

XXXXX LETTERHEAD TO BE ADDED XXXX

Sara Lewis
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Planning Development Plans
The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities
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XX December 2021

Our ref: Please ask for Stephen Miles on 01799 510346

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Dear Ms Lewis,

Uttlesford Local Plan Update

I refer to my previous letters when I provided updates on progress by the Council to prepare a new local plan. This letter deals with the position up to the end of Quarter 3 of the current financial year.

I am pleased to advise you that work continues to progress well with the intention of the Council submitting the local plan for Examination in 2023 in accordance with the Local Development Scheme (LDS) which was adopted by the Council last year. I anticipate the Council will update the LDS in the New Year to reflect progress and also a minor change to the publication date of the Regulation 18 Local Plan which I advised you about in my last letter. The consultation is now due to take place in May and June 2023.

I would also like to draw your attention to the fact the work on the local plan has secured a prestigious award. The Issues and Options stage of the local plan comprised an innovative online Community Stakeholder Forum. I am delighted to report the approach won the Royal Town Planning Institute East of England Regional Award for Excellence in Planning.

In addition, the following progress has been made since my last letter to you:

- Seventeen consultant studies are progressing and this work will form the evidence base that will support the local plan. Recent reports to members have included the Sustainability Appraisal, Infrastructure Delivery Plan, Water Cycle, Employment, Renewable Energy, Employment, Landscape Sensitivity, Strategic Flood Risk, Heritage Sensitivity, Transport and Retail Studies;
- Officers and key consultants have progressed work on preparing Reasonable Alternatives and evaluation of these options is due to take place over the next two months;
- Further Duty to Co-operate meetings are being planned in the New Year with a range of stakeholders.
- An officer working group has been established with key stakeholders, including representatives from Transport East and three County Councils to consider strategic transport infrastructure requirements in the A120 and M11 corridors within the district.

- Discussions have taken place with the promoters and landowners of all sixteen of the largest potential development sites, or clusters of sites, to seek to agree an approach to collaborative working.

The Council is actively managing the Local Plan timetable.

The Scrutiny Committee of the District Council continues to monitor progress on the local plan through regular updates on the Risk Register and Project Plan. I expect to send you the next update before the end March 2022.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Miles.....

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