



Central Lincolnshire Local Plan Team
c/o North Kesteven District Council
District Council Offices
Kesteven Street
Sleaford
NG34 7EF

24th February 2017

Dear Sirs

Central Lincolnshire Local Plan – Main Modifications

I write to express my objections to the Proposed Main Modifications to the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan. I refer in particular to MM6 which I consider to be not a sound policy statement.

The modification has been proposed following representations made at the Public Examination concerning the growth level established for the village of Lea, when it was not clear, (and therefore the Plan was not sound), whether this was, as a medium village 15%, (67 dwellings), as LP2 and LP4, or as part of Gainsborough's expansion, (68 dwellings) as LP50, or as an amalgamation of both of these (135 dwellings).

MM6 now clarifies this in part; it rules out the last of these three alternatives, but further confuses the issues surrounding the first two, merely establishing that Lea is expected, by whichever means, to grow by 67/68 dwellings over the Plan period.

The statement: "The dwellings on this site (CL3044) in Lea count towards the 15% level of growth for Lea as set out in LP4" identifies LP4, (and therefore also LP2) as the determining policy for the growth in Lea.

The statement in paragraph 8.3.4 that "overall allocations amount to slightly above the target [for Gainsborough] and there is clear capacity for more growth" is clear evidence to show that Lea should continue to be treated as medium village settlement in its own right and there is no need for it to contribute to Gainsborough's growth target.

The inclusion of reference to LP50 in MM6 is, therefore, unnecessary and the need to justify the allocation of site CL3044 is irrelevant. Having to make Lea an exception to the policy to do so is a sign of how weak and unsound the policy is. The Modification is made more unsound by the further attempt to justify the allocation of site CL3044 in the statement: "the same is the case for Morton. As such, Lea and Morton were considered for allocation to help meet Gainsborough's growth needs. No sites were allocated in Morton but one site has been allocated in Lea". No reason is given for the non-allocation in Morton, although the "physical connection" referred to as the reason for an allocation in Lea is at least as strong between Morton as Gainsborough.

I suggest that all references to Lea in MM6 be deleted, together with the deletion of CL3044 from LP50.

This would make the Plan a more sound document.

Yours faithfully

A solid black rectangular box redacting the signature of Mrs D E Heppenstall.

Mrs D E Heppenstall