

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Melton Pre-submission Local Plan. The following comments are submitted on behalf of Anglian Water. I would be grateful if you could confirm that you have received this response.

Policy EN9 – Ensuring Energy Efficient and Low Carbon Development

(Legally compliant, sound, complies with duty to co-operate)

We support the requirement to phase development to ensure that there is wastewater treatment capacity available to serve new developments. This would be consistent with the requirement for the foul sewerage network set out in Policy EN11 (as amended).

Policy EN11: Minimising the risk of flooding

(Unsound – not effective)

Anglian Water is generally supportive of Policy EN11 of the Local Plan as we support the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDs) to reduce risk of surface water and sewer flooding.

However Policy EN11 requires the submission of a Flood Risk Assessment which incorporates Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDs) for all sites located within flood zones 1 and 2 but not flood zone 3. It is considered that the requirement for SuDs should apply to all major development as set out in the Planning Practice Guidance and not just those located within Flood Zones 1 and 2.

Reference is also made to the foul sewerage network following comments previously made by Anglian Water as part of the emerging options consultation. We welcome the reference to the foul sewerage network in Policy EN11 but consider it should be amended to make it clear what the applicant is being asked to consider as part of the planning application process.

It is therefore suggested that to make the policy effective the wording of Policy EN11 should be amended as follows:

'Proposals will need to demonstrate that there is capacity ~~of~~ **within** the foul water sewerage network ~~has been considered~~ **or that capacity can be made available prior to the occupation of the development.**'

Policy EN12: Sustainable Drainage Systems

(Legally compliant, sound, complies with duty to co-operate)

Anglian Water welcomes the reference made to the inclusion of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDs) as part of major developments. We support the use of SUDs to reduce risk of surface water and sewer

flooding.

Policy IN2: Infrastructure Contributions and Community Infrastructure Levy

(Unsound – not effective)

It is noted that utilities infrastructure is identified as being essential development for the purposes of seeking contributions from developers. The first paragraph of Policy IN2 and the related supporting text (paragraph 8.10.2) refer to the use of CIL charges and planning obligations.

Foul network improvements are generally funded/part funded through developer contribution via the relevant sections of the Water Industry Act 1991. The cost and extent of the required network improvement are investigated and determined when we are approached by a developer and an appraisal is carried out.

Similarly water infrastructure provision will be dependant on location and scale of the development and contributions for upgrades or strategic schemes will be obtained through provisions in the Water Industry Act 1991.

As set above we seek contributions directly from developers in accordance with the provisions of the Water Industry Act 1991. Therefore Anglian Water would not expect there to be provision within planning obligations or the Council's CIL Charging Schedule for water and water recycling infrastructure within our area of responsibility.

Therefore it is proposed that Policy IN2 is amended to make it clear that CIL charges and planning obligations will not be sought for water and wastewater infrastructure.

Participation at Examination

We would like to reserve the opportunity to appear at the hearings which will be held as part of the Examination where we have sought a modification to the wording of the Local Plan as set above.

Should you have any queries relating to these comments please let me know.

Regards,

Stewart Patience

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