD) responses and/or opinions to the questions raised by the planning inspectors in regard to Matter 7 in the Phase 1 Hearings (MLP/ED15).

| Number | Additional Points and/or additional questions raised                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
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|        | <b>Economic Development</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|        | <b>General</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|        | <b>Policy S10: Economic Strategy</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 7.6    | <p>MLD believe that there shall be a net loss of industrial area over the duration of the Plan due to three specific locations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. the areas at Kingsnorth being changed for housing,</li> <li>2. the change of use on Medway City Estate to the Frindsbury Peninsula Opportunity Area (FPOA) with housing replacing industrial units</li> <li>3. Chatham Docks, which has had its outline planning policy for change of use to housing and commercial use.</li> </ol> <p>The proposed expansion of Thamesport and adjacent area near Grain have the significant issue of poor highway infrastructure east of Hoo, along with more fuel consumption by HGVs and other vehicles travelling out onto the peninsula.</p> |
|        | <b>Policy S11: Existing Employment Provision</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 7.13   | MLD concur with the inspectors' concern about existing employment areas, see our comments/responses on 7.6                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|        | <b>Policy T14: Rural Economy</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 7.47   | MLD are concerned about the lack of rural economy provisions. The policy is primarily aimed at developers and not the existing rural economy. There is no mention of a support network for farmers and farm labourers, no mention of farmers' markets or other forms of assistance that could instigate organic growth in the rural economy. This policy needs to incorporate future means of developing the rural economy.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 7.52   | MLD support regenerative agriculture and other modern horticultures e.g. viticulture. The policy should give more consideration to and supporting of diversification of rural economies e.g. energy generation (c.f. the Energy Policy). The policy should emphasise the rural economy on Hoo Peninsula, and land near Cuxton and Halling.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |