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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 07 July 2025 17:57
To: Local Plan
Subject: Rugby Borough Local Plan Regulation 18 Consultation 2025

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Dear Local Plans Team,

Thank you for consulting West Northamptonshire Council on the Preferred Options draft of the Rugby Borough Local Plan. The progress that is being made on the plan and the opportunity to comment on the current consultation are welcomed.

Whilst raising no general objections to the spatial strategy presented through the Regulation 18 plan nor to the plans strategic policies, vision and objectives West Northamptonshire Council does raise observations in respect of some of the housing allocations proposed under Policy S6 (Residential Allocations) which need to be further considered in respect of their possible impact on the highway network and the character and functioning of an area of West Northamptonshire that is rural in nature, character and appearance in addition to impacts on its residents who access Rugby as their nearest town and contribute to its functioning as a successful market town.

Specifically these allocations are:

Allocation ref. 40 – East of Kilsby Road, Hillmorton (125 units)
Allocation ref. 334 – Land off Barby Lane, Hillmorton (380 units)
Allocation ref. 338 – South of Crick Road, Houlton (250 units)

The Council notes the presence of initial transport work as part of the evidence base supporting the Preferred Options Plan but strongly encourages further work to be undertaken and thoroughly considered prior to the plan progressing beyond Regulation 18 stage, with any impacts identified needing to be fully mitigated.

We would also urge that the representations of residents and parish councils in settlements adjoining Rugby are taken into consideration as the plan progresses both in relation to their observations on the draft plan and also unallocated Site 73 (Lodge Farm), which the Council is pleased to see is not proposed for allocation as it would have a significant impact on the area (as raised previously when this was initially proposed, in a smaller form, in the 2019 plan).

The Council would also welcome the inclusion and recognition of the qualities and sensitivities of the Rainsbrook Valley within the local plan, as set out in the 2017 landscape sensitivity study, and that this should inform any policies /proposals for this area.

Finally, whilst Policy I5 and the provision of new sustainable transport modes is supported we would ask that the potential wider benefits of the Rugby Parkway station are recognised beyond those to Rugby Borough and that efforts are made to improve connectivity and sustainable travel routes between the station and the nearby villages of West Northamptonshire.

Thank you once again for the opportunity to comment on the emerging local plan. As previously stated we are committed to continue to engage with you as part of the Duty to Cooperate.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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