

30th September 2009

BOUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Richard Wood (Planning Policy – Daventry DC)

Dear Sir/Madam

West Northamptonshire Emergent Joint Core Strategy - Response

Boughton Parish Council (BPC) has reviewed the contents of the consultation document and resolved on behalf of the Boughton Parish electorate to submit the following points; in addition we have participated in a consortium of local village Parish Councils (Moulton, Pitsford, Overstone, Holcot, Sywell) to submit a more detailed response.

1. The principle of growth is acceptable provided it is sustainable, structured and well progressed with adequate Government funding to ensure that current frustrations and congestions are minimized.
2. A list of 'brown-field' sites should be determined and developed before any 'green-field' ones, to ensure many un-utilized opportunities are developed and rural environments are protected.
3. The central area of Northampton should be developed and regenerated in advance of any outlying areas to ensure it becomes a main attraction for many reasons from within and outside the County.
4. Funding for infrastructure should be guaranteed to ensure it is put in place before any subsequent developments take place to avoid current over capacity without any apparent improvement plans.
5. All proposals should be Planning Policy, Infrastructure and Public Services led to avoid the current Developer led situation.
6. The northern area should only be considered for suitable development when sufficient infrastructure and transport links have been installed, in accordance with Buckton Fields related Inspector requirements, to avoid current 'rat-runs' and 'congestions' in villages; as mentioned in our response to Issues & Options in October 2007.
7. There should be no coalescence of villages so as to maintain a rural environment and ensure agricultural land is maximized, also to limit village confines and infilling; in line with Daventry District's Policy on this issue.
8. Sound evidence must be available to support new jobs and houses; particularly in the current depressed economic climate.
9. Detailed and credible traffic impact assessments are necessary to be produced and maintained frequently to ensure both major and minor developments do not over impact on the highways network.

We believe the above have not been satisfactorily addressed in the consultation document so, therefore, resolve that the emerging core strategy proposals are both unsustainable and untenable.

Thank you in anticipation of receiving a copy of the consultation's outcome as soon as it is available.

Yours sincerely

Gordon Poole (Clerk)
FOR AND ON BEHALF OF BOUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL