

From: [REDACTED]
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Subject: Northampton Local Plan (Part 2) Consultation Paper
Date: 02 November 2016 13:23:06
Attachments: [Northampton Options Letter.docx](#)

Dear Claire

Please find attached the response of the North Northamptonshire Joint Committee to the above consultation.

Should you have any questions regarding this response please do not hesitate to contact me, Simon or Andrew.

Thanks
Thomas

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Dear Claire

Northampton Local Plan (Part 2) Options Consultation Paper September 2016

Thank you for consulting the North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit on the above. The North Northamptonshire Joint Committee agreed its response at its 24th October meeting, and this is set out below.

The Joint Committee raises no objection to the overall approach set out in the options paper. The JPU will continue to work on behalf of the Joint Committee with Northampton Borough Council and other neighbouring authorities through the Duty to Co-operate as required by the Localism Act 2011.

Housing and Creating a Prosperous economy

The Joint Committee supports proposals set out in the Options Paper to set a minimum residential density for Northampton Borough (Question 4), to update the SHLAA, and to explore all the reasonable options to provide land to accommodate new homes as well as employment and other uses to support growth.

The importance of providing sufficient infrastructure to support the delivery of growth and to mitigate the impact on North Northamptonshire was highlighted by Members of the Joint Committee. It is considered critical that the Local Plan provides growth where sufficient infrastructure capacity (particularly transport infrastructure) exists or is realistically deliverable during the plan period.

Reasonable Options to accommodate new homes and employment

At this stage, the Joint Committee considers that “reasonable options” to accommodate new homes and employment would not include sites or areas within North Northamptonshire. This approach is consistent with paragraph 1.14 of the adopted North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy and the conclusions of the Inspector’s report into the JCS.

Should it not be possible to accommodate the level of growth required within the Northampton area up to 2029, then other sites within the area covered by the West Northamptonshire JCS should be considered. If after all these avenues are explored the level of need still cannot be accommodated then the Joint Committee consider this would be a matter for a review of the West Northamptonshire JCS to consider. In this eventuality the NNJPU would participate with other partners to consider reasonable options, which would not automatically assume the need to continue expanding the town of Northampton.

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While not a matter for consideration for growth before 2029, the Joint Committee wishes to highlight its concerns over any longer-term growth options for Northampton that could impact on North Northamptonshire. These concerns relate to the limited capacity of transport infrastructure to the east of the town (relative to other potential directions of growth) and to pressures for coalescence with rural settlements such as Ecton.

Should you have any questions regarding this response, please do not hesitate to contact me, or another member of the JPU. The JPU looks forward to working on behalf of the Joint Committee with Northampton Borough Council in developing the Part 2 Local Plan.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Longley
Head of the North Northamptonshire
Joint Planning Unit