

Our ref:
Your ref:

Eri Wong
Spatial Planning Manager

Planning Policy
Melton Borough Council
Parkside, Station Approach
Burton Street
Melton Mowbray
Leicestershire
LE13 1GH

Midlands Operations Directorate
Highways England
Stirling House
Lakeside Court, Osier Drive
Annesley, Nottinghamshire
NG15 0DS

Direct Line: 0300 470 0842

Via Email: planningpolicy@melton.gov.uk

14 January 2021

Dear Sir/Madam,

Consultation on the Submission Version of the Bottesford Neighbourhood Plan – Regulation 16 Consultation

Highways England welcomes the opportunity to comment on the submission version of the Bottesford Neighbourhood Plan which has been produced for public consultation and covers the Plan period of 2020 to 2036. The document provides a vision for the future of the Plan area, which encompasses the villages of Bottesford, Easthorpe, Muston and Normanton, 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 Bottesford Neighbourhood Plan, Highways England's principal interest is in safeguarding the operation of the A52 Trunk Road, which routes through the Plan area, and of the A1 and A46 Trunk Roads routeing approximately 2km to the east and 9km to the west of the Plan area respectively.

Highways England previously reviewed the pre-submission version of the Bottesford Neighbourhood Plan and provided comments in a response letter dated 30 September 2020. This confirmed that the growth proposed across the Neighbourhood Plan area for the plan period was not expected to have any impacts on the operation of the SRN.

Having reviewed the submission version of the plan, we note that no changes are made to the proposed levels of growth.

It is noted that the Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish of Bottesford is required to be prepared in conformity with the adopted Melton Local Plan (2011-2036) and this is acknowledged within the document. The adopted Melton Local Plan classifies Bottesford as a Service Centre and allocates four sites for the delivery of minimum 357 dwellings in this village. We understand that part of these sites has already been approved (with about 200 dwellings having received planning permission), whilst the remainder is subject to live planning applications (ref. 20/00388/OUT and 20/00009/OUT). Easthorpe is defined as a Rural Hub and the two sites totalling to 21 dwellings that were allocated in the Local Plan have been granted planning permission. Muston and Normanton are defined as Rural Settlements and no sites were allocated in the Local Plan.

Policy 1 of the Neighbourhood Plan outlines the requirements that must be met for the approval of any additional developments in the Plan area. Based on Policy 1, the size of any housing proposal will be limited to up to 10 dwellings in Bottesford, 5 in Easthorpe and 3 in Muston and Normanton.

In light of the above, we confirm that our previous position remains unchanged, i.e. due to the limited size of the additional development being proposed on top of the sites allocated within the Melton Local Plan, we do not foresee any issues relating to the contents of the proposed Bottesford Neighbourhood Plan on the operation of the SRN in the Plan area. However, we recommend that any proposal that could impact on the SRN is referred to Highways England for consultation.

We have no further comments to provide and trust that the above is useful in the progression of the Bottesford Neighbourhood Plan.

Yours sincerely,



Eri Wong
Midlands Operations Directorate
Email: Eri.Wong@highwaysengland.co.uk