

Local Plan Committee – Wednesday, 28 January 2026

PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

QUESTION FROM MS GAYLE BAKER

The majority of sites included within your plan, will be part of large scale housing estates proposed by major promoters and building companies such as David Wilson homes and Gladman's. These developments have a much greater negative impact upon the area, community identity, heritage and wildlife, infrastructure flooding etc. There are relatively few smaller developments across the district. Hugglescote and Ashby are now unrecognisable and often grid locked, this has had a huge negative impact upon those communities. You now plan to treat Whitwick and Diseworth in the same way.

What evidence do you have that concentrating large scale developments in 2 unfortunate areas, for the period of your plan, will deliver the best outcomes for residents of NWLDC?

RESPONSE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE LOCAL PLAN COMMITTEE

- The Local Plan needs to allocate a sufficient supply and mix of sites in order to meet its housing requirement up to 2042.
- In order to be deemed sound by an independent Planning Inspector, the Council's strategy to meet housing needs must be justified, taking into account reasonable alternatives and based on proportionate evidence.
- Sites have been identified in accordance with an agreed distribution strategy, which includes a new settlement but also delivers housing in line with an agreed settlement hierarchy (approved for the Regulation 19 plan at 14 August 2024 Local Plan Committee). Sites have been assessed in accordance with a specified methodology and have undergone sustainability appraisal.
- The identification of sites is underpinned by a wide range of evidence. Some of that evidence, such as transport modelling, an infrastructure delivery plan, sustainability appraisal and a viability assessment is ongoing and will be completed by the time the Regulation 19 version goes out to consultation.
- All the Council's Local Plan evidence will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate, alongside the Regulation 19 version of the plan and will be examined by an independent Planning Inspector against the tests of soundness.