

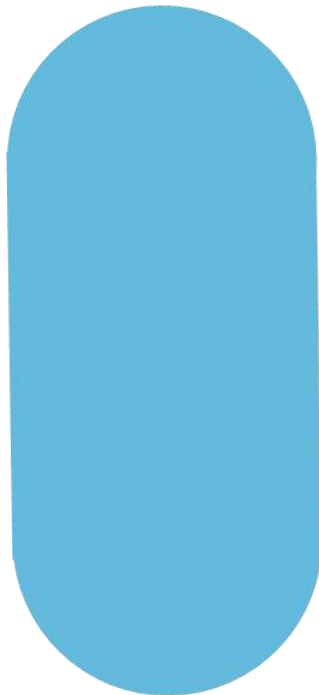
Harborough Local Plan Examination

Matter 6 – Spatial Strategy and Countryside Protection

Hearing Statement

Landowner Consortium for East of Lutterworth SDA

Respondent Reference: 6054





This Hearing Statement is submitted on behalf of the Landowner Consortium for East of Lutterworth SDA (ref: 6054) in respect of their interest in the East of Lutterworth Strategic Development Area. Representations submitted to the Proposed Submission Local Plan sets out their case in full.

6.1 Is the spatial strategy as set out in Policies SS1 and H1 and their supporting text soundly based? Is the settlement hierarchy soundly based?

1. The Spatial Strategy Topic Paper (TPC1) covers the formulation and justification for policies SS1 and H1 as the most appropriate strategy when considered against reasonable alternatives.
2. The key points can be summarised as follows:
 - i. Lutterworth Town as one of only two Key Centres within the District has the range of services, facilities and employment opportunities that can best ensure that the need to travel for future residents and employees will be minimised, and sustainable transport modes maximised, from the SDA (see paragraph 3.1.9 of the Plan) in accordance with paragraph 34 of the 2012 Framework;
 - ii. The allocation of the SDA aligns with the approved and emerging sub-regional plans (namely the Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Economic Plan and the Draft Strategic Growth Plan) in directing new housing and employment to a location identified as a priority growth area for development, infrastructure investment and sustainable transport (see paragraph 3.1.2 of the Plan); and,
 - iii. The allocation of the SDA can deliver significant improvements to infrastructure that can help alleviate existing economic, transport and environmental problems within Lutterworth Town, arising from the delivery of the spine road and other highway improvements, community facilities serving the town such as the Community Park, and enhancements to the Misterton Marshes.

6.2 What regard has been given by the SA and the other analyses to the impact on community severance and the difficulties of urban integration arising from allocation L1, which would result in development on both sides of a major motorway? Have these factors been taken account in evaluating the performance of this option against others, and if so, what weight have they been given?

3. The way in which the master-planning and delivery of the allocation will secure the functional, social, economic and physical integration of the SDA with the existing town of Lutterworth is addressed under matter 8.
4. Whilst severance is not a specific criterion, the SA addresses this particular issue through the consideration of accessibility and community cohesion. It is also clear from the Council's other evidence as set out in TPC1 – the Spatial Strategy Topic Paper that issues of connectivity have been a part of the plan making process.



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