

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 04 September 2020 12:00
To: Planning Policy
Cc: Paul Everard; Noreen Banks
Subject: Response to Consultation - Northampton Local Plan Part 2

East Hunsbury Parish Council have reviewed the draft Northampton Local Plan Part 2 and make the following comments in relation to it.

We do not believe that the plan is justified by evidence or effective in dealing with the **cumulative impact of proposed development sites** specifically in relation to the following policies:

Policy 7 – Flood risk and water management

Areas of East Hunsbury have experienced serious flooding events in recent years, and the impact of further development on proposed sites will heighten the risk of further events. Proposed developments should take account of the impact on East Hunsbury as a whole and mitigation measures put in place where required. East Hunsbury Parish Council is working with Northamptonshire County Council on the Pathfinder 3 Project and the outcome of this will need to be considered for planning in the future.

Policy 13 – Residential and other residential led allocation

Policy 38 – Development allocations

There are 5 proposed sites in East Hunsbury: LAA110, LAA1009, LAA1142, LAA0168 and LAA1102, and a site in West Hunsbury which abuts Towcester Road (LAA1025). N5 (Northampton South SUE) sits across East Hunsbury and Collingtree and has a capacity of 1,000 dwellings, although none have yet been completed. The cumulative impact of the development of these sites, and other approved developments such as the SRFI should be considered. The proposed remodelling of the Rowtree Road approach to the A45 will do little to mitigate the impact of increased traffic, and there is no consideration for the congestion that occurs in East Hunsbury due to issues on the A45 or the M1.

We do not consider the identified highway infrastructure improvements robust enough to accommodate the cumulative scale of growth proposed. The opportunity should be taken to review traffic impact on Northampton as a whole, including the proposal for a Northern Orbital road which will serve other SUEs and reduce pressure on the A45.

Local infrastructure, including access to doctors and schools will be impacted by the addition of a further 491 dwellings in the parish (not taking into account the SUE).

We do not believe the plan to be positively prepared or effective on the issue of **Traffic and Pollution**, specifically in relation to the following policies:

Policy 32 – Designing sustainable transport and travel

Policy 33 – Highway network and safety

The proposed remodelling of the Rowtree Road approach to the A45 will do little to mitigate the impact of increased traffic, and there is no consideration for the congestion that occurs in East Hunsbury due to issues on the A45 or the M1.

We do not consider the identified highway infrastructure improvements robust enough to accommodate the cumulative scale of growth proposed. The opportunity should be taken to review traffic impact on Northampton as a whole, including the proposal for a Northern Orbital road which will serve other SUEs and reduce pressure on the A45.

The cumulative impact of the development proposed in East Hunsbury on traffic density and air pollution will be significant, particularly as two Air Quality Management Areas abut the parish boundary. The Local Plan should address facilities for walking, cycling and public transport and creating a joined-up approach across Northampton, rather than concentrating efforts on new developments. A reduction in car use will only be achievable with access to reliable public transport services (including the rail network), with additional services and good

connections. Linking existing cycle routes with clear, safe, and well-maintained cycle paths to create a proper network is essential.

We do not believe the Plan to be justified by evidence or effective in dealing with **Sports pitches and amenity space**, specifically in relation to the following policies:

Policy 6 – Health and Wellbeing

Policy 23 – Sports facilities and playing pitches

Policy 28 – Providing open space

East Hunsbury is an area without sports pitches and future developments should be required to make provision for community access.

There are many in our community who are, or have been, members of Welland Valley Football Club over the years, and the parish council are concerned that the location of the football pitches (off of Ladybridge Drive (Wootton Brook) is not classified as Amenity Green Space. The land has been used as pitches for a number of years and is a prime example of an area of land which should be maintained as amenity green space.

The Parish Council would expect that any planning application for development of sites within East Hunsbury would include provision of open space, sports and recreation facilities, and suitable measures to ensure the maintenance of these spaces for the future. The use of management companies has created an unnecessary burden for residents in other areas, and other ways of managing open space should be encouraged.

Appendix G – Primary schools

It is noted that there is provision at Appendix G for two primary schools local to East Hunsbury. E5 of which we are aware and forms part of the Northampton South SUE development. Ref E41 refers to a 3-form primary school at Collingtree, of which we have no knowledge. Northampton Borough Council have confirmed that this school was an additional school, approved as a result of an application made by an academy trust directly to the ESFA in 2017/18, and submitted on the basis of anticipated wider growth requirements of the area. The County Council has received confirmation that the scheme has been withdrawn from ESFA's programme. Therefore we would expect to see this school removed from the Appendix.

Kind regards,

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Clerk to the Council

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My usual working days are Monday to Thursday



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