Settlements and Countryside Local Plan (Part 2) for Daventry District Examination

Response by Daventry District Council

Matter 9: Monitoring

Date: May 2019
1. **Introduction**

1.1 This statement sets out the response of Daventry District Council (DDC) to the following issues and questions raised by the Inspector relating to Matter 9 of the examination into the Settlements and Countryside Local Plan (Part 2) for Daventry District.

1.2 References used in this statement (e.g. PSD06) relate to documents held in the Examination Library available on the Council’s website on the Local Plan Examination webpage.

2. **Response of Daventry District Council to the specific issues and questions relating to Matter 9: Monitoring**

**Issue**
Whether the Plan would be able to be monitored effectively to ensure timely delivery of its proposals and in conformity with the JCS?

**Questions**

1. *How would the implementation of the Plan policies be achieved? What mechanisms are there to assist development sites to come forward/progress?*

2.1.1 The Part 2 Local Plan follows the adopted WNJCS and will help to deliver the WNJCS vision and objectives. The policies within the Part 2 Local Plan will be the primary mechanism for the delivery of the vision and objectives of the Part 2 Local Plan for Daventry town and the district which are set out in Chapter 3 of the Part 2 Local Plan.

2.1.2 The implementation of the Part 2 Local Plan will be largely achieved through the development management process. The policies found within the Part 2 Local Plan, the WNJCS, neighbourhood development plans as well as supplementary planning guidance, along with the National Planning Policy Framework, provide a starting point for which planning applications will be assessed against.

2.1.3 It is also acknowledged that there will be many different organisations responsible for the implementation of the Part 2 Local Plan policies. These will range from the District and County Councils, neighbouring authorities, land owners and promoters, developers, statutory organisations and interested parties. As set out in the adopted Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), early and continued engagement with relevant parties will contribute to the success of the implementation of the policies.

---

1 Local Plan Examination webpage: https://www.daventrydc.gov.uk/living/planning-policy/part-2-local-plan/local-plan-examination/
2.1.4 Further mechanisms that are in place to aid delivery of the plan and its allocations include a formal pre-application process as well as major projects officers. The SCI encourages early engagement and consultation from applicants, particularly for major developments. In addition to this there are also well established forums that input into development proposals of major schemes, such as DIRFT, Buckton Fields (Northampton North of Whitehills SUE) Liaison Forum and OMBBH (Overstone, Moulton, Boughton, Bramptons and Harlestone Parish Councils) which provide a forum for Parish Councils, Daventry District Council, developers and external advisors to discuss proposals that effect their parishes.

2.1.3 In addition to this other mechanisms include housing, town centre and employment allocations found within the plan which help deliver the strategic policies of the plan and promotes development. Further details of these can be found in Policy H01, H02, H04, EC2, EC3, EC5, EC6, EC7 and EC9. Where relevant a Statement of Common Ground has been prepared or is being prepared, which represent the shared view of both the Council and the relevant party (either statutory consultee or land promoter) in relation to the allocations of the plan. The Infrastructure Delivery Schedule (Appendix H of the Local Plan) sets out the additional infrastructure requirements for each of the allocations and provides an indication of the broad delivery of the allocations, the latest version is available on the Councils website.

2.1.4 An additional mechanism to aid delivery of development is the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). CIL is a pre-set charge that can be applied to all new developments that create new floorspace. The CIL charge is then spent on infrastructure (including roads, schools, green spaces and community facilities) that is required to support the delivery of new development.

2.1.5 Lastly a Viability Assessment (GEN01) was prepared to provide evidence that the policy requirements in the Part 2 Local Plan would not adversely impact the development viability and thus the implementation of the local plan as a whole in accordance with NPPF Para 173.

2. How would the implementation of the Plan be monitored? Would it be effective? How would the results of monitoring be acted upon, for example what would trigger a review of the Plan?

2.2.1 Appendix A of the Part 2 Local Plan sets out the Monitoring Framework for the part 2 local plan and will demonstrate how effective the implementation of the policy is. The table sets out how the policy will be monitored and is reflective of the table used within the WNJCS monitoring and implementation framework.

2.2.2 A monitoring framework is established in the WNJCS, set out in Appendix 6 (Pg. 254-297). The intention is that the monitoring of the Part 2 Local Plan will complement the WNJCS monitoring framework and avoid duplication.
2.2.3 The policy matrix on Page 140 of the local plan details the relationship between the local plan objectives and the policies. The monitoring Framework clearly shows each objective of the plan and identifies the primary and secondary policies that are to be delivered as well as sustainability appraisal objectives. The table also identifies the main agencies for delivery as well as potential triggers and contingencies (where applicable).

2.2.4 Given the relationship between the WNJCS and the Part 2 Local Plan it may be that in most cases the WNJCS policy will be the most appropriate policy to monitor. In this circumstance, soft targets for individual Part 2 Local Plan policies may be monitored to help supplement the information to the primary policy.

2.2.4 Additional monitoring will be undertaken as part of Stage E of the Sustainability Appraisal process. This has a requirement at post adoption, that the Part 2 Local Plan is monitored to assess significant effects of the implementation of the local plan and respond to adverse effects.

2.2.6 It is considered that the monitoring would be effective as the monitoring framework acknowledges the relationship with the WNJCS and replicates the approach taken to ensure consistency. This approach ensures that there is an effective use of resources and helps avoid duplication in monitoring between the different plans. Regular monitoring throughout the year will also give an indication if there are any issues arising with the implementation of the plan.

2.2.7 There are a number of ways in which the results of monitoring are to be acted upon. The monitoring framework for both the WNJCS and the Part 2 Local Plan identifies triggers as well as contingencies for each of the policies being monitored. These include identifying barriers to implementation as well as consideration of the review of policies. An example of this is monitoring progress towards delivering the allocations of employment. The trigger would be if there is no new floorspace for units below 10,000 sqm within five years of adoption. The response to this would be a review of the evidence base, followed by consideration of the barriers to implementation, which then may result in consideration of a review of policy. The consequence of this could result in just a partial review where it focused on a specific policy, where monitoring indicated that this was required.

2.2.7 Other circumstances that could lead to a review of the plan could be as a result of the plan being more than five years old as required in the Regulations, similarly a review could occur due to changing circumstances affecting the area or changes to national policy. It is also anticipated that following the review of the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, consideration would also need to be given to whether this part 2
local plan would also need to be partially or fully reviewed.