

# Rossendale Local Plan Examination

## MATTERS, ISSUES AND QUESTIONS (MIQs)



### **Matter 18 – Transport**

***Issue – are policies TR1-TR4 positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy?***

**[Policies TR1 – TR4 with individual infrastructure projects considered under Matter 7]**

#### **Questions**

##### **a) Does Policy TR2 make appropriate provision for horse riding?**

18.1 Policy TR2 supports the development and enhancement of the Public Rights of Way network which includes bridleways.

##### **b) Is Policy TR4 effective and consistent with national policy? Is the requirement for parking provision to incorporate charging points for electric vehicles where the Council considers it appropriate to do so justified? Is this consistent with Policy ENV6? Is it necessary for both policies to require this?**

*Is Policy TR4 effective and consistent with national policy?*

18.2 The Council considers policy TR4 is effective and consistent with national policy as it seeks to ensure that parking provision would not prejudice the safe and effective operation of the highway network, which is consistent with the objectives contained within the NPPF. It also complies with the guidance within the Framework which refers to promoting sustainable modes of transport and reducing the environmental impacts of traffic. The policy is considered to be effective as there is no evidence that the operation of maximum standards have had a severe, negative impact on issues of traffic congestion & highway safety within Rossendale.

*Is the requirement for parking provision to incorporate charging points for electric vehicles where the Council considers it appropriate to do so justified? Is this consistent with Policy ENV6? Is it necessary for both policies to require this?*

18.3 The NPPF states that policies should look at the provision of spaces for charging electric or low emission vehicles, if setting local parking standards. Therefore Policy TR4 is considered to accord with the NPPF.

18.4 The requirement to incorporate charging points for electric vehicles in new parking spaces which serve new development or address local issues, when the Council considers it appropriate, is considered to be justified.

18.5 Policy ENV6 requires new residential development to incorporate electric charging points from the point of view of mitigating air pollution. The policy especially refers to sites within or adjoining Air Quality Management Areas. In addition, Policy TR4 provides guidance on parking for all type of developments and requires the incorporation of electric charging points when the Local Planning Authority considers it appropriate.

18.6 If the Inspector deems it appropriate, the reference to the provision of electric charging points in Policy ENV6 could be removed and Policy TR4 strengthened by requesting all new development to include electric charging points unless not technically feasible or not viable. This would necessitate moving the wording contained in Paragraph 192 of the Explanation for Policy ENV6 and re-inserting it within the Explanation for Policy TR4 (please refer to the Council's Hearing Statement in para 16.61).

18.7 It is considered that the provision of electric charging points provides environmental and health benefits by providing an infrastructure for electric or low emission vehicles.

**c) Policy TR4 requires development to meet maximum parking standards set out in Appendix 1 of the Local Plan. Are they underpinned by clear and compelling justification that they are necessary for managing the local road network, or for optimising the density in a location which are well served by public transport as required by paragraph 106 of the National Planning Policy Framework?**

18.8 The operation of maximum parking standards in Rossendale has not led to any evidence of highway issues that have had a severe, negative impact on highway safety. Therefore, there is compelling justification that they are necessary as they are of benefit, in terms of managing the highway network.