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██████████
13 December 2018

Dear Sir

Consultation on the submission version of the Malvern Neighbourhood Plan

We welcome the opportunity to comment on the Submission version of the Malvern Neighbourhood Plan which covers the period 2015-2030. It is noted that the document provides a vision for the future of the area 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 Malvern Neighbourhood Plan, our principal interest is in safeguarding the operation of the M5 approximately 11km to the east.

We understand that a Neighbourhood Plan is required to be in conformity with relevant national and Borough-wide planning policies. Accordingly, the Neighbourhood Plan for the community of Malvern is required to be in conformity with the adopted South Worcestershire Development Plan (2016-2030) and this is acknowledged within the document.

We note that the Housing Needs Assessment undertaken by AECOM (February 2016) identified a requirement for 1,988 dwellings within the Neighbourhood Plan Area (NPA) for the period 2006-2030. We also note that between 2006 to 2016, 1,200 dwellings have been completed within the NPA. The Neighbourhood Plan supports the provision of 800 dwellings in North East Malvern and for approximately 300 dwellings at Malvern Technology Centre (QinetiQ).

Considering the level of growth already implemented, and the further proposed growth across the Neighbourhood Plan area we do not expect that there will be any significant impact on the operation of the SRN.

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

Yours faithfully



Fiona McKenzie
Asset Development Team
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