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From: G Cadman <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 05 June 2016 23:24
To: Planning Policy
Subject: Northampton Local Plan (part 2) Issues Consultation - response
Attachments: 2016 LP Pt 2 consultation response GMC.docx

To: Planning Policy, Regeneration, Enterprise & Planning Directorate
Northampton Borough Council

Please find our Northampton Local Plan (part 2) Issues Consultation response attached.

Mr & Mrs Cadman
Northampton

5 June 2016

[REDACTED]
Northampton
[REDACTED]

4 June 2016

Northampton Local Plan (Part 2) Issues Consultation
Planning Policy
Regeneration, Enterprise & Planning Directorate
Northampton Borough Council
The Guildhall
St Giles Square
Northampton
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Please find below our response to this consultation.

Observations below refer to the town but with some observations focused on parts of Abington & Castle Wards, in and around Lower Thrift Street, Northampton (area between Billing and Wellingborough roads).

Local government status:

- Achieving Unitary status for the town of Northampton would be the ideal prerequisite for delivering a viable and sustainable Local Plan.

Housing, community & land-use:

- Maintain mixed and balanced housing; raise and strengthen new build housing standards including on minimum sizes, spaces and the quality of design and materials.
- Incorporate and strengthen Planning Policy Guidance and related requirements regarding Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs).
- Confirm the removal of brown-field designation from house gardens along with its resultant encouragement for over-intensive development. All such gardens to be clearly identified in the Local Plan as green-field land.
- Identify land along the east side of Elizabeth Street, Northampton for affordable rented workshops and garages of high quality design for use by local people and business. The street overlooks Vernon Terrace Primary School and should be clearly flagged as not appropriate for residential development.
- Develop children's play areas for those living between Billing Rd and Wellingborough Rd (Abington & Castle Wards). The 'MUGA' on Stockley Street was ideal for younger children but was closed at the time of the London Olympics, removing safe local play provision from homes in nearby streets.

- Avoid excessive numbers of fast food and off licence shops along Wellingborough Road; also reduce the number of bars and other alcohol sales and restrict opening times avoiding late night/early morning opening. Cumulatively these reduce the quality of life for local residents with increases in noise and rubbish, reductions in the quality of the local environment and increased levels of anti-social behaviour all of which can contribute to damage to health and welfare for all.

Transport & town centre:

- Re-integrate public bus and coach 'stations' onto one site and ensure that this incorporates regular rapid links to/from Castle railway Station up to at least 10pm.
- Encourage and support vitality and sustainability of town centre shops and markets.
- Extend safer cycling provision including mandatory requirement for all new roads and road upgrades to include safe cycle ways (separated on all but minor residential streets). Extend associated secure and covered cycle parking facilities across the town in particular at bus and train stations; park and ride(s), town centre, parks etc.
- Upgrade local transport plan to relieve pressure on town centre car parking, congestion and resultant poor air quality by introducing a year round park and ride scheme(s) for the town and encouraging its use especially by commuters. Where there is demand, extend residents parking schemes within the town and make sure that they are affordable.

Natural & historic environment:

- Protect and enhance understanding, appreciation and care of historic and natural environment.
- Increase legal protection for Local Listed buildings, historic landscapes and archaeological monuments.
- Add Billing Road Cemetery to Local Listed landscapes.
- Maintain & enhance existing Conservation Areas and give consideration to designating St Andrews Hospital site and grounds as a new Conservation Area.
- Undertake full archaeological survey of the Registered Northampton Battlefield and utilise results to assist long term conservation care.

Yours faithfully

Mr & Mrs Cadman

(Local residents)