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Dear Sir/ Madam,

A46 – Regulation 16 consultation (submission version) on Asfordby Neighbourhood Plan

National Highways welcomes the opportunity to provide our comments on the Regulation 16 consultation for Witherley Neighbourhood Plan (NP) which covers the plan period from 2011 to 2036.

National Highways 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 our role 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, our principal interest is safeguarding the operation of the A46 in the area.

We understand that a Neighbourhood Plan is required to be in conformity with the relevant national and local policies. We note that this is acknowledged within the document and that it has been prepared in accordance with Melton Local Plan 2011 – 2036 which was adopted in October 2018.

Asfordby Parish contains three settlements: Asfordby Village, Asfordby Valley and Asfordby Hill and housing development sites have been allocated within these

settlements in the Melton Local Plan. Developments at these allocated sites are either due to start soon with planning permission, or in the construction stage already.

We note that this NP does not need to allocate additional housing sites since the housing requirements have been met. Nonetheless, three brownfield development sites have been identified in the Parish to enable future growth. In total, they could provide 177 dwellings. Particularly, the redevelopment of Holwell Business Park potentially provides no more than 100 dwellings.

Considering the limited level of growth proposed across the NP area, we do not anticipate significant impacts of the proposals on our SRN's operation. We also note that the NP does not include any schemes to the SRN either.

In line with the above, we have no further comments to provide and trust that the above is useful in the progression of the Asfordby Neighbourhood Plan.

Yours sincerely,

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