

Oadby & Wigston Borough Council

Regulation 18B Preferred Options New Local Plan – Consultation Draft

Thank you for consulting North West Leicestershire District Council on this Preferred Options Draft Plan.

Housing requirements

North West Leicestershire District Council welcomes and supports your Council's intention to provide some 240 new homes per year through your new Local Plan. This figure comprises 188 dwellings to meet your standard method requirements and 52 homes to contribute to Leicester City's unmet need. This latter figure is agreed in the Leicester & Leicestershire Authorities - Statement of Common Ground relating to Housing and Employment Land Needs (June 2022).

We note that this commitment is 'subject to evidence' (1st paragraph, page 23). This version of the plan does not contain site allocations. Candidate sites are listed in Appendix 1 of the consultation document but detailed site assessments have not yet been completed. There is also further work to do on infrastructure requirements, including for transport.

Any shortfall below the figure agreed in the SoCG would need to be explained and justified. NWL may object to a plan that provides for less than 240 dwellings/year if the Borough Council has not rigorously explored reasonable ways to achieve the full requirement within the borough. This would be necessary to demonstrate that the plan is 'positively prepared' (NPPF paragraph 35).

Employment requirements

The consultation document reports that there is a need for 4.1 Ha of employment land comprising 1.0 Ha B1 use (now Class E(g)) and 3.1 Ha for B2/B8 (small) use. There is 5 Ha with outline planning permission and 3.22Ha on existing allocated sites which the Council proposes to roll forward into the new plan. Together these will exceed the evidence requirements. NWL supports the approach of meeting your employment needs in full with a margin for flexibility.