



Date: 05/01/23

Your ref: Melton: Local Plan Team Brenda: Our Ref: SD

Contact Mr Stephen Day-Designing out Crime Officer

Dear Brenda,

I am writing to you in my capacity as the Leicestershire Police Designing out Crime Officer (DOCO). I have been requested to comment on behalf of Leicestershire Police in relation to the proposed Local Plan as proposed by Melton Borough Council.

Leicestershire Police support the creation of safe environments which is a primary goal of any new development. Paragraph 92(b) of NPPF 2023 specifically provides that "Planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places which: ...

(b) are safe and accessible, so that crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion – for example through the use of attractive, well-designed, clear and legible pedestrian and cycle routes, and high-quality public space, which encourage the active and continual use of public areas;

Paragraph 97 a) & b) of NPPF 2023 states "Planning policies and decisions should promote public safety and take into account wider security and defence requirements by:

(a) anticipating and addressing possible malicious threats and natural hazards, especially in locations where large numbers of people are expected to congregate. Policies for relevant areas (such as town centre and regeneration frameworks), and the layout and design of developments, should be informed by the most up-to-date information available from the police and other agencies about the nature of potential threats and their implications. This includes appropriate and proportionate steps that can be taken to reduce vulnerability, increase resilience and ensure public safety and security; and

(b) recognising and supporting development required for operational defence and security purposes, and ensuring that operational sites are not affected adversely by the impact of other development proposed in the area".

Hence the inclusion of a police contribution to Leicestershire Police in Priority 2c.

Policing is a 24/7 service resourced to respond and deploy on an "on demand" and "equal access" basis and is wholly dependent on a range of facilities for staff to deliver this. A primary issue for Leicestershire Police is to ensure that new large-scale developments make adequate provision for the future policing needs that it will generate.



At present Melton Borough Council has Policing facilities where much of the policing activity for the Town is based. However, where additional development is proposed Leicestershire Police may seek to deploy additional staffing and additional infrastructures to ensure quality community-based policing. It would be complacent not to do this because without additional support unacceptable pressure will be put on existing staff and our capital infrastructures which will seriously undermine their ability to meet the policing needs of the development and maintain the current level of policing.

Therefore, Melton Borough Council are requested to work with Leicestershire Police by consulting with them on large-scale applications, firstly to gain their perspective from a design front and secondly to understand whether the associated growth would produce a need for additional policing infrastructure. If this is the case then Leicestershire Police will assess each application on an individual basis, by looking at the current level and location of available officers and then the demand associated with that development.

A request for developer contributions may then be submitted to go towards the additional infrastructure needed to maintain a sustainably high level of policing within the areas covered by Melton Borough Council.

For Your Information

Policing aspirations for the Melton Borough Council areas continue to be to provide a high-quality service including continued investment in existing estate and resources. Also included will be aspirations to maintain our efforts to protect the public in high foot fall public areas or areas where higher risk is considered. Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 states all relevant authorities have a duty to consider the impact of all their functions and decisions on crime and disorder. Leicestershire Police will work closely with our partners to design out these risks wherever possible.

Areas including public space, shop frontages and appropriate security such as shutters should include sympathetic design and be in keeping with local architecture, whilst still providing effective security. Other key areas where planning can support the local businesses includes the night time economy. Effective planning including lighting and use of CCTV, if required will reduce the risk of crime and disorder.

S106 Agreements and CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy)

Currently Melton Borough Council have a number of S106 Agreements in respect to new developments within the Melton Borough Council area in support of Policing. Also, no CIL funding is provided towards Policing, resulting in only statutory funding via the Policing precept and Government and S106 obligations. Where new demand is placed on Policing resources due to expansion Leicestershire Police, Melton Borough and people within Melton Borough area would benefit from support of the provision of S106/CIL and future S106 bids will be considered in support of Policing provision within the Melton Borough Council area.

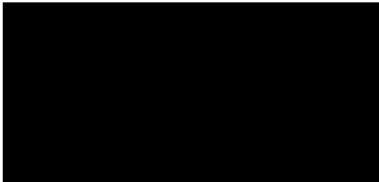


Consultations on Planning Applications

Current planning consultations referred to Leicestershire Police have provided the opportunity to comment on a number of applications. It would be beneficial if further comment continued to be referred in respect to large developments either residential or commercial. Also, where there is an increased risk of public safety via open space and large footfall as well as areas relating to changes to the night economy would be appreciated (Section 17 of Crime & Disorder Act 1998). Traveller provision is another area where Policing considerations are recommended wherever possible for comment.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards



Mr Stephen Day,
Designing out Crime Officer,
Leicestershire Police.