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East Northamptonshire Council Higham Ferrers Neighbourhood Plan response form

This form may be photocopied or downloaded from the website. Further printed copies can also be obtained from the Council. **Please return by 4.30pm on Monday, 17 August 2015.**

This form can be returned by e-mail to planningpolicy@east-northamptonshire.gov.uk or by post to Higham Ferrers Neighbourhood Plan Consultation, East Northamptonshire Council, Freepost NH 2352, Thrapston, Northamptonshire NN14 4BR. **Email is the Council's preferred method of receiving comments, as it will help us to handle your representation quickly and efficiently.**

Comments are invited, regarding whether the draft Higham Ferrers Neighbourhood Plan and supporting documentation fulfil the "**basic conditions**", as required by paragraph 8 (1) (a) (2) of Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (inserted by the Localism Act 2011). If you wish to make comments about the draft Neighbourhood Plan, please specify which of the five "basic conditions" you are commenting on (see Q1, overleaf). Comments should set out a justification as to why you consider that the basic condition has **not** been met, or why you consider that the basic condition has satisfactorily been met.

All comments will be forwarded on to the appointed examiner for the Higham Ferrers Neighbourhood Plan. You should not assume that there will be an opportunity to add further information, although the examiner may request additional information from you, based on the matters he/ she identifies for examination.

The regulations require that any representations made during the consultation period for the Higham Ferrers Neighbourhood Plan must be submitted to the examiner together with a summary of the main issues raised. Therefore, comments cannot be treated as confidential. They will be attributed to source and made available as public documents, although personal addresses will not be made publicly available.

East Northamptonshire Council will consider all representations made if returned by the deadline. However, please note that late representations cannot be accepted.

Personal Details		Agents Details (if applicable)	
<i>Organisation Name:</i>	Northamptonshire County Council Highways	<i>Organisation Name:</i>	
<i>Contact Name:</i>	Esme Cushing	<i>Contact Name:</i>	
<i>Address:</i>	Riverside House Riverside Way Northampton NN1 5NX	<i>Address:</i>	
<i>Tel:</i>		<i>Tel:</i>	
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<i>E-mail:</i>		<i>E-mail:</i>	

Q1 Five “basic conditions” form the statutory requirements for the draft Neighbourhood Plan. These require that the Neighbourhood Plan:

1. **Has regard to national policy and guidance from the Secretary of State;**
2. **Contributes to sustainable development;**
3. **Is in general conformity with the strategic policy of the development plan for the area or any part of that area;**
4. **Doesn’t breach or is otherwise compatible with EU obligations – this includes the SEA Directive of 2001/42/EC; and that**
5. **The making of the Neighbourhood Plan is not likely to have a significant effect on a European site (as defined in the Conservation of Habitats and Species regulations 2010(d), either alone or in combination with other plans or projects**

✓

[Please tick the relevant basic condition and submit a separate form for each of the basic conditions you are commenting on]

Q2 **Why do you consider that the draft Higham Ferrers Neighbourhood Plan and/ or supporting documents do/ do not meet the specified “basic condition”?**

Please provide a brief summary of your comments.

After careful consideration, Northamptonshire Highways considers the Neighbourhood Plan to broadly support sustainable development. However, there are a few instances where this could be strengthened in the Plan.

Detailed explanation

Please give further details of your opinion and the reasons for it (continue on a separate sheet as necessary).

As outlined in our original representations Northamptonshire Highways is still of the opinion that reference should be made in the Plan’s objectives to public transport links. The objective also only deals with encouraging pedestrian and cycling links within the town boundary, it might also be useful if the Plan considered connectivity with Rushden and future links to Rushden East.

Northamptonshire Highways also suggests that Policy HF.H3 which deals with Higham East (Future Growth) should make reference to any future Masterplan considering how the site can be best served by public transport, through appropriate road layouts etc in conjunction with the plans at Rushden East. The policy should also make reference to provision of cycling and walking within the development being considered in the Masterplan to meet NTP Strategic Policy 3 (ensure that all new developments are well connected by public transport and walking, cycling and motor vehicle routes and also policy HF.TC3.

Q3 The appointed examiner will consider all representations received by the deadline (**4:30pm, Monday 17 August 2015**). Normally, the examiner will seek to consider all responses through written representations. However, occasionally an examiner may consider it necessary to hold hearing sessions to discuss particular issues.

I would like to request to be heard before the examiner at the Neighbourhood Plan Examination [If you have indicated that you wish to attend the Examination, please explain why you consider this to be necessary. Please note that this is entirely at the discretion of the examiner]:

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Q4 Please indicate whether you wish to be notified of either or both of the following:

- (ii) The publication of the recommendations of the Neighbourhood Plan Examiner
- (iii) Final “making” (adoption) of the Neighbourhood Plan by East Northamptonshire Council

✓
✓

If you have ticked any of the above options, please make sure you have provided an email address to help us reduce postal costs.

Signature:

Date: 18 August 2015

Thank you for taking the time to respond.