MALVERN HILLS BILL

RESPONSE TO PROMOTERS NOTE ON LIABILITY TO THE LEVY AND ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE

Liability to pay the levy through council tax

1. The liability to pay council tax and by virtue of that liability to pay the levy to the Malvern Hills Conservators as set out in paragraphs 1 to 9 of the Promoters Note is not disputed.

2. The liability to pay council tax does not of itself qualify the person or persons so liable to be eligible to be registered in the register of local government electors.

3. Paragraph 9 of the Promoters Note refers to some, but not all, of the categories of persons not liable to pay council tax irrespective of their residence status. Those persons, subject to eligibility, are not precluded from being registered in the register of local government electors.

Eligibility to vote for Malvern Hills Conservators

4. The number of persons to be directly elected as conservators by local government electors as set out in paragraph 10 of the Promoters Note is agreed.

5. The persons entitled to vote as an elector at a local government election in England as set out in paragraph 11 of the Promoters Nore is agreed.

6. There is no requirement that any person entitled to be registered in the register of local government electors must also be liable to pay council tax.

7. It follows that there can be a clear distinction between the status of residents liable to pay council tax and through it the Malvern Hills Conservators levy and the status of residents not liable to pay council tax but eligible to vote in elections for conservators. The distinction can be further highlighted by the position of residents liable to pay council tax but not eligible to vote in elections for conservators. Whilst in many cases a council taxpayer may also be an elector, there are sufficient categories of persons who are electors but not council taxpayers.

SIMON FREEMAN 3 February 2026