

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Northampton Local Plan Part 2: Options Consultation- Response of Northamptonshire County Council  
**Date:** 11 October 2016 17:08:45  
**Attachments:** [Northampton Part 2 Local Plan.Options Cons Response.Oct16.doc](#)

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Good Afternoon

Please find attached the comments of Northamptonshire County Council to the above consultation. I would be grateful if you could acknowledge receipt.

Regards

Mark

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## **Northampton Local Plan (Part 2): Options Consultation Paper Representations of Northamptonshire County Council**

I refer to the Northampton Local Plan (Part 2) Options Consultation Paper issued on 21 September 2016. The County Council has a limited response to make on this paper as it does not really consider it moves matters very much forward from the previous issues and options consultation.

Nevertheless we are supportive of a 20% housing land supply buffer (Question 3) and in principle giving priority to sites that can be delivered in the short term (Question 5), although the County Council is uncertain as to what is meant by prioritising as this is not explained in any detail in the options consultation document.

The County Council notes the reference on page 9 that there is likely to be a shortfall of land to accommodate dwellings to meet identified future needs and that the following paragraph then goes on to indicate that the consequences of this is being addressed through proactive working with neighbouring authorities to try to share some of the housing delivery. It looks forward as to how this will be reflected in the emerging Part 2 Plans for Daventry and South Northamptonshire.

However there is a significant concern that in moving forward with the Part 2 Plan for Northampton there will no Draft Plan to consult on and that NBC will be moving directly to a Proposed Submission Plan. This means that the first opportunity to make representations on allocations will also be the final time you can make such representations. There is therefore the question that although not having a Draft Plan stage is in the spirit of the legislation, whether it is appropriate for those who see the allocations as the key element of the Part 2 process for there not to be such a Draft Plan stage. Furthermore this is also out of line with the stages proposed for the Daventry and South Northamptonshire Part 2 Plans that will be having a 'Draft Plan' stage prior to a Proposed Submission stage.

The County Council is pleased to note that, as per its response at the issues and options consultation stage, the Central Area Action Plan is now to be included within the Part 2 Plan, rolled forward and updated as necessary.

*October 2016*