

#66

COMPLETE

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Page 1

Q1 I agree to the Council collecting my personal data so that they can process my reply to the Northampton Local Plan (Part 2) Proposed Submission Draft Regulation 19. **I agree**

Page 2: Part A: Personal Details

Q2 Please provide your contact details in the boxes below. If you are an agent acting for another, please enter your client's details.

Name (required)	Hassan Shah
Job title (if appropriate)	Assistant Coroner/Solicitor
Organisation (where relevant)	NCA
Address 1 (required)	[REDACTED]
Town	[REDACTED]
Postcode (required)	[REDACTED]
Email Address	[REDACTED]
Phone Number	[REDACTED]

Q3 Are you making this representation as: **Other organisation (please specify type of organisation in next question)**

Q4 Please enter type of organisation (for example, planning consultant, etc.)

Northampton Community Association - grass roots community organisation representing minority ethnic residents

Page 3: Agent details

Q5 Please enter your details below: **Respondent skipped this question**

Page 4: Part B: Representation(s)

Q6 Do you consider the Northampton Local Plan Part 2 to be legally compliant? **No**

Page 5: Part B: Legal Compliance

Q7 Do you consider the document to be not legally compliant because it is: (please tick all that you think apply)

Not prepared in accordance with the Local Development Scheme

,

Not prepared in accordance with the Statement of Community Involvement

,

Not compliant with the duty to cooperate

Page 6: Part B: Soundness

Q8 Do you consider the Northampton Local Plan Part 2 to be sound? **No**

Page 7: Part B: Soundness

Q9 Do you consider the document to not be sound because it is: (please tick all that you think apply)

Not positively prepared ,

Not justified,

Not effective,

Not consistent with national policy

Page 8: Part B: Representation(s) - Local Plan Part 2 draft

Q10 To which part of the Local Plan does this representation relate?

Policy number

Policy 22

Q11 Please set out the changes that you consider are necessary to make the Northampton Local Plan Part 2 Submission Draft document legally compliant and / or sound including revised wording of any policy text, and reasons why the proposed change would make it legally compliant and/or sound. Please be as precise as possible.

NBC Overview and Security Committee Report entitled "Scrutiny Panel – Cemeteries" dated March 2018 (the "NBC Report").

The NBC Report highlights:-

1. at page 19 that "there is a need for a 7 day cemetery service. The Muslim community bury their deceased as soon as possible. There needs to be toilet and washing facilities at cemeteries. There is a shortage of burial space and there is concern what will happen when it is full. The specific area at Towcester Road cemetery for Muslim burials is getting filled up very quickly. There is a need for extra land for cemetery space". We would therefore request that the allotment space be reserved for this purpose as and when each allotment space is vacated.
2. a recommendation at para 7.1.9 that "a feasibility study is undertaken into the requirement of a new large crematorium and cemetery for the town that offers the required services and facilities."
3. on page 12 at para 2.2 that in Kingsthorpe Cemetery, the Goat Field could be extended into, subject to a ground survey. Potential for 300 extra plots if the area is usable.
4. Dallington Cemetery. Old allotment land to the side of the cemetery could be used to accommodate at least 1,000 extra plots. On

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page 27 at paragraph 7.1.8, the NBC Report states that “....consideration is given to re-categorising the Borough owned land (currently categorised as commercial land) that edges the cemetery at Dallington as further cemetery land.”

5. Towcester Road Cemetery – the removal of a group of trees would provide extra burial space.

Report entitled “Diversity Ready Cemeteries and Crematoria in England and Wales” - published 2018 (“AHRC Report”) – attached

The study was funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council and the Economic and Social Research Council and supported by the Royal Town Planning Institute and the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management. The provision of services in Northampton was examined. The briefing notes, which are attached, is essential reading and includes the following key findings:-

1. Falling rates of repatriation of deceased bodies or cremated remains to South Asia.
2. Need for increased capacity in designated Muslim burial grounds.
3. Inability to fulfil religious and cultural requirements for the dead leaves mourners feeling misunderstood, marginalised and anxious on behalf of the deceased.
4. Planning for future cemetery and crematoria provision needs to be based on local population trends and funerary preferences (e.g. a growing Muslim population will require more dedicated burial space).
5. Planning for diversity ready cemetery and crematoria provision and services needs to be included in the Local Authority Local Plans and a stronger guidance should be incorporated into the National Planning Policy Framework.
6. The Local Authorities and Planners could liaise with local Hindu and Sikh groups, wider communities and the Environment Agency, to identify and designate more suitable riversides for cremated ash scattering.

Muslim Burial Rates

Mr Abdul Ali has obtained some information from Joanna Fuller (Cemetery Superintendent) employed by “idverde”. A copy of that email is attached.

The data states that there are 119 graves remaining in the new areas designated for Islamic burials. There was a burial on 19.01.2019, which reduces this to 118 spaces. There were 18 Muslim burials in 2017. At that rate, the current provision will last 6.5 years. However, the Muslim population is growing and ageing. The AHRC Report confirms that falling rates of repatriation to countries of origin. I therefore firmly believe that the current space for Muslim burials will be exhausted within the next 3-4 years and perhaps sooner.

The NBC Report states at page 19 that “There is a shortage of burial space and there is concern what will happen when it is full. The specific area at Towcester Road cemetery for Muslim burials is getting filled up very quickly. There is a need for extra land for cemetery space”.

Given that it may take 1-2 years to find a new site and to complete all the Environment Agency investigations, that leaves us with very little time indeed.

It was explained at the previous meeting that the Muslim community do not want the graves of their loved ones scattered across the county. The extension of existing sites to accommodate additional graves can therefore only be a temporary expedient.

Weekend Burial Services

The NBC Report states at page 19 that “there is a need for a seven day cemetery service. The Muslim community bury their deceased as soon as possible. There needs to be toilet and washing facilities at cemeteries”.

The AHRC Report key findings include:-

1. Monday to Friday public services (such as GPs, Registrars, Coroners, Cemeteries and Crematoria) are inadequate to meet the needs of faith groups which require prompt burial or cremation (notably Jews, Muslims, Hindus and Sikhs).
2. Local Authority budgetary cuts have led to reduced hours and some outsourcing of cemetery services, which can make it more difficult to be responsive to weekend requests.

I understand that idverde are a private company to whom the council has issued a contract in relation to the cemeteries. It may be

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appropriate to review the service level provisions within that contract

Put simply, the Muslim community need:-

1. a same day service, available up to at least 5pm during BST; and
2. an effective weekend service.

The current 7-day service is a 7-day service in name only and does not meet the needs of the community.

In relation to burials, the deadlines and time limits that are currently operating are far too restrictive. From Monday to Friday, notice must be given to the burials team by 10/10.30am for a burial to take place no later than 2pm.

The latest burial is 2pm, despite the fact that the days are much longer in the summer months. It does not of course get dark until around 9pm currently.

In relation to weekends, notice must be given to the burials team by Friday 3pm for a burial to take place on Saturday at 2pm. Again, one should be able to give notice on Saturday morning and have a later burial the same day in the summer months.

The same problem exists in relation to Sunday. Notice must be given by 2pm on Saturday for a burial no later than 2pm on Sunday.

On this basis, if somebody passes away at 3.30pm on Friday, they cannot be buried until Sunday.

The burial team workers are stood down at 2pm. That cannot be described as anything other than a part-time service. Mr Ali also made the point that he often telephones the burials team after 3pm, and nobody picks up the telephone. Again, that must be reviewed.

The community should be able to bury their loved ones up to at least 5pm during BST. That is not an unreasonable expectation.

Idverdi say that their core hours are 7am - 2pm. That is when most of the work is required. That is when the majority of burials take place. That may be so, but it must be possible to have some provision for an on-call service of say 2 workers, perhaps on a rota basis, just during BST hours?

It was explained that it takes 2 - 3 hours to dig a grave. However, if a pre-dug grave is always ready, that would avoid that delay. Pre-dug graves can be used in all cases except in relation to reserved spaces. However, reserved spaces are in the minority. Such a provision would therefore have a real and meaningful effect and would mean that notice could be given much later than the current 10am/10.30 cut-off time.

It was explained that Idverdi may need to re-tender as the scope of the 7-day service may not have been clear originally. It was also said that a costs/benefit analysis would need to be done to see if an extended on-call service to cover 2pm - 5pm was viable. These issues involving tendering, contracts and resources must be tackled head-on so that a real and genuine full day service and weekend service can be delivered.

Weekend Cremation Services

This is of great importance to the Sikh and Hindu Communities.

Weekend Death Registration Service

We met with Mr Jonathan Rawlings on 30th July 2018.

My follow up email states "the current ad hoc service whereby a Registrar is only available for part of Saturday (not Sunday) and only if weddings are booked, is in my view inadequate. A full day service for Saturday and Sunday is needed. Councillor Haque kindly confirmed that he would also investigate the provision of weekend cremation services and this is of particular importance to Hindu and Sikh faith communities. If weekend service can be established, we discussed putting together a card/flyer with the essential

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minor and significant communities. If weekend service can be established, we discussed putting together a card/leaflet with the essential emergency telephone numbers on it and also a fuller leaflet explaining the process."

After some consultation with us, we understand that Mr Rawlings then submitted a Paper for the Chief Executive's Approval Panel but the proposal has been rejected as "not essential spend".

Q12 Do you wish to comment on other parts of the draft Local Plan? **Yes**

Page 9: Part B: Representation(s) - Local Plan Part 2 draft (2/20)

Q13 To which part of the Local Plan does this representation relate? **Respondent skipped this question**

Q14 Please set out the changes that you consider are necessary to make the Northampton Local Plan Part 2 Submission Draft document legally compliant and / or sound including revised wording of any policy text, and reasons why the proposed change would make it legally compliant and/or sound. Please be as precise as possible.

Any sections relevant to the submissions that I have made.

Q15 Do you wish to comment on other parts of the draft Local Plan? **No**

Page 10: Part B: Representation(s) - Local Plan Part 2 draft (3/20)

Q16 To which part of the Local Plan does this representation relate? **Respondent skipped this question**

Q17 Please set out the changes that you consider are necessary to make the Northampton Local Plan Part 2 Submission Draft document legally compliant and / or sound including revised wording of any policy text, and reasons why the proposed change would make it legally compliant and/or sound. Please be as precise as possible. **Respondent skipped this question**

Q18 Do you wish to comment on other parts of the draft Local Plan? **Respondent skipped this question**

Page 11: Part B: Representation(s) - Local Plan Part 2 draft (4/20)

Q19 To which part of the Local Plan does this representation relate? **Respondent skipped this question**

Q20 Please set out the changes that you consider are necessary to make the Northampton Local Plan Part 2 Submission Draft document legally compliant and / or sound including revised wording of any policy text, and reasons why the proposed change would make it legally compliant and/or sound. Please be as precise as possible.

Respondent skipped this question

Q21 Do you wish to comment on other parts of the draft Local Plan?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 12: Part B: Representation(s) - Local Plan Part 2 draft (5/20)

Q22 To which part of the Local Plan does this representation relate?

Respondent skipped this question

Q23 Please set out the changes that you consider are necessary to make the Northampton Local Plan Part 2 Submission Draft document legally compliant and / or sound including revised wording of any policy text, and reasons why the proposed change would make it legally compliant and/or sound. Please be as precise as possible.

Respondent skipped this question

Q24 Do you wish to comment on other parts of the draft Local Plan?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 13: Part B: Representation(s) - Local Plan Part 2 draft (6/20)

Q25 To which part of the Local Plan does this representation relate?

Respondent skipped this question

Q26 Please set out the changes that you consider are necessary to make the Northampton Local Plan Part 2 Submission Draft document legally compliant and / or sound including revised wording of any policy text, and reasons why the proposed change would make it legally compliant and/or sound. Please be as precise as possible.

Respondent skipped this question

Q27 Do you wish to comment on other parts of the draft Local Plan?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 14: Part B: Representation(s) - Local Plan Part 2 draft (7/20)

Q28 To which part of the Local Plan does this representation relate?

Respondent skipped this question

Q29 Please set out the changes that you consider are necessary to make the Northampton Local Plan Part 2 Submission Draft document legally compliant and / or sound including revised wording of any policy text, and reasons why the proposed change would make it legally compliant and/or sound. Please be as precise as possible.

Respondent skipped this question

Q30 Do you wish to comment on other parts of the draft Local Plan?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 15: Part B: Representation(s) - Local Plan Part 2 draft (8/20)

Q31 To which part of the Local Plan does this representation relate?

Respondent skipped this question

Q32 Please set out the changes that you consider are necessary to make the Northampton Local Plan Part 2 Submission Draft document legally compliant and / or sound including revised wording of any policy text, and reasons why the proposed change would make it legally compliant and/or sound. Please be as precise as possible.

Respondent skipped this question

Q33 Do you wish to comment on other parts of the draft Local Plan?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 16: Part B: Representation(s) - Local Plan Part 2 draft (9/20)

Q34 To which part of the Local Plan does this representation relate?

Respondent skipped this question

Q35 Please set out the changes that you consider are necessary to make the Northampton Local Plan Part 2 Submission Draft document legally compliant and / or sound including revised wording of any policy text, and reasons why the proposed change would make it legally compliant and/or sound. Please be as precise as possible.

Respondent skipped this question

Q36 Do you wish to comment on other parts of the draft Local Plan?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 17: Part B: Representation(s) - Local Plan Part 2 draft (9/20)

Q37 To which part of the Local Plan does this representation relate?

Respondent skipped this question

Q38 Please set out the changes that you consider are necessary to make the Northampton Local Plan Part 2 Submission Draft document legally compliant and / or sound including revised wording of any policy text, and reasons why the proposed change would make it legally compliant and/or sound. Please be as precise as possible.

Respondent skipped this question

Q39 Do you wish to comment on other parts of the draft Local Plan?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 18: Part B: Representation(s) - Local Plan Part 2 draft (10/20)

Q40 To which part of the Local Plan does this representation relate?

Respondent skipped this question

Q41 Please set out the changes that you consider are necessary to make the Northampton Local Plan Part 2 Submission Draft document legally compliant and / or sound including revised wording of any policy text, and reasons why the proposed change would make it legally compliant and/or sound. Please be as precise as possible.

Respondent skipped this question

Q42 Do you wish to comment on other parts of the draft Local Plan?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 19: Part B: Representation(s) - Local Plan Part 2 draft (11/20)

Q43 To which part of the Local Plan does this representation relate?

Respondent skipped this question

Q44 Please set out the changes that you consider are necessary to make the Northampton Local Plan Part 2 Submission Draft document legally compliant and / or sound including revised wording of any policy text, and reasons why the proposed change would make it legally compliant and/or sound. Please be as precise as possible.

Respondent skipped this question

Q45 Do you wish to comment on other parts of the draft Local Plan?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 20: Part B: Representation(s) - Local Plan Part 2 draft (12/20)

Q46 To which part of the Local Plan does this representation relate?

Respondent skipped this question

Q47 Please set out the changes that you consider are necessary to make the Northampton Local Plan Part 2 Submission Draft document legally compliant and / or sound including revised wording of any policy text, and reasons why the proposed change would make it legally compliant and/or sound. Please be as precise as possible.

Respondent skipped this question

Q48 Do you wish to comment on other parts of the draft Local Plan?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 21: Part B: Representation(s) - Local Plan Part 2 draft (13/20)

Q49 To which part of the Local Plan does this representation relate?

Respondent skipped this question

Q50 Please set out the changes that you consider are necessary to make the Northampton Local Plan Part 2 Submission Draft document legally compliant and / or sound including revised wording of any policy text, and reasons why the proposed change would make it legally compliant and/or sound. Please be as precise as possible.

Respondent skipped this question

Q51 Do you wish to comment on other parts of the draft Local Plan?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 22: Part B: Representation(s) - Local Plan Part 2 draft (14/20)

Q52 To which part of the Local Plan does this representation relate?

Respondent skipped this question

Q53 Please set out the changes that you consider are necessary to make the Northampton Local Plan Part 2 Submission Draft document legally compliant and / or sound including revised wording of any policy text, and reasons why the proposed change would make it legally compliant and/or sound. Please be as precise as possible.

Respondent skipped this question

Q54 Do you wish to comment on other parts of the draft Local Plan?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 23: Part B: Representation(s) - Local Plan Part 2 draft (15/20)

Q55 To which part of the Local Plan does this representation relate?

Respondent skipped this question

Q56 Please set out the changes that you consider are necessary to make the Northampton Local Plan Part 2 Submission Draft document legally compliant and / or sound including revised wording of any policy text, and reasons why the proposed change would make it legally compliant and/or sound. Please be as precise as possible.

Respondent skipped this question

Q57 Do you wish to comment on other parts of the draft Local Plan?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 24: Part B: Representation(s) - Local Plan Part 2 draft (16/20)

Q58 To which part of the Local Plan does this representation relate?

Respondent skipped this question

Q59 Please set out the changes that you consider are necessary to make the Northampton Local Plan Part 2 Submission Draft document legally compliant and / or sound including revised wording of any policy text, and reasons why the proposed change would make it legally compliant and/or sound. Please be as precise as possible.

Respondent skipped this question

Q60 Do you wish to comment on other parts of the draft Local Plan?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 25: Part B: Representation(s) - Local Plan Part 2 draft (17/20)

Q61 To which part of the Local Plan does this representation relate?

Respondent skipped this question

Q62 Please set out the changes that you consider are necessary to make the Northampton Local Plan Part 2 Submission Draft document legally compliant and / or sound including revised wording of any policy text, and reasons why the proposed change would make it legally compliant and/or sound. Please be as precise as possible.

Respondent skipped this question

Q63 Do you wish to comment on other parts of the draft Local Plan?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 26: Part B: Representation(s) - Local Plan Part 2 draft (18/20)

Q64 To which part of the Local Plan does this representation relate?

Respondent skipped this question

Q65 Please set out the changes that you consider are necessary to make the Northampton Local Plan Part 2 Submission Draft document legally compliant and / or sound including revised wording of any policy text, and reasons why the proposed change would make it legally compliant and/or sound. Please be as precise as possible.

Respondent skipped this question

Q66 Do you wish to comment on other parts of the draft Local Plan?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 27: Part B: Representation(s) - Local Plan Part 2 draft (19/20)

Q67 To which part of the Local Plan does this representation relate?

Respondent skipped this question

Q68 Please set out the changes that you consider are necessary to make the Northampton Local Plan Part 2 Submission Draft document legally compliant and / or sound including revised wording of any policy text, and reasons why the proposed change would make it legally compliant and/or sound. Please be as precise as possible.

Respondent skipped this question

Q69 Do you wish to comment on other parts of the draft Local Plan?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 28: Part B: Representation(s) - Local Plan Part 2 draft (20/20)

Q70 To which part of the Local Plan does this representation relate?

Respondent skipped this question

Q71 Please set out the changes that you consider are necessary to make the Northampton Local Plan Part 2 Submission Draft document legally compliant and / or sound including revised wording of any policy text, and reasons why the proposed change would make it legally compliant and/or sound. Please be as precise as possible.

Respondent skipped this question

Page 29: Part B: Representation(s) - Sustainability Appraisal

Q72 Do you wish to comment on the Sustainability Appraisal?

No

Page 30: Part B: Representation(s) - Sustainability Appraisal

Q73 To which part of the Sustainability Appraisal does this representation relate?

Respondent skipped this question

Q74 Comments

Respondent skipped this question

Q75 Do you wish to comment on other parts of the Sustainability Appraisal?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 31: Part B: Representation(s) - Sustainability Appraisal (2/6)

Q76 To which part of the Sustainability Appraisal does this representation relate?

Respondent skipped this question

Q77 Comments

Respondent skipped this question

Q78 Do you wish to comment on other parts of the Sustainability Appraisal?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 32: Part B: Representation(s) - Sustainability Appraisal (3/6)

Q79 To which part of the Sustainability Appraisal does this representation relate?

Respondent skipped this question

Q80 Comments

Respondent skipped this question

Q81 Do you wish to comment on other parts of the Sustainability Appraisal?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 33: Part B: Representation(s) - Sustainability Appraisal (4/6)

Q82 To which part of the Sustainability Appraisal does this representation relate?

Respondent skipped this question

Q83 Comments

Respondent skipped this question

Q84 Do you wish to comment on other parts of the Sustainability Appraisal?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 34: Part B: Representation(s) - Sustainability Appraisal (5/6)

Q85 To which part of the Sustainability Appraisal does this representation relate?

Respondent skipped this question

Q86 Comments

Respondent skipped this question

Q87 Do you wish to comment on other parts of the Sustainability Appraisal?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 35: Part B: Representation(s) - Sustainability Appraisal (6/6)

Q88 To which part of the Sustainability Appraisal does this representation relate?

Respondent skipped this question

Q89 Comments

Respondent skipped this question

Page 36: Part B: Representation(s) - Habitats Regulation Assessment

Q90 Do you wish to comment on the Habitats Regulation Assessment?

No

Page 37: Part B: Representation(s) - Habitats Regulations Assessment

Q91 To which part of the Habitats Regulations Assessment does this representation relate?

Respondent skipped this question

Q92 Comments

Respondent skipped this question

Q93 Do you wish to comment on other parts of the Habitats Regulations Assessment?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 38: Part B: Representation(s) - Habitats Regulations Assessment (2/6)

Q94 To which part of the Habitats Regulations Assessment does this representation relate?

Respondent skipped this question

Q95 Comments

Respondent skipped this question

Q96 Do you wish to comment on other parts of the Habitats Regulations Assessment?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 39: Part B: Representation(s) - Habitats Regulations Assessment (3/6)

Q97 To which part of the Habitats Regulations Assessment does this representation relate?

Respondent skipped this question

Q98 Comments

Respondent skipped this question

Q99 Do you wish to comment on other parts of the Habitats Regulations Assessment?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 40: Part B: Representation(s) - Habitats Regulations Assessment (4/6)

Q100 To which part of the Habitats Regulations Assessment does this representation relate?

Respondent skipped this question

Q101 Comments

Respondent skipped this question

Q102 Do you wish to comment on other parts of the Habitats Regulations Assessment?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 41: Part B: Representation(s) - Habitats Regulations Assessment (5/6)

Q103 To which part of the Habitats Regulations Assessment does this representation relate?

Respondent skipped this question

Q104 Comments

Respondent skipped this question

Q105 Do you wish to comment on other parts of the Habitats Regulations Assessment?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 42: Part B: Representation(s) - Habitats Regulations Assessment (6/6)

Q106 To which part of the Habitats Regulations Assessment does this representation relate?

Respondent skipped this question

Q107 Comments

Respondent skipped this question

Page 43: Part B: Representation(s) - Examination

Q108 If your representation is seeking a change, do you consider it necessary to take part and speak at the examination hearing(s) if invited to do so by the Inspector?

Yes

Q109 If you wish to take part at the oral examination, please outline why you consider this to be necessary (please note the Inspector will determine who will be invited to be heard at the examination hearing(s))

These are issues of fundamental importance to the community and it may assist the inspector if oral representations are made.

Q110 Do you wish to be notified when:

The Council submit the Northampton Local Plan (Part 2) to the Government?

,

The Inspector's report is published?,

The Northampton Local Plan (Part 2) is adopted by the Council

Page 44: Equality Monitoring

[REDACTED]

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