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**From:** PILGRIM, John [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14 June 2019 16:51  
**To:** Planning Policy  
**Subject:** FW: Northampton Local Plan Part 2  
**Attachments:** North - Northampton Local Plan Reg 19 DfE Rep Final.pdf; FS0815 Harlestone Road - Control option (frozen).pdf

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please find attached a copy of the DfE's response to the Northampton Local Plan Part 2 consultation. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding our response.

Yours faithfully,

John

**John Pilgrim**

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Our Ref: DfE/Northampton Local Plan Part 2 Draft Submission /June 2019

14 June 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Re: Northampton Local Plan Part 2 Draft Submission**

**Consultation under Regulation 19 of Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012**

#### **Submission of the Department for Education**

1. The Department for Education (DfE) welcomes the opportunity to contribute to the development of planning policy at the local level.
2. Under the provisions of the Education Act 2011 and the Academies Act 2010, all new state schools are now academies/free schools and DfE is the delivery body for many of these, rather than local education authorities. As such, we aim to work closely with local authority education departments and planning authorities to meet the need and demand for new school places and new schools. In this capacity, we would like to offer the following comments in response to the proposals outlined in the above consultation document.

#### **Comments on the Local Plan**

3. As you will be aware, the primary focus at this stage of the Local Plan's preparation is on the soundness of the plan, with regard to it being positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy. The following detailed comments set out DfE's view of the plan's soundness in respect of education provision.
4. DfE makes the following comments on the Education section (page 90) of the local plan:
  - In addition to the general approach set out within paragraph 211 to 213, it would be helpful if the local plan outlined, within **Chapter 13 Site Specific Allocations and Policies**, which sites are to be safeguarded for provision of new schools. This would provide clarity and certainty to the development industry and infrastructure providers.
  - In light of the above, the DfE has identified a suitable site for the establishment of the primary school for Northampton Primary Academy at 381 Harlestone Road, Northampton. The site was occupied by SJN Motors Ltd and used as a car showroom; the DfE is currently undertaking

a feasibility process, which will include engagement with the LPA in relation to the proposed scheme (a high-level control option is attached to this letter FYI). Initial feedback from the LPA is that education use (under use Class D1) could be acceptable in principle, subject to agreement on detailed design and suitable access.

- On this basis, whilst acknowledging the Local Plan is at a late stage in its consultation process, we request that the existing Local Plan site allocation be amended to refer to the site as having the potential for residential and/or a new school within use class D1. This will support the potential for the establishment of a new primary school to provide a valuable new community facility in a timely manner within the Trust's preferred catchment area.
- The above would enhance the soundness of the plan in terms of it being positively prepared, by facilitating sites for delivery of infrastructure to meet need and demand within the borough.

### **Conclusion**

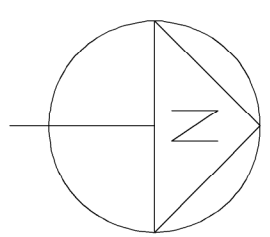
5. I hope the above comments are helpful in finalising Northampton's Local Plan, with specific regard to the provision of land for new schools.
6. Please notify DfE when the Local Plan is submitted for examination, the Inspector's report is published and the Local Plan is adopted.
7. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries regarding this response. DfE looks forward to continuing to work with Northampton borough to develop a sound Local Plan which will aid in the delivery of new schools.
















Yours faithfully,

**John Pilgrim**  
Forward Planning Manager

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|---|---------------------------------|
|  | MAIN ENTRANCE                   |
|  | NURSERY ENTRANCE                |
|  | VEHICULAR ACCESS                |
|  | PEDESTRIAN ACCESS               |
|  | EXISTING TREES TO REMAIN        |
|  | NEW TREES                       |
|  | DEMOLITION                      |
|  | NEW BUILD                       |
|  | SOFT PLAY                       |
|  | HARDSTANDING - VEHICULAR ACCESS |
|  | HARD PLAY                       |
|  | MUGA                            |
|  | NEW SECURE FENCE                |
|  | NEW LOW LEVEL FENCE             |
|  | MUGA FENCE                      |
|  | EXISTING FENCE/GATES            |
|  | NEW GATE                        |