

**Matter 2 Written Statement – Spatial Strategy**

<p><b>Matter 2:</b> Spatial Strategy</p>	<p>Q2. What is the overall spatial strategy for Daventry District and the approach of the JCS towards the distribution of development within Daventry Town, Rural Areas and the Northampton Related Development Area (NRDA)? Is the Plan consistent with this?</p>		<p>The Spatial Strategy within the WNJS directs greater levels of growth to Daventry Town.</p> <p>The requirement for rural areas has been exceeded at 1<sup>st</sup> April by 520 dwellings. If the current spatial distribution of permissions (i.e. heavily focused in rural areas rather than the town) were to continue it would significantly undermine the spatial strategy of the WNJS.</p> <p>The inappropriate categorisation of Staverton as a ‘Secondary Service Villages will be seized upon by Developers wishing to maximise their profits. Brown field sites should be used in and around Daventry e.g. the former site of Focus which has been left unutilised for many years.</p>
	<p>Q7. Is the methodology used to determine the settlement hierarchy in Policies RA1, RA2, RA3 and RA4, robust and consistent with the evidence? Are there any significant factors that indicate that any individual settlements should have been identified in a different tier of the settlement hierarchy? If so, what key factors and evidence informed the approach of the Plan to those</p>	<p>There are factors that indicate Staverton should have been identified in a different tier.</p>	<p>A detailed factual response detailing several errors was sent to DDC. This response also highlighted the weaknesses in their methodology. To highlight the lack of robustness an example of the huge difference in services and facilities between Braunston and Staverton was given. However, both villages were deemed by DDC to fit within the Secondary Service Village tier.</p>

	settlements and their intended categorisation?	The reflective assessment was subjective and flawed.	<p>The scoring awarded to Staverton Village on certain elements was incorrect. If corrected it would have brought us into the scoring range of 'Other Village'.</p> <p>The reflective assessment concluded that Staverton has a take-away and 2 playing fields, this is not the case.</p> <p>It was stated that Criteria 1 to 10 of policy R1 of the WNJCS would be important considerations in the methodology applied to the Settlement Hierarchy. Despite a request to DDC no evidence as to how these criteria were applied was forthcoming.</p> <p>DDC stated that the Reflective element had been achieved by "a walk around" Staverton undertaken by members of the DDC Planning team. In my opinion this by its very nature is subjective and resulted in flawed assumptions as mentioned above.</p>
--	--	--	--