

CABINET - 9 FEBRUARY 2024**ITEM 11 - RESPONSE TO HARBOROUGH DISTRICT COUNCIL'S
LOCAL PLAN - ISSUES AND OPTIONS CONSULTATION****COMMENTS FROM MRS R. PAGE CC
(LUTTERWORTH DIVISION)**

I must thank officers for the resources invested to give such a detailed reply in such a short time to the detailed consultation document from Harborough District Council (HDC).

I am very grateful and I have no issues or complaint to the responses from the County Council in principle, my concerns are on the proposed housing growth.

Whilst I appreciate that the corporate view of the County Council is to support the unmet need of the City, the vast majority of my residents resist the suggested numbers as unacceptable, unsustainable and difficult to deliver.

Furthermore in the County Council's reply to question 8, a buffer of 15% to 20% is supported, when a 5% buffer would be quite reasonable to address uncertainties.

Being mindful of the need for infrastructure to be sustainable and the hidden costs of delivering developments with 40 % affordable housing , Biodiversity Net Gain and other s106 requirements in a volatile economic climate, developers' commitment to build out could be questionable.

The proposed hierarchy places lots of development on already over developed rural areas without the necessary infrastructure.

Whilst appreciating the need for responsible and sustainable development, my residents want to keep the countryside rural.

Keeping land for agriculture and for food production should be prioritised, rather than over-development, concreting over green spaces that will create surface water run-off, exacerbating potential flooding issues.

My residents have also had to endure an ever expanding Magna Park and the allocation in the last HDC Local Plan was well over the required need and therefore to suggest any further expansion is not supported by residents.

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