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**COMPLETE**

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**Q1: Please provide your contact details in the boxes below:**

Name	Stephen Marks
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**Q2: Are you an agent responding on behalf of another?** No

**Q3: If you are an agent responding on behalf of another, please enter your details below:** *Respondent skipped this question*

PAGE 3: Consultation on the Northampton Local Plan (Part 2)

**Q4: Do you have any comments on the vision for the Northampton Local Plan (Part 2)?**

There is very little reference to the health and wellbeing of the communities of Northampton contained within the vision for the Northampton Local Plan Part 2.

It could be argued that there is at present an increasing public health crisis emerging in this country. There is increasing pressure on health and social care services and an increasing recognition of the need to do much more to prevent ill health and promote wellbeing. Northampton Borough faces some significant health and wellbeing challenges.

For example, recent data in the Northampton Health Profile 2016 (<http://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/health-profiles>) shows that:

19.5% of children in year 6 were obese (2014/15).

Only 55.3% of adults were meeting the recommended amount of physical activity in 2015

65.7% of adults were overweight or obese (2012-14)

It is widely recognised that healthcare provision is an important but relatively minor factor in determining community health and wellbeing. A greater factor are the environments around us and the lifestyle choices that those environments contribute to.

Planning and the nature of new developments therefore can have a major impact on the health and wellbeing of residents moving into new developments and the existing community, by supporting and enabling healthier lifestyles. It is therefore suggested that more explicit reference to health and wellbeing is incorporated into the vision for Northampton.

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**Q5: Do you think there are other objectives that should be included?**

Yes – ‘Health and Wellbeing’.

The sustainability appraisal states that:

4.11 Whilst there is no Local Plan (Part 2) objective directly relating to health and well-being, a number of the other Local Plan (Part 2) objectives should give rise to minor positive effects overall on SA objective 4: Health and well-being.

This is a disappointing recognition that the Local Plan (Part 2) does not address the issues of health and wellbeing in a more direct way.

While some of the other objectives will contribute to health and wellbeing, given the health and wellbeing challenges being faced by Northampton and the health services within the Borough, it is felt that a more explicit health and wellbeing objective should be included. Many of the other objectives in the local plan could be greatly undermined if recent community health and wellbeing trends are not addressed effectively.

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**Q6: Do you agree that we should apply a 20% housing land supply buffer to our housing land supply?**

*Respondent skipped this question*

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**Q7: Do you agree with a residential density of 40 dwellings per hectare outside of the sustainable urban extensions, with higher densities in the town centre, other centres and along key transport corridors?**

*Respondent skipped this question*

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**Q8: In allocating sites for housing development, do you agree that we should give priority to sites that can be delivered in the short term?**

*Respondent skipped this question*

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**Q9: What other actions would help new homes to be built and completed more quickly on the identified sites for housing development?**

*Respondent skipped this question*

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**Q10: Do you agree that we should identify sites for specialist housing?**

*Respondent skipped this question*

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Q11: Do you agree that we should identify sites specifically for the provision of older persons housing?

*Respondent skipped this question*

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Q12: Should allocations for general housing include a proportion of smaller market dwellings (1 and 2 bed)?

*Respondent skipped this question*

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Q13: Should the plan specify a threshold or proportion of serviced plots to ensure the delivery of custom build and self build plots?

*Respondent skipped this question*

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Q14: Do you agree that there is demand for more small scale office space, especially in the town centre?

*Respondent skipped this question*

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Q15: Do you think that dated, low value office stock in the town centre is oversupplied?

*Respondent skipped this question*

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Q16: Do you agree that outside the town centre, some medium and larger office allocations should be released to provide small or medium sized industrial and distribution uses to help meet demand for these uses?

*Respondent skipped this question*

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Q17: In demonstrating that existing employment sites have been actively marketed before they are considered for release to other uses, should active marketing be required to be undertaken for a minimum period of 12 months or 24 months?

*Respondent skipped this question*

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Q18: Do you agree that we should allow more flexibility in some smaller centres for other uses to be introduced?

*Respondent skipped this question*

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Q19: Do you agree that we should review the secondary retail frontages policy, which restricts non retail uses in some sections of frontage, to allow greater flexibility for non retail uses in some areas?

*Respondent skipped this question*

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Q20: Do you think that within the town centre, some of the medium and larger sized office allocations are oversupplied?

*Respondent skipped this question*

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**Q21: Are there any other Development Management policies that you think should be included in the Northampton Local Plan (Part 2)?**

Yes – ‘Health and Wellbeing’.

As identified in our response to question 5; the sustainability appraisal states that:

4.11 Whilst there is no Local Plan (Part 2) objective directly relating to health and well-being, a number of the other Local Plan (Part 2) objectives should give rise to minor positive effects overall on SA objective 4: Health and well-being.

This is a disappointing recognition that the Local Plan (Part 2) does not address the issues of health and wellbeing in a more direct way.

The inclusion of a health and wellbeing development management policy would help ensure (in a more structured and rigorous way) that new developments are taking advantage of opportunities to support and promote wellbeing and prevent ill health.

It would also ensure that any elements of proposed development that could have negative health and wellbeing consequences are identified, considered and addressed appropriately.

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PAGE 21: Consultation On The Sustainability Appraisal of the Options Consultation Paper

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**Q22: Do you have any comments on the Sustainability Appraisal of the Options Consultation Paper? (Please identify the page, paragraph number(s), table or appendix within the Sustainability Appraisal to which each of your comments applies).**

As noted in our response to previous questions, the Sustainability Appraisal states that:

4.11 Whilst there is no Local Plan (Part 2) objective directly relating to health and well-being, a number of the other Local Plan (Part 2) objectives should give rise to minor positive effects overall on SA objective 4: Health and well-being.

We feel that this is recognition that the Local Plan (Part 2) does not address the issues of health and wellbeing in a direct enough way and therefore health and wellbeing issues will not be addressed through the planning process as effectively as they could be. We feel that this content of the sustainability appraisal supports our responses to questions 4, 5 and 6 which request that health and wellbeing feature much more prominently in the Local Plan part 2.

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