The online response form does not appear to allow comments to be put into the various boxes so I hope you will accept comments in this format.

Northamptonshire Police has no comments to make on the specific questions contained in the first part of the document (Q 1 – 21) and (Q 22 – 31 on CAAP)

On page 59/10 of the document it states under point 2.21

The NPPF requires local planning authorities to set out strategic priorities for the area in the Local Plan. This should include strategic policies to deliver .... A long list of things is then listed amongst which is SECURITY. I cannot find anything much which indicates how NBC is going to deliver a strategic security policy in any of the following pages of the document.

On page 36 of the document there is reference to the fact that ‘it is possible through good design to reduce opportunities for crime’ and SA Objective 5 is referenced. When looking at SA5 this sentiment appears to have been lost. The SA Objective 5 does not seem to address the sustainability issue for Northampton of high levels of crime. Perhaps how these two things which are cross referenced could be explained.

SA Objective 5. Reduce Crime and fear of crime in Northampton.

I take issue with the rather simplistic assessment of the factors on which levels of crime will depend. Levels of crime will increase on any development site which has previously been a green field regardless of where that green field is located. The use of such measures as CPTED and SBD which are proven to reduce opportunities for crime by up to 50% will reduce the effect of new development on crime levels but I cannot understand how the effects of potential sites on this objective can be deemed to be ‘negligible’. Any building where there has not been building is bound to generate crime and opportunities for anti-social behaviour unless detailed design work is carried out to design out opportunities for such behaviour.

Sharon

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Northamptonshire Police: Putting Communities First
In addition to my comments submitted ahead of the deadline I would like to add the following comment.

I note that policy E40 in Northampton Local Plan 1997 has not been saved and the sentiments addressed in E40 are now considered to be adequately covered in policy S10 of the WNJCS. Northamptonshire Police consider that policy S10 does not adequately capture the robust nature of the original E40 wording and would like to suggest that something akin to the original sentiments is included in the new local plan part 2.

The following wording should be considered:

Planning permission will normally be granted where the development has full regard for the needs of security and crime prevention and where crime prevention measures are incorporated in the site layout and building design.

Such robust wording would enable Northampton Borough Council to discharge its responsibilities under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and the Police and Justice Act 2006.

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