

MELTON LOCAL PLAN WORKING GROUP

16th DECEMBER 2014

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF REGULATORY SERVICES

MELTON MOWBRAY CUMULATIVE DEVELOPMENT TRANSPORT IMPACT STUDY

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 This report updates Council on the Melton Mowbray Cumulative Development Transport Impact Study, that has been carried out by Jacobs UK Ltd., procured through the Leicestershire County Council framework contract.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **That Council notes that the information in this report is a material consideration in determining planning applications for relevant development, and approves it as technical evidence to inform the Melton Local Plan.**

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Council commissioned the above works as part of the programme of work towards the production of the Melton Local Plan. The Study is a material consideration and as such will be used to inform decision making on planning applications, and forms part of the evidence base to assist in the development of the Melton Local Plan.
- 3.2 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) places a presumption in favour of sustainable development in general. One aspect of this is the infrastructure implications and states transport should only be used as reason to refuse development where the impact is severe.
- 3.4 Jacobs were commissioned to undertake this work through a LCC procured contract. The Melton Mowbray Cumulative Development Transport Impact Study appended to this report (Appendix 1). There are several further studies to follow this, building on its content, looking at traffic sources and travel patterns and options for, and the effectiveness of, mitigation options.
- 3.5 The aims of this study are to:
- Assess the existing situation
 - To assess the cumulative impact of early development (without mitigation)
 - To understand where the impacts of development may arise and understand their severity
 - As a first stage of detailed work needed to inform the Local Plan
 - Provide an essential tool for discussion with developers and consideration of early applications

4.0 POLICY AND CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The Study will provide evidence and be used as a material consideration when determining planning applications which impact upon the highway network in and around Melton Mowbray. The document also provides information that will be critical in formulating recommendations to develop a infrastructure policy as part of the new Melton Local Plan. This will include use by the Reference Groups in order to inform their debate and advise on policy direction in this area.

5.0 FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report and the receipt of this study. The study has been met from the funds allocated in April 2014.

6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS/POWERS

6.1 The document is now a material consideration in determining planning applications for relevant development. The document provides detailed evidence to support and inform the assessment of proposals. The policy context for such proposals is set principally by the NPPF and NPPG which contains policies on assessing developments in terms of traffic impacts.

8.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY

8.1 There are no direct community safety implications as a direct result of this report.

9.0 EQUALITIES

9.1 There are no direct Equalities implications as a direct result of this report.

10.0 RISKS

10.1 Without the evidence contained within the Study, the Council would be reliant on ad-hoc assessment of proposals under the criteria set out in the NPPF.

Very High A				
High B				
Significant C		2		
Low D				
Very Low E				
Almost Impossible F	1			
	IV Neg- ligible	III Marg- inal	II Critical	I Catast- rophic

Risk No.	Description
1	Guidance does not assist in assessing the traffic impact of proposals
2	Guidance is given limited weight by Inspectors as part of any planning appeals

11.0 CLIMATE CHANGE

11.1 There are no direct climate change issues arising from this report, other than the model may provide evidence to support the delivery of low carbon travel choices such as walking cycling and public transport.

12.0 CONSULTATION

12.1 No consultation has been undertaken as part of this report.

13.0 WARDS AFFECTED

13.1 All wards are affected

Contact Officer: J Worley
Date: 15th November 2014
Appendix 1: Melton Mowbray Cumulative Development Transport Impact Study