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24 August 2017

Dear Sir/Madam

## **CONSULTATION ON THE SUBMISSION VERSION BROUGHTON AND OLD DALBY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Highways England welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Broughton and Old Dalby Neighbourhood Plan which covers the period 2017-2036 and has been produced for public consultation. We note that this document provides a vision for the future of the Parish of Broughton and Old Dalby and sets out a number of key objectives and planning policies which will be used to help determine planning applications.

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 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 the Broughton and Old Dalby Neighbourhood Plan, our principle interest is safeguarding a section of the A46 which borders the Neighbourhood Plan area to the west.

We understand that a Neighbourhood Plan is required to be in conformity with relevant national and Borough-wide planning policies. Accordingly, the Neighbourhood Plan for Broughton and Old Dalby is required to be in conformity with the emerging Melton Local Plan and this is acknowledged as a requirement within the document.

We acknowledge that there is a residual requirement for 28 new homes up to 2028 but note that between April 2016 and March 2017, planning permission was granted for 61 dwellings within Old Dalby village and 37 dwellings elsewhere within the Parish. Further housing will therefore be restricted to windfall development and in this context; we do not consider that there will be any impacts on the operation of the SRN.

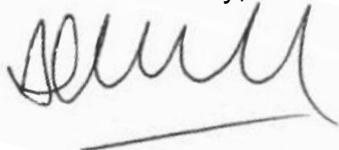
Highways England notes that there remains uncertainty around the development of a 3,000 dwelling site at Six Hills. The site is currently excluded from the Neighbourhood Plan and therefore is not the subject of this consultation, but we would expect that if it came forward, there could be significant impacts on the operation of the A46, particularly at the A46 Hobby Horse junction. Therefore we welcome the fact that the

Neighbourhood Plan would be amended accordingly should this site ever be further progressed.

In our previous response to the pre-submission version of the Neighbourhood Plan, we had highlighted that the A606 and A6006 had been set out as trunk roads and considered that the term 'principal roads' would be more appropriate given that they are not part of Highways England assets. We note that this amendment has been made and this is welcomed.

We trust that the above is useful in the progression of the Broughton and Old Dalby Neighbourhood Plan.

Yours sincerely,



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