

Your ref: Proposed Main Modifications Melton Local Plan

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Dear Sir/Madam

## **CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSED MAIN MODIFICATIONS TO THE MELTON LOCAL PLAN**

Highways England welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Proposed Main Modifications to the Melton Local Plan, which covers the period 2011 to 2036. We note that this consultation is required to make the Local Plan sound in response to Examination in Public hearing sessions which took place between the 30<sup>th</sup> January and 9<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

Highways England has been appointed by the Secretary of State for Transport as a 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 A52 which routes through the northern section of the Plan area, as well as the A46 and A1 which route to the immediate west and east of the Plan area respectively.

We note that no changes have been made to the overall housing and employment land allocations since the Pre-Submission Melton Mowbray Local Plan consultation in December 2016. In our response to this consultation document, we raised no concerns with the overall scale of development being proposed, set at 6,125 dwellings and 51 hectares of employment land. This was on the basis that the majority of this growth is planned to come forward across the Melton Mowbray Main Urban Area which is located some distance from the SRN. Given that no changes have been made, we maintain this position.

We understand that the housing allocation for Bottesford remains at 324 dwellings which was adjusted in the Addendum of Focused Changes consultation in August 2017 from 370 dwellings. Due to the close proximity of Bottesford to the A52, there could be

some limited impacts on its operation which should be addressed through the development management process as the sites come forward. We note that there have been some other changes to small housing allocations but we do not consider that these changes will impact upon the operation of the SRN.

We have no further comments to provide at this stage and trust that the above is useful in the progression of the Melton Local Plan.

Yours Sincerely,

Scarlett Griffiths  
Spatial Planning and Economic Development Team