Agenda Item 4 Appendix 1 (b)

Chapter 4 policy SS5 Melton North

Consultation Responses

CH4Q3: Response	CH4Q4: Suggested Changes	MBC Response
The Nottingham Road to Scalford Road section of the site will deliver development within the first 5 years of the plan period (e.g. up to 2021).	A delivery trajectory tailored to this part of the site is provided [Supporting documents- No. 49].	Support for delivery of housing up to 2021 is welcomed. Housing trajectory The optimism is appreciated and welcomed but the authority feels more comfortable with the approach set out in the plan. No change is proposed to the
Please see enclosed report Section 3 paragraph 3.2 - 3.2 [Supporting Documents - No 49].	The trajectory demonstrates that the Developers' site will be largely delivered within the first few years of the plan period. The trajectory assumes 2 sales outlets, with each achieving 3 sales per month. The Council's suggested trajectory fails to identify the disposal route for affordable housing. Whilst private units are disposed of two individuals, affordable housing is sold by a development in blacks as a sample to dispose the sample.	figures. The commentary in the text (para 4.6.2) confirms the promoters' trajectories, which identifies that we understand they have a more optimistic approach. If these sites do come forward faster than allowed for in the plan it would be welcomed. The requests to add " subject to viability " and " where a need has been identified " (or similar words) to
	by a developer in blocks, as completed development parcels, typically through a S106 agreement to Registered Providers. This means that the affordable unit sales are achieved in parallel with private sales as development parcels come forward. This has the effect of increasing overall completions on the site. In view of the above, Policy SS5 needs to reflect the more	various parts of this policy are noted and understood. But it is considered that policies should be complied with ,unless there are exceptional reasons for not doing so. Those reasons could relate to viability or need,but it is not considered necessary to explicitly refer to them in every policy. en6 Not accepted as this would dilute the authority's ambitions for
	realistic delivery trajectory identified above, recognising that the capacity of the NSN can be fulfilled within the plan period (e.g. up to 2,200 dwellings).	this policy.
	In accordance with matters identified in paragraphs 3.31 to 3.56, the following further amendments to Policy SS5 are recommended:	

• h1 should be re-worded to state:

"Up to 2,200 houses with at least 1,700 to be delivered by 2036, 37% of which should be affordable, subject to viability"

• Amend reference to C2 provision as follows:

"Extra care housing/ Use Class C2 to meet an identified need within the Borough, where viable in accordance with Policies

C2, C3 and C8"

• c1 should be revised to:

"A new two-form primary school (1.7 hectares) to be delivered alongside a local centre where possible and financial

contributions towards secondary education to meet the identified need for school places"

• c2 should be revised to:

"An accessible local centre that will incorporate a mix of uses including small scale retail (up to 200 square metres), officebased

employment and other community and healthcare facilities, subject to viability and where a need has been

identified"

• t1 should be revised to:

"A comprehensive package of transport improvements informed by an appropriate transport assessment will be delivered

subject to viability and phasing to be agreed with the Council. This will include..."

• en6 should be revised to:

"A development that complies with building regulations for energy efficiency and carbon emissions"

• The second sentence of the first paragraph under the Masterplanning and delivery subheading should be amended

to state:

"In order to achieve a comprehensive approach, the masterplan should be prepared for the whole NSN. Sufficient

indicative detail will be provided and agreed with the Council in respect of any land within the NSN falling outside the red

line boundary of a planning application..."

The amendments are recommended in order to ensure that Policy SS5 is sound and that development can be

viably delivered	
for the NSN within the plan period.	

This will not preserve the rural ambience of the area.	Large scale developments are not wanted by residents	Accepted that large scale development is not welcomed by some local residents .
These two policies allocate large scale strategic development (Sustainable Neighbourhoods), which include a high level of large infrastructure development for the Borough. 65% of all planned residential development, totalling 3,500 dwellings, during the plan period will be directed towards the 'Melton Mowbray Main Urban Area'. The principle of strategic growth in the Borough is supported, however this 'putting your eggs in one basket' approach is not supported as this will not deliver much needed homes in a timely fashion as directed by the NPPF. The Borough Council are already unable to demonstrate a five year housing land supply, largely as a result of lack of strategic sites not delivering as anticipated, yet the Borough still wish to pursue this method of housing distribution.	Development should be more evenly distributed through the Borough with a variety of settlements accommodating development to meet local housing needs and support the requirements of the Borough. Appropriate housing delivery can be achieved across all settlement categories including 'Rural Settlements' where development is suitable and appropriate, which should not be restricted to such small scale delivery e.g 3 dwellings or less, when appropriate development, such as 10-15 units may be more appropriate in some settlements, whilst none is appropriate in others.	The distribution of housing follows the spatial strategy, which takes account of the ability of different settlements to accommodate development . The authority currently has a 5 year housing land supply.
The trajectory for the delivery of the housing within these development sites are seriously questioned. An assumption has been made that each of the sites will deliver 100 dwellings per year, based on		

two developers operating concurrently on each site (50 dwellings each). However Policy SS4 requires delivery of 2,000 dwellings, some 20ha of employment land for a mix of use classes, as well as provision of a new primary school, local centre (including parade of shops, A2-A5 use classes, small scale employment opportunities, and non-retail and community facilities), as well as a strategic road link connecting the A606 to the A607 to form the outer western relief road to Melton Mowbray, a number of new and enhanced bus services as well as important environmental objectives. Policy SS5 is similar in its requirement to deliver 1,500 dwellings, employment land, community facilities, a strategic road link connecting the A606 to Nottingham Road form the outer western relief road to Melton Mowbray.

Both allocation requires comprehensive master plans preparing, as part of the requisite planning applications; incorporating all development elements into the masterplan i.e. employment, housing etc... It is likely that the preparation of such work is likely to take at least 12 months (including survey work), followed by the application itself,

which, including the S106 legal agreement is likely to take a further 18 months. Upon receipt of outline planning permission, should it be granted, reserved matters applications will need to be prepared (a further 6-12 months) with determination a further 6 months minimum. This process therefore could take a minimum of 4 years (on each Sustainable Neighbourhood) before gaining detailed permission. That would led to at least 2021/22, when the Council have assumed delivery of 400 dwellings across the two Neighbourhoods. Neither site will have delivered any units by this stage. As set out above, large infrastructure will need to be in place as part of the allocations, relief roads, primary schools etc prior to residential development being delivered. Delivery of the required infrastructure takes a significant amount of time and money. It may even be that residential development is not delivered in the period 2021-2016 where the council assumes a further 1,000 units will be delivered. In their 1999 Local Plan, the Council allocated a 'New Village' (Policy NV1) to

deliver approximately 1,200 new homes, employment land, retail, community facilities including a village hall, public open space, landscaping, highway infrastructure including the provision of the Melton Mowbray southern and western bypasses and links to it; the 'New Village' was never delivered. Unfortunately the Council have not learnt from the non-delivery of strategic sites, now seeking to allocate 65% of its requirements across just two large scale strategic sites. The need for large scale infrastructure to facilitate the planned strategic growth will cause delays, whilst small/medium scale sites in other settlements, including 'Rural Settlements', could come forward and deliver appropriate development with minimal delay since the level of infrastructure required will be far less. In addition to the above, we are concerned that the overall level of housing need (6,125 over the plan period; 245 per annum) is based on the 2014 SHMA, when the Leicester and Leicestershire wide Housing and

Economic Development Needs Assessment (HEDNA) will be published for stakeholder consultation early in 2017 and is intended to supersede the SHMA. We support the desire to progress the Local Plan swiftly, but it is vital that it takes full account of the most up-to-date evidence on both housing and employment needs, which is not available at the time of this consultation. Clearly this will have an impact on many of the Local Plan policies. In the event the SHMA identifies a greater housing need there will need to be alternative options for delivering the additional requirement. Smaller scale sites will assist in delivering this whilst maintaining vitality in villages.

The Council are currently unable to demonstrate a requisite five year supply of housing. By distributing residential development as proposed the delays of delivering the infrastructure required prior to delivering the much need new homes, will only seek to further exacerbate the housing delivery issue within the Borough.

T1: A comprehensive package of	T1-A and B : Stop / Limit building until the correct road	The latest transport modelling evidence shows
transport improvements : 'A' suggests a	infrastructure is in place.	that the northern and southern distributor
link road from A606 to Melton Spinney.	'	roads would provide some relief in their own
This alone without a link to the A607		right/as standalone measures. The eastern
Grantham road will only serve to increase		section will be delivered as funding becomes
traffic on Melton Spinney Road which is	T1-E and T2-B: Allocate additional space for these links	available, potential interim measures to
an unclassified road not designed to take	outside the country park Northern boundary to maintain	provide traffic relief in the town will be
the volume of traffic. The current	the ecology and open aspect.	considered as part of the wider transport
junction onto the A607 is at times very		strategy.
busy and during busy periods at Twin		3,
Lakes Park on Spinney road traffic tails		
back several hundreds of meters.		
B: north/south connectivity can only be		
achieved after completion of a bypass to		
the east or west. This is required NOW to		
prevent severe congestion in Melton.		
E: Provision of new walking and cycle		
links as part of the proposed		
development:		
T2-B: Well-		
connected street patterns and walk		
able neighbourhoods		
providing high quality, safe and direct		
walking, cycling and public transport		
routes including links using the green		
infrastructure network; Both of the above		
points have impacts on the country park		
my views on this have been documented.		
In the case of Melton Mowbray itself it's		Noted
role as the primary urban centre is at		

least not in dispute, nor can it be	
questioned that it contains the majority	
of employment opportunity. Unlike the	
rural areas it is also compact and dense	
enough to realistically improve internal	
transport infrastructure and encourage	
'green' behaviours such as using public	
transport, walking and cycling to work or	
school. This is simply because the homes	
are likely to be closer to workplaces and	
facilities.	
page 42 paragraph 4.5.4	The relationship between the SUE and Melton
	Country Park is addressed by paragraph 4.5.7
Given that the Country Park can have no	and the Environment section of Policy
lighting since it is QE2 Field in Trust I find	SS5,including paras en3 A and en3 B. The
it difficult to see how the opening	need for and benefits of the transport
sentence can apply and perhaps more	infrastructure is explained in detail in Chapter
importantly on what evidence did MBC	8 and supporting evidence
rely in making such a statement to make	
things worse the roads mentioned do not	
improve connectivity to the town centre	
they are just bits of roads from nowhere	
to nowhere hoping to grow into	
something more meaningful in several	
years time if the government of the day is	
willing to provide the relevant funds.	
page 43 map	
I assume the road is merely indicative but	
suspect it will sit on the northern extreme	

of the "SUE". It turns the country park into a town park. Presumably this squeezing of park access and surrounding the park with houses is to maximise developer road contribution. Such blatant disregard for the park is not acceptible although consistent with the manner in which the park has been blighted by earlier council planning decisions particularly those off Scalford Road. The plan seems to suggest the wildlife corridor will be no more than the width of the disused railway line.

Presumably no-one involved with preparing the plan knows anything about the regular traffic diversions through Melton entering via Thorpe Road when the A1 has problems in or around Grantham. Equally they cannot be aware of traffic issues on the same stretch of road caused by commuters to Mars at Waltham and they must be oblivious to the fact that Twin Lakes Park is the largest tourist destination in the town creating traffic congestion in the same locality. if they had been so aware then they would not have stopped the distributor road outside Twin Lakes and they would have realised that Melton Spinney Road could not cope with any extra traffic as it is in part little better than a country lane which also has the

benefit of flooding if there is a slight amount of rain. The terms unsound, unsustainable, not fit for purpose all fit but the most apt description is unfortunately totally stupid

page44 SS5 Housing

This is not true. The developers will not fund the road and deliver 37% affordable housing. MBC knows that so why not be truthful. Not sure whether knowingly making false statements makes the document unsound but it should do so.

In c2 who decides what is necessary and if everything is so uncertain why include anything in the document

Transport t1 A

In reality this is a road that goes from nowhere to nowhere across the top of a huge housing estate. All the roads it crosses will feel the added burden of congestion. Each part is to be developer funded so there will be gaps as the developments are phased making this "road" even more meaningless in the early years of the plan. Not sure what the wider agreed scheme is and assume that is just wishful thinking since there is no specific detail on that matter.

t1 B

This is a road that is not capable of being delivered by MBC nor indeed by Leicestershire County Council who are responsible for highways. Both these authorities want the road and have been given central government funding to create a business case. At best the consideration of funding the road will be heard in 2022. Work cannot start until later and given various infrastructure issues crossing road, rail and flood plain it is difficult to conceive any road being built and forming the north south link prior to the later stages of the plan period by which time most of the houses are planned to be built. How can this statement be made as there is no certainty of delivery and surely the local plan is meant to be evidence based and not just a list of hopes and aspirations.

t1 D

In recent times the local bus routes have been cut due to cost. The document accepts people work in Leicester which de facto is the location of local employment.. The buses to that city have also been reduced.

t1 E As mentioned earlier the c Country Park cannot be lit so this statement is wrong unless like the road people are to walk and cycle from nowhere to nowhere t2 A So the buses have been cut and reduced making many areas in the north without any available bus. The services which were cut were running hourly but had little support presumably because of cost. The plan is to encourage the bus providers to increase the service to every 20 minutes. That should be even less profitable for them and no doubt the developer will be asked to pay which probably means even less affordable housing en1 I suspect we are as residents excited by an improved town edge but may be even more so if the term were defined/clarified

en8

Contrary to MBC belief and apparent data I am sorry to say that Melton Spinney Road floods quite regularly and therefore according to this policy there should be no built development. 4.5.8 The 1,000 dwellings are mentioned but I could not see any reference to the location	
Late representations and 1200 signature petition - Reiterated comments above and request a 500m buffer north and east of the country park	A 500m buffer is not realistic or necessary . It would prevent the development of a very large area of the Sustainable Neighbourhood, making the whole proposal and associated road undeliverable. The existing polices and the need for a master plan should address local concerns.
I wish to object to the proposed local plan.In particular the previous inspector rejected the plan which allowed further development in the North I do not believe that the development without the completion of the Distributor Road is sustainable. The main grounds of my objection are increased traffic which will exacerbate as already difficult position; It is absolutely essential that the Distributor Road is completed before additional	The plan (this policy and policy IN2) takes account of the need to ensure that road infrastructure and/or contributions towards it will be provided as a component of new development. It is not anticipated that the whole road will be provided in advance of associated housing.

housing within the vicinity of Melton Spinney Road can be approved. Melton Borough Council has commissioned several reports from Independent experts which clearly indicate that the junction of Melton Spinney Road with Thorpe Road and the Thorpe Road traffic lights have at key times severe traffic problems. The proposal if accepted without Distributor Road would result in an unacceptable material impact to the safe and efficient operation of the highway network. Traffic generated by the developments are likely to result in severe impact on the A607 Norman Way/Thorpe End/B676 Saxby Road junction, with an associated knock-on impact on the wider highway network in Melton Mowbray Town Centre. In addition the environment around the country park will be damaged by allowing

housing to be built on all sides of its boundaries. The pan allows for a 30%		
increase in the population but does not		
allow for additional medical resources.		

The NSN is to have at least 1,500 homes built between now and 2036. There are several points against the NSN and which make it unsustainable, unsound and unjustifiable:

1. The sheer size of the development will put untold pressure on the already heavily

congested roads in the north of the town. The north of town roads such as Thorpe Road,

and Scalford Road are too narrow and with housing on both sides of the roads there is no

room for carriage or pathway widening. There is certainly no room for cycle lanes.

2. The Melton Country Park will be virtually shut off from the countrywide and the pathetically

small strip of land suggested by MBC as the wildlife corridor for the Country Park is totally

inadequate. The amount of housing planned to run alongside the Country Park will have a

1. The need for and benefits of the transport infrastructure is explained in detail in Chapter 8 and supporting evidence.2&3. The relationship between the SUE and Melton Country Park is addressed by the Environment section of Policy SS5, including paras en3 A and en3 B. The details of layout ,including the provison of wildlife corridors and the protection of biodiversity sites, would be included in a master plan .4 & 5. The precise route of the road has to be agreed. In accordance with para t1 A it will be provided by the developers of the SUE. 6. Agricutural land quality has been taken into account in the allocation of this SUE, 7&8. In addition to response to 1 above it is noted that as part of the Melton Mowbray Distributor Road Options Appraisal Report work (2016), the northern distributor road was assessed as a standalone measure and was found to provide a material benefit to the town centre, albeit not to the extent of the MMDR in its entirety or to the level necessary to mitigate the impact of growth across the town as a whole.9. Noted . Additional development in sustainable locations should help to make the retention and provision of public transport more attractive to operators. 10. The allocations in the Plan have been subject to sustainability and environmental assessment, including flooding and drainage. As individual applications are submitted they will need to be supported by flood risk assessments .Policy

detrimental effect on the wildlife of the	EN11 seeks to minimise the risks of flooding.
Country Park and could affect its status as	
a QE2	
Fields in Trust park. Indeed has QE2	
Fields in Trust been consulted or even	
approached regarding the implications of	
the Local Plan to the Melton Country	
Park?	
3. Traversing the Country Park can only	
pe done safely during daylight hours as	
there is no	
ighting in the Park (a stipulation of the	
QE2 Fields in Trust). During winter time	
the route	
could not be safely used by children going	
to or from school due to the short	
daylight	
nours. MBC thinks they can rely on the	
Country Park to provide enhanced	
connectivity to	
the town centre which shows either a	
deplorable lack of respect for the Park's	
QE2 Fields in	
Frust status, and its importance for local	
wildlife particularly in the more sensitive	

northern		
part of the Park, or a totally inefficiency with regards to attempting to address the problem.		
4. A complete lack of understanding when it comes to link roads. A senior officer of MBC was		
heard to comment earlier this year that the proposed link between the Nottingham Road and		
Scalford Road would ensure that any development between the two roads would have a zero		
effect on the town. The suggestion being therefore that vehicles coming off the development		
will only want to travel between Nottingham Road and Scalford Road, having no desire to		
ravel to the west, south or east of the rown or even into the town itself. How can a comment		
ike that be justified?		
5. There is no detail in the Draft Local		

Plan which is supposed to cover development up to		
development up to		
2036, of how the so-called Distributor		
Road across the top of the Country Park is		
meant to be		
funded particularly as in order to avoid		
cutting off the Country Park, the section		
across the		
north of the Park will have to take the		
form of a bridge. This will be a costly		
affair and it is		
unlikely that developers will be prepared		
to fund that section (unless of course		
MBC decides		
to do a deal with the developers		
(unbeknown to the local residents)		
allowing them to build a		
LOT more homes than the 1,500		
mentioned in the Draft Local Plan.		
6. The farmland across the north of the		
town is of a higher quality than the land crossing the		
Crossing the		
south of the town.		
7. Most of the employment areas are to		

the south and west of the town with no		
direct		
connection with the north of the town		
except through the town itself. The		
largest percentage		
of people who work outside the borough		
work in Leicester and its surrounds.		
There is no		
direct connection with the south of the		
town except through the centre itself.		
8. Melton Spinney Road is a narrow		
country lane which has to cope with		
Twinlakes Park		
traffic. Twinlakes Park is a highly		
successful children's theme park and its		
entrance is on		
Melton Spinney Road. During school		
holidays in particular, the high volume of		
traffic		
attempting to leave the Park causes		
tailbacks from Thorpe End in the town all		
the way back		
up Melton Spinney Road. Thorpe Road,		
Melton Spinney Road and Thorpe Arnold		
Hill		

struggle to cope with the daily traffic going to and from Grantham. When the A1 is closed (as it frequently is), this can cause tailbacks up the Thorpe Road (A607 Grantham Road) from Thorpe End to a mile out of town near the golf course. The traffic is further exacerbated by the fact that Mars Petfoods has a major site just outside Waltham-on-the-Wolds and traffic at the beginning and end of the working day is very heavy. The fact that Twinlakes Park has opening hours of 10am to 6pm or 7pm sometimes, means that there are more than two 'peak periods' for Melton Spinney Road and Thorpe Road. 9. The bus service into town for estates off Thorpe Road and Melton Spinney Road was discontinued by LCC in February 2016 due to lack of funding. The only bus service into

the town is the Grantham to Loughborough hourly bus service which does not of course cover the estates. The roads are too narrow for cycle lanes and to walk from town to the current housing line of Thorpe Park on Melton Spinney Road is one mile. In fact for any new development in the north of the town, the walk from its edge into the town will be in excess of a mile. 10. Insufficient regard (actually no regard) has been paid to the fact that during wet weather a stream forms in the fields opposite Twinlakes Park and on Melton Spinney Road. This stream takes a diagonal line down the field and enters a ditch next to 17 Melton Spinney Road and also crosses the road itself for several yards. It eventually finds its way to Thorpe

Not relevant .Relates to Bottesford ,not Policy
SS5

over 400 homes forced upon us the		
Name Bottesford does not get ONE		
mention in this Sustainable		
Neighbourhood section. Why not?		
,		
Where are these new facilities to be		
offered? When will they be built? Will		
they be built before the homes?		
they be built before the nomes!		
Too many non-specific comments		
/unanswered questions here to be able		
to make a decision on whether this is a		
sound plan.		
Comments exactly as per SS4. This		Saa raspansa ta Balisy SSA
, ,		See response to Policy SS4
development must fund an equivalent by-		
pass segment.		
SUSTAINABLE URBAN EXTENSION	As discussed above, we would encourage the Council to	In the longer term this is a reasonable
	extend the proposed NSN and allocate a greater number of	suggestion ,which could be supported.
Policy SS5 – Melton Mowbray North	dwellings in this location.	However ,at present the additional dwellings
Sustainable Neighbourhood Draft Policy		which would be provided are not currently
SS5 seeks to deliver 1,500 homes as well	Land immediately to the east of the proposed NSN (to the	required in this location.
as employment, community facilities, a	east of Melton Spinney Road) is available, suitable for	
link road and other transport	development and deliverable. The land extends to	
improvements in an extension to the	approximately 12 hectares (see enclosed Land Registry	
north of Melton.	Plan and wider NSN Extension Plan for context). The site	
Horar or Meton.	could accommodate approximately 360 dwellings based on	
	a density of 30 dwellings per hectare.	
	a density of 30 dwellings per flectare.	
	It would appear logical to include this land, along with a	
<u> </u>	Tr would appear logical to illelade this land, along with a	

	wider land parcel to the east between Melton Spinney Road and the A607, in the NSN. This would provide an opportunity to extend the link road to meet the A607. It would also allow for an increase in housing numbers which would provide the Plan with greater flexibility.	
Strategic Assets 22. The following comments are made by Strategic Property Services Asset Management Group in relation to the County Council's role as landowner.		Noted. There is currently no need for the SUE to provide more dwellings, but if future reviews indicate any significant shortfalls the situaion will re-assessed.
23. Leicestershire County Council's principal land interest in Melton Borough it would seek to promote through the consultation process would be the land at Sysonby Farm, Melton Mowbray – this site forms part of the Melton Mowbray North Sustainable Neighbourhood for which a separate detailed collaborative response will be submitted.		
• The Council supports the proposed allocation of Melton Mowbray North Sustainable Neighbourhood which would include County Council owned land at Sysonby Farm. It notes that the site is capable of making a significant contribution to the infrastructure needs		

of the town. A flexible approach to		
master planning is requested to expedite		
delivery, and to note the scheme can		
deliver significantly higher numbers than		
the 1700 dwellings proposed in the plan		
period.		
Housing and Employment Growth		
4. Policy SS5 – North Melton Mowbray		
Sustainable Neighbourhood Transport		
• T1 B – In order to use this paragraph		
and refer to it as part of the planning		
process it would be useful to clarify the		
meaning of this point. It may be possible		
to combine with point A "strategic road		
link connecting the A606 Nottingham		
Road to Melton Spinney Road forming		
part of the MMDR and facilitating the		
wider scheme".		
maci soneme i		
Point D Perhaps could read '		
Sustainable new and enhanced'		
2.		
• T2 A – We would suggest removing the		
reference 20 min frequency and replacing		
with suitable and regular. This will		
enable consideration to be given to		

providing appropriate services for shift		
workers, school and other commuter		
patterns as well as regular services to the		
town centre.		
• 4.5.4 – Suggested change to "Walking		
and cycling connectivity to the town		
centre will be significantly improved. The		
development will also provide a new link		
road connecting the Scalford Road with		
the Nottingham Road. Supporting		
upgrades to Bartholomew's Way and		
Welby Road and an onward link to the		
A6006 will be considered as part of the		
Melton Mowbray Transport Strategy and		
will likely be secured through		
development specific mitigation."		
Master planning and delivery – should		
specifically include route of the		
distributor road.		
Policy SS5 – Melton Mowbray North		
Sustainable Neighbourhood		
29. The proposed allocation of the		
Melton Mowbray North Sustainable		
Neighbourhood, including LCC owned		
land at Sysonby Farm, is strongly		
supported. Further, the site is deliverable		
and capable of making significant		

contribution to the infrastructure needs of the town. The key deliverables other than housing numbers are seen as desirable but should be brought forward in response to evidence base and/or commercial demand. 30. It is essential to adopt a flexible approach to master planning of the Melton Mowbray NSN in order to expedite delivery. Within this process there is a need for landowners/ developers to commit to the location of uses and secure the line of the link road. Beyond that each should have the flexibility to bring forward development at a time appropriate to them within the context of the plan. In particular, the land between Nottingham Road and Scalford Road (partly in LCC ownership) has the ability to be brought forward, as a standalone site, at an early date to enable the 'pump priming' of infrastructure delivery. This approach would also support the delivery of housing numbers in the early years of the plan which appear dependant on the delivery of other sites within the Borough which currently appears to be lagging behind the required 245 per annum.

31. Whilst the allocation is strongly		
supported attention is drawn to the		
ability of the overall allocation to deliver		
significantly higher numbers than the		
1700 currently proposed. Accordingly,		
the 1700 should be considered as a		
minimum giving the opportunity to		
housebuilders to develop the site out at		
densities compatible with current market		
demand providing the potential to make		
up shortfalls elsewhere in the Borough.		
Growing Melton Mowbray through Large	modelling should include identification of impacts on the	awaiting comments from Highways - check
Scale Development Sites	wider highway network outside the Borough.	with Janna
This notes that development required in		
Melton Mowbray will be focussed in two		
new large scale 'sustainable		
neighbourhoods' to the north and south		
of the town.		
Paragraph 4.3.4 states that 'these		
developments will deliver new residential		
and business communities in the form of		
attractive and high quality new		
neighbourhoods and places supported by		
the infrastructure necessary to mitigate		
the impacts of growth.'		
However modelling should include		
identification of impacts on the wider		

	 , ,
The City Council notes that a new	
strategic link road will be provided to	
help deliver both the Melton Mowbray	
Sustainability Neighbourhoods which is	
expected to improve Melton Mowbray's	
east/west connectivity through a link	
road. By providing this new	
infrastructure, traffic movements from	
the new housing stock could gravitate	
towards Leicester (subject to robust	
transport modelling) as this may facilitate	
easier access to Leicester's employment	
and other opportunities. Whilst this could	
reduce the traffic impacts in Melton	
Mowbray, there is the potential to create	
adverse impacts on the existing transport	
network in Leicester. These areas may	
include the A47, A607 and A46. Any	
adverse impact in this area may be	
accelerated from proposed large scale	
housing growth in Charnwood and	
Harborough. Mitigation measures for	
Leicester's highway network may be	
required to support this new growth	
based on any strategic transport	
modelling findings.	
4.3 Growing Melton Mowbray	Suppport welcomed .
through Large Scale Development Sites	
Manager and the extended of the f	
We support the principle of the two new	

large scale 'sustainable neighbourhoods'.	
In addition to their intrinsic capacity to	
support the growth of economically and	
socially sustainable communities. They	
offer the opportunity to integrate	
development into the landscape and,	
through recognition of and engagement	
with the historic environment, achieve	
sustainable and durable communities	
with a sense of place.	
4.4.3 Welcome confirmation that the	
SSN will respect the town's heritage and	
that of the surrounding hinterland as well	
as giving critical consideration to the	
separation of Burton Lazars and its	
nationally important scheduled	
monument (SM should be marked on	
Figure 7). The latter occupies a key and	
visibly prominent location at the south-	
east end of the SSN. Design and form of	
the development at this key pinch point	
will be critical to achieving a sustainable	
and successful development.	
Page 48 paragraph 4.7.4 sets out the	Not relevant to Policy SS5;relates to Policy SS6.
approach in the event of significant	
shortfalls in housing are identified. Three	
potential areas for investigation are	
detailed. As indicated above, it is my view	
that a more robust and effective	
approach would be to include reference	
to the granting of planning permission for	
additional sites within or adjacent to the	

existing built up area of Melton Mowbray		
in addition to or as well as referring to		
the land west of Melton Mowbray which		
is in DAC use and therefore currently		
unavailable. Policy SS6 should be		
modified in line with the above		
suggestion.		
We refer to previous comments,		The latest transport modelling evidence shows
submissions and statements in this		that the northern and southern distributor
representation. If the allocation of		roads would provide some relief in their own
Melton North is to continue it should be		right/as standalone measures. The eastern
in addition to an allocation of Site		section will be delivered as funding becomes
MBC/049/13. The strategic road link		available, potential interim measures to
mentioned under the heading Transport		provide traffic relief in the town will be
(A) will not deliver any material benefits		considered as part of the wider transport
to Melton town centre unlike other		strategy.
development connected with the EDR.		
Now the preferred route has been		
identified, it will be a very significant		
length of time before any material		
benefits can be produced and indeed this		
development will exacerbate the		
problems which already exist in Melton		
town centre. See our comments under		
Vision above.		
Again, improved transport links, a move	Re visit the Sustainability Appraisal - listen to information	The distribution of housing follows the spatial
towards different modes of transport.	coming from the villages, build either in Melton and/or a	strategy, which takes account of the ability of
The villages north of Melton have a	new village near Melton.	different settlements to accommodate
dwindling bus service, the do not have		development . Other alternatives are
the room to encourage cycling, walking		addressed in Policy SS6.
etc, they do not have the room to		
expand. This plan is all based in Melton		
and Melton's needs, it has scant		

consideration for the wider borough.	
I.5.4 says that "Walking and cycling	Melton North SSN is well located to provide
connectivity to the town centre will be	sustainable links to the town centre. The
significantly improved."	sensitivity of Melton Country is recognised in
	Policy SS5 (en3A & en3B), which will ensure
How, when the Country Park has no	that any new infrastructure ,such as
lighting and being a QE2 Field in Trust can	pedestrian and cycle routes ,have regard to
have no	the special characteristics of this area. Details
	of other links will come forwards through the
lighting as it will significantly alter its	proposed masterplanning.
status particularly in the more sensitive	proposes master pranimage
habitat sections	
of the Park? Also there is no room for	
creating cycle lanes in the town from any	
of the roads.	
There does not appear to be any	
sustainable justification for this	
statement.	
It is noted that the development will	
provide a link road connecting Scalford	
Road with	

Nottingham Road. That of course is only part of the planned northern Distributor Road so why is the balance of that road not mentioned? The only rational conclusion is that deals have already been done with the landowners (including Leicestershire County Council) for a contribution towards funding the road as part of planning approval. From a transparency perspective it would be helpful to know if that is the case, and to comprehend the balance of any deal proposed between the council and the developers/landowners. Within this context one needs to consider the slashing of the affordable home requirements in exchange for road development contributions in respect of planning consents already given by the council in the south. If this part of the link road is

funded at the expense of the provision of affordable housing the Plan is unsound because it is contradictory and therefore not effective or indeed justified. If it is not so funded there is no apparent justification for the statement (isolating only that part of the road) and hence is unsound. 4.5 Figure 8 Although the Distributor Road (DR) is "indicative" one has to assume it will be placed at the northern edge of future development in the north of the town. According to the map of the North Sustainable Neighbourhood (NSN) Concept, the proposed development will finish opposite Twinlakes Park (TP). If there is to be no development on the northern side of the DR then where is the link between Melton Spinney Road and the A607 Grantham

Road to go - north or south of TP? All indicators point to there being no intention of linking Melton Spinney Road with the A607 Grantham Road. (See Appendix 4 Infrastructure Delivery Schedule which suggests the Eastern Distributor Road links to Thorpe Road and Melton Spinney Road). Instead all traffic will be expected to travel down Melton Spinney Road and join up with the A607 at the bottom of Thorpe Arnold Hill. The Plan contains many comments relating to improvements of existing roads/creation of roundabouts and junctions but makes no mention whatsoever of any improvement to Melton Spinney Road which is little better in parts than a country lane with no ability for two HGVs to pass each other. Even if the Eastern Distributor Road is

eventually funded and built, the junction between Melton		
Spinney Road and Thorpe Road will be a potential accident black spot and create even more		
raffic flowing to and from the NSN and P. If		
raffic is then expected to turn left out of Melton Spinney Road to travel uphill on the A607		
Grantham Road, this hill (called Thorpe Arnold Hill) will also become an accident black spot		
due to its narrowness and the sharp left nand blind bend at the top of the hill. This section		
of road struggles now to cope with the arge amount of farm machinery and HGVs that		
nave no alternative but to use this stretch of road. Surely to connect Melton Spinney Road		
with the A607 Grantham Road beyond Thorpe Arnold should be prioritised as to		

miss out		
this link would inevitably mean the northern section of the Distributor Road would just be a		
road to nowhere.		
The earliest possible delivery of the Eastern Distributor Road is sometime after 2022 and in		
the interim congestion and pollution levels will be beyond acceptable levels and the Plan fails		
to recognise this or allow for mitigation and is therefore unsound due to being not		
effective.		
There is clear indication that most of the northern edge of the Melton Country Park will be		
bordered by development which will turn the Country Park into a Town Park as the small		
corridor that has been left for wildlife is only the width of the disused railway line and its		

embankment which is not sufficient. It is also not clear how the Northern Distributor Road will cross the northern boundary of the Country Park which is the most sensitive part of the wildlife park. It is also not clear how this section of the Distributor Road will be funded as there will be no adjacent developer. The Inspector in his letter to the Council of 11th April 2013 explaining the inadequacy of the Core Strategy suggested that "the cutting off from the open countryside of the Country Park will also have an adverse effect on biodiversity". Since then the Country Park has acquired "QE2 Fields in Trust" status which arguably would be put in jeopardy by implementation of the Local Plan. There appears to be no evidence that the council has

consulted with the QE2 Fields in Trust organisation with regards to the Local Plan and its effect on the Country Park. Policy SS5 - Transport t1 suggests a "comprehensive package of transport improvements informed by an appropriate transport assessment". That assessment details a road link between the A606 **Nottingham Road** to Melton Spinney Road and refers to "securing a route that allows north/south connectivity". The former is clearly a desire to build a road based on funding by developers, the latter does nothing more than identify where an appropriate connecting road could be built. This is insufficient since without connectivity traffic congestion is such that development of any magnitude becomes unsustainable as indicated in the Jacobs report (see comments on SS1 above). Without the north/south link, the proposed Northern Distributor Road

finishing as it does on Melton Spinney Road does nothing to mitigate traffic flow within the town centre, exacerbates congestion and in reality is a road to nowhere.

Additionally apparently there will be "New and enhanced bus services connecting the development with the town centreandnew walking and cycle links". There are currently no direct bus links to the employment areas from the north of the town, and although there is a limited bus service along parts of Scalford Road and Nottingham Road, these do not continue into the evenings nor do they operate on a Sunday. Leicestershire County Council (LCC) withdrew its funding for the Centrebus Service No.18 in February 2016. There is now no town bus service for residents living in the Thorpe Road and Melton Spinney Road area. Presumably LCC stopped this hourly service because it was too costly but the Local Plan suggests the service will become every 20 minutes and yet the Plan does not explain how this is to be funded and consequently the Plan is unsound since there is no justification.

In addition the only safe area to cycle from the north of the town into the town

centre is through the Country Park, but there is no lighting provided in the Country Park which severely impacts on the use of the Country Park as a cycle way or indeed a walk way after dark. As part of its QE2 Fields in Trust status the Country Park cannot have night time lighting. en8: One assumes that the document has a misprint and that "MSSN" should read "MNSN". Apparently there should be no built development in areas that are at higher risk of flooding, and yet Melton Spinney Road floods with great regularity when there is rain lasting longer than about 2 hours. On that basis en8 suggests there should be no development leading on to Melton Spinney Road which contradicts other sections of the Local Plan which is consequently unsound since it is not effective or indeed justified.

4.5.8 There is mention of 723 dwellings without cross reference to any source document and similarly there is no indication as to how 3,980 has been derived. These numbers certainly do not appear in Appendix 1 dealing with site allocations. How can documents with contradictory numbers be sustainable? They are by definition unsound through lack of justification. 4.6.2 On a similar theme to that mentioned in 4.5.8 above the numbers of dwellings being delivered during the Plan period reflected in table 8 do not add up to the number of dwellings again if the numbers do not work and are inconsistent it can only point to an inadequate, unjustified, ineffective, unsound Plan.

This is a precise of one of the supporting documents - no online form has been submitted.

The Consortium reaffirms its support for the North Sustainable Neighbourhood allocation. Notwithstanding this support the Consortium states that the identification of 1700 dwellings for the site of which 1500 are to be delivered before 2036 does not represent the true capacity of the site and cannot be reconciled with the evidence supporting its allocation. The consortium have submitted supporting documents which go into great detail about proposing an updated land use budget and in this budget it states that the quantum number of dwellings is 2,200 on some 71 hectares. The updated land use budget covers 12 land use components giving a total area for the NSN of 109.53hectares. These 12 components identified in the supporting document have informed the preparation of a revised illustrative Development Framework plan for the NSN (this is included in the supporting documents). The supporting documents provide evidence of delivering these land use components including an explanation of a proposed housing trajectory

In accordance with paragraphs 3.31 to 3.53 of the supporting document the following amendments are recommended to ensure that Policy SS5 is sound and that development can be viably delivered for the NSN within the plan period:

- 1) SS5 h1 should be re-worded to state "up to 2,200 houses with at least 1,700 to be de3livered by 2036, 37% of which should be affordable, subject to viability."
- 2) Amend reference to C2 provision to state "Extra care housing to meet an identified need within the Borough, where viable in accordance with Policies C2, C3 and C8."
- 3) c1 should be revised: " A new two-form primary school (1.7 hectares) to be delivered alongside a local centre where possible and financial contributions towards secondary education to meet the identified need for school places."
- 4) c2 should be revised: "An accessible local centre that will incorporate a mix of uses including small scale retail (up to 200 sq. mts), office based employment and other community and healthcare facilities, subject to viability and where need has been identified."
- 5) t1 should be revised: "A comprehensive package of transport improvements informed by an appropriate transport assessment will be delivered subject to viability and phasing to be agreed with the Council. This will include ..."

Support for delivery of housing up to 2021 is welcomed. Housing trajectory The optimism is appreciated and welcomed but the authority feels more comfortable with the approach set out in the plan. No change is proposed to the figures. The commentary in the text (para 4.6.2) confirms the promoters' trajectories, which identifies that we understand they have a more optimistic approach. If these sites do come forward faster than allowed for in the plan it would be welcomed. The requests to add " subject to viability " and " where a need has been identified " (or similar words) to various parts of this policy are noted and understood. But it is considered that policies should be complied with ,unless there are exceptional reasons for not doing so. Those reasons could relate to viability or need, but it is not considered necessary to explicitly refer to them in every policy. en6 Not accepted as this would dilute the authority's ambitions for this policy.

different to that of the Melton Local Plan. Evidence is also provided to suggest that the housing trajectory in the Melton Local Plan also fails to identify the disposal route for affordable housing and goes on to explain this point.

The supporting documents include plans/maps and a full critique of SS5, including housing (different types/mixes), care homes, employment, community facilities, transport, energy efficiency, development phasing, financial contributions, masterplanning and development delivery.

- 6) en6 should be revised: "A development that complies with building regulations for energy efficiency and carbon emissions"
- 7) The second sentence of the first paragraph under the Masterplanning and delivery sub-heading should be amended to state: "In order to achieve a comprehensive approach, the masterplan should be prepared for the whole NSN. Sufficient indicative detail will be provided and agreed with the Council in respect of any land within the NSN falling outside the red line boundary of a planning application..."

Do not adversely affect an area's sense of		Comments are an extract from Policy EN1
place and local		,which is not directly applicable to the North
distinctiveness; and		SSN.
6. Do not adversely affect areas of		
tranquility, including those		
benefiting from dark skies, unless		
proposals can be adequately		
mitigated through the use of buffering.		
Same comment as previous.		
Contradiction in terms when you are		
proposing to remove areas of tranquility		
by building housing, link roads and		
business infrastructure around existing		
homes.		
NHS centralisation issues as identified in	NHS centralisation issues as identified in Chapter 2.	See response to Chapter 2.
Chapter 2.	Wils centralisation issues as identified in chapter 2.	See response to enapter 2.
Supported		Support welcomed.
This also has all the advantages and is		
with the South scheme the most		
sustainable in the Borough. It ticks all the		
boxes opportunity for living and working		
in the same area public transport and		
walking and cycling routes. It also funds a		
great deal of the necessary infrastructure.		
Supported		Support welcomed.

This also clearly has all the advantages and is with the South scheme the most sustainable in the Borough. It ticks all the boxes opportunity for living and working in the same area public transport and walking and cycling routes. It also funds a great deal of the necessary infrastructure.		
The construction of a section of the proposed outer distributor road cannot be justified on traffic grounds and does nothing to promote sustainable transport as set out in NPPF paragraph 182, 29 -41.	Funding should be directed at improvement to the town centre such as constructing an inner relief road to remove through traffic from the south of the centre.	Disagree, the evidence supports the provision of a road as part of a package of transport improvements.
We are particularly pleased to see references to the Playing Pitch Strategy and the emerging Built Sports Facilities Strategy		Support welcomed.
The Deregulation Act 2015 specifies that no additional local technical standards		See response to comments on Policy D1 (Chapter 9) .
or requirements relating to the construction, internal layout or performance of		
new dwellings should be set in Local Plans other than the nationally described		
space standard, an optional requirement for water usage and optional		
requirements for adaptable / accessible		

dwellings. For energy performance the	
Council was only able to set and apply a Local Plan policy requiring an energy	
performance standard that exceeded the energy requirements of Building	
Regulations until commencement of amendments to the Planning and Energy	
Act 2008 in the Deregulation Act 2015 that date has now expired. So whilst the	
Council may still specify the proportion of energy generated from on-site	
renewables and / or low carbon energy sources it cannot set a local standard	
for energy efficiency above the current 2013 Building Regulations standard.	
Therefore references to policy requirements on energy efficiency and carbon	
emissions standards exceeding existing Building Regulation requirements in	
Policies SS4, SS5 and C1 should be	

deleted.	
William Davis Ltd has acquired an interest	Support welcomed
in approximately 7.6 hectares of land	
within the NSN (east of Scalford Road)	
and will be looking to bring forward	
housing delivery as early as possible. We	
therefore support the Council's selection	
of this site as an appropriate and	
sustainable option for meeting the scale	
of required strategic growth in housing	
numbers and associated infrastructure.	
The site is well placed to secure new an	
improved transport connectivity and	
effective integration with the existing	
built form and green infrastructure on	
this northern area of the town.	
William Davis is one of the largest	
privately owned house builders in the	
midlands and we have been providing	
quality homes for the last 80 years. We	
have experience of bringing forward a	
number of large sustainable	
neighborhoods both alone and in	
consortium with other house builders	
and look forward to working with the	
Council in bringing forward this exciting	
development. We have very recent	
experience in working in partnership with	
Harborough District Council and other	

developers (Hallam Land Management, Davidsons, and Linden Homes) in preparing the Masterplan for the Harborough SDA (1,500 dwellings). Planning permission for this was secured in May 2016 and first resreved matters, for the first phase of 79 dwellings are about to be submitted.

Policy SS5 provdes a robust framework for future delivery of the NSN although William Davis has a couple of concerns regarding points of detail.

Firstly the requirement at en6 that the development "exceeds building regulations for energy efficiency and carbon emission, where viable", is considered to be strictly contrary to Government Policy and therefore unsound. The Deregulation Act 2015 specifices that no additional local technical estandards or requirements relating to the construction, internal layout or performance of new dwellings should be set in Local Plans other than the nationally described space standard, an optional requirement for water usage and optional requirements for adaptable

/ accessible dwellings. It cannot set a local standar for energy efficiency above		
the current 2013 Building Regulations		
standard. This requirement of Policy SS5 should therefore be deleted.		
snoula therefore be deleted.		
Secondly, we consider that the reference		
to design codes exceeds what may be		
strictly necessary to ensure quality		
standards in design. In our experience a		
comprehensive Masterplan can be		
sufficient to ensure that high design		
quality is delivered without the need for		
design codes, which would automatically		
cause delay to the approval process. This		
is particularly the case where other		
policies in the Local Plan (such as that		
provided by Policy D1 in this Local Plan)		
provide a strong policy framework to		
support good design. Ig the NSN is to		
start to deliver homes n the period 2018-		
19, as assumed in the Council's trajectory,		
t seential that unncessary additional		
controls are avoided. The reference to		
Design Codes is therefore contrary is		
contrary to soundness tests as it will not		
be justified or effective.		
View SS4	View SS4	
The Pre Submission Draft Plan was	The Plan should be amended to make specific allocations	See response to this under Policy SS4
considered by Council at a Special	of land to deliver the proposed southern and northern	responses.
Meeting on the 20th October 2016. Late	sustainable neighbourhoods to Melton Mowbray. The	

amendments to the plan were presented as an Erratum at the Council Meeting, and included changes to Policies SS4 and SS5 relating to the Melton North and Melton South Sustainable Neighbourhoods to describe them as strategic development locations, to allow better opportunity for development of detailed composition following resolution of key issues.

It is not clear whether the Pre-Submission Plan is proposing the allocation of strategic sites to the north and south of Melton. The NPPF advises that any additional development plan documents should only be used where clearly justified (para 153) -PPG confirms the Government's preferred approach for each LPA to prepare a single Local Plan for its area (Paragraph 012, Reference ID: 12-012-20140306).

It is considered that the appropriate approach for the Council is to prepare a single Local Plan including both strategic allocations and other allocations in the more sustainable settlements. To ensure soundness and enable adequate testing of impacts, the plan should include sufficient details to demonstrate the proposed sustainable neighbourhoods are capable of yielding the necessary development in accordance with Section 39 of the Planning and Compulsory

Council should work with the site promoters to agree the form and extent of the proposed allocations.

T-	T
Purchase Act 2004. Given the key role the	
sustainable neighbourhoods play in	
delivering the strategy for the plan, it is	
important that these are included as	
specific allocations and shown on the	
Proposals Map. Before the plan is	
submitted to the Secretary of State, the	
Council should work with the promoters	
of the sustainable neighbourhood to	
agree the form and extent of the	
proposed allocations.	
Table 7 and Policy C1 – Housing	
Allocations Land to the East of Melton	
Spinney Road As discussed above, we	
would encourage the Council to extend	
the NSN to include land immediately to	
the east and to amend Policy C1 to	
allocate a greater number of dwellings in	
this location.	

The requirement for road infrastructure was based on a report from 2011 (Jacobs) estimating 2500 new houses. I understand we are now considering between 4000 and 5000 homes around Melton which only increases the immediate need for road infrastructure spending. The £2.8M from government for a feasibility study will not deliver conclusions for a 4/5 years after which there is no guarantees that capital for a relief road will be available. This situation could leave Melton with even more severe traffic problems than it currently has.

4.5.4 Concerened that the Northern SUE virtually encircles the country park, and to achieve walking and cycling links to the Northern SUE would require new lit paths and access points, which would severely damage wildlife which mainly uses the quieter Northern end of the Park, but also damage the open aspect of the country park, and its link to open countryside.

1. Stop or limit building until the correct road infrastructure is in place.

4.5.4 Walking and cycling into town: develop a buffer zone around the park to maintain open aspect to countryside and enable wildlife routes to open countryside. The old railway line currently shown on plans is not sufficient by a long way.

MMDR: what is latest report road is based on? When will feasbility study be complete? What is the likelihood of funding? New housing will need to be developed in step with provison of sections of the MMDR as it is the development that will be substantially funding large sections of the proposed road. The idea of a buffer zone around the park is included in Policy SS5en3B. Also the policy includes a commitment to consult key stakeholders on a masterplan for the SUE. Links from the development to the Country Park and safeguarding wildlife areas will be identified through the masterplanning process.