

Planning Policy Team
Melton Borough Council
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15th December 2016

Dear Sir/Madam

Pre Submission draft Melton Local Plan

Highways England welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Pre Submission draft Melton Local Plan which covers the period 2016-2036. It is noted that the Council considers that this document is ready to be submitted to the Government for independent examination and that this constitutes the final consultation stage.

Highways England has been appointed by the Secretary of State for Transport as strategic highway company under the provisions of the Infrastructure Act 2015 and is the highway authority, traffic authority and street authority for the Strategic Road Network (SRN). It is the role of Highways England to maintain the safe and efficient operation of the SRN whilst acting as a delivery partner to national economic growth. In relation to this consultation, Highways England's principal interest is safeguarding the operation of the A52, with a small section of it routing through the north of the Borough, as well as the A46 and A1 routing to the west and east of the district respectively.

Highways England has recently provided comments in response to the Council's Local Plan Emerging Options consultation document in March 2016. It notes that the housing and employment proposals within the current consultation document remain the same as those set out in the Local Plan Emerging Options consultation document. These proposals include 6,125 dwellings and 51 hectares of employment land of which 65% of housing growth will be designated to the Melton Mowbray Main Urban Area. The remaining 35% of housing growth will be distributed between Services Centres and Rural Hubs.

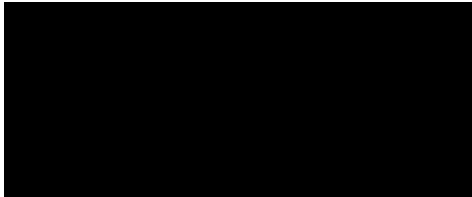
Given that the majority of growth is set to come forward across the Melton Mowbray Main Urban Area, and, considering the distance of this area from the SRN, Highways England does not consider that this will have impacts upon its network.

Highways England has previously provided comments regarding the development planned at Bottesford which is located in close proximity to the A52. Highways England notes that the housing allocation for Bottesford has increased from 370 dwellings to 428 dwellings in the current consultation document. Highways England considers that individual development sites in Bottesford are likely to have limited impacts on the

operation of the A52 but that where impacts are anticipated they should be capable of being addressed through the development management process.

Highways England has no further comments to provide and trusts that the above is useful in the progression of the Melton Local Plan.

Yours sincerely,



Scarlett Griffiths
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