Statement of Representations Procedure and Availability of Documents

Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 – Regulation 19
Notice to hereby given, in accordance with Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2012 that South Northamptonshire Council has produced the South Northamptonshire (Part 2) Local Plan Regulation 19 Submission Draft which covers the whole administrative area of South Northamptonshire. This includes those parts of the district which are allocated for development within the Northampton Related Development Area (NRDA) as set out in the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy (WNJCS).

1) Title of Document:
South Northamptonshire (Part 2) Local Plan Draft Submission Regulation 19

2) Subject Matter
The South Northamptonshire (Part 2) Local Plan Draft Submission sets out a vision, objectives and overall spatial strategy for the district to 2029 following the strategy established in the Part 1 Local Plan. The Part 2 Plan allocates employment, retail and recreation and leisure uses to ensure we have a healthy supply of developable land. The policies in the Plan will be used, alongside the Part 1 and made Neighbourhood Plans to make decisions on planning applications.

3) Period within which representations may be made
Representations are invited on the South Northamptonshire (Part 2) Local Plan Draft Submission Regulation 19 for a period of 6 weeks which begins on Thursday 4 October 2018 and ends at 12 noon on Friday 16 November 2018.

Representations received after this time will not be accepted. Only representations received within this period have a statutory right to be considered by the Inspector at the Examination.

4) Where to inspect the documents
The draft submission Local Plan and associated submission documents and representation forms are available to view from the Council’s website:

www.southnorthants.gov.uk/consultation

The documents are also available for inspection at the Council’s offices at The Forum, Towcester and libraries at Brackley, Deanshanger, Middleton Cheney and Roade. For library opening times, please check www.northamptonshire.gov.uk

5) What is this consultation about?
This is the South Northamptonshire (Part 2) Local Plan Draft Submission Regulation 19 that the Council considers is ready for examination and this is your opportunity to comment on the Plan’s ‘soundness’ legal compliance and compliance with the Duty to Cooperate before it is submitted to an independent Inspector to be examined.
Legal Compliance
The Inspector will first check that the plan meets all the necessary legal requirements and compliance with the Duty to Cooperate before considering the tests of soundness. There are five areas to consider when looking at whether or not the Plan is legally compliant. These are:

- Is the Plan consistent with the Council’s production timetables known as the Local Development Scheme (LDS)?
- How has the community been involved in the process and has the Council met its Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)?
- Does the Plan meet the requirements for content and consultation set out in the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) Regulations 2012 and the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004?
- Does the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Report accompanying the South Northamptonshire (Part 2) Local Plan Draft Submission form a suitable assessment of the sustainability of the Council’s proposals and follow the relevant legislation and guidance.
- Has the Council complied with the Duty to Cooperate?

Soundness
There are four areas to consider when looking at whether or not the Plan is sound. To be sound the Plan should be:

- **Positively Prepared** – the plan should be prepared based on a strategy which seeks to meet objectively assessed development and infrastructure requirements, including unmet requirements from neighbouring authorities where it is reasonable to do so and consistent with achieving sustainable development;
- **Justified** - the plan should be the most appropriate strategy, when considered against the reasonable alternatives, based on proportionate evidence;
- **Effective** - the plan should be deliverable over its period and based on effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic priorities; and
- **Consistent** with national policy - the plan should enable the delivery of sustainable development in accordance with the policies in the Framework.

If you think the content of the Plan is not sound because it does not include a policy where you consider it should do, you should go through the following steps before making representations:

- Is the issue with which you are concerned already covered specifically by national planning policy? If so, it does not need to be included in the Plan as well.
- Is what you are concerned with covered by any other policies in the South Northamptonshire (Part 2) Local Plan Draft Submission?
- If the policy is not covered, in what way is the Plan unsound without the policy?
- If the Plan is unsound without the policy, what should the policy say?

All of the accepted formal representations received during this stage will be submitted to and considered by, the appointed independent planning Inspector at the
public examination of the Plan. The process is likely to include public hearings. The Inspector will determine the most appropriate procedure to adopt to hear those who ask to participate at this stage.

If you would like to appear and speak at the hearings, please state this and explain in the space provided why you consider it is necessary that you participate. The Inspector will determine what will be discussed at the examination and who should attend.

6) How to make representations

There are a number of ways to make representation to the proposed submission documents:

- Our preference is for representations to be made online: [https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/South_Northamptonshire_Local_Plan_reg19](https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/South_Northamptonshire_Local_Plan_reg19)

  You can download a representation form from our website to complete and return by email. This can be found at [www.southnorthants.gov.uk/consultation](http://www.southnorthants.gov.uk/consultation)

- The response should be emailed to: LocalPlanConsultation@southnorthants.gov.uk

- You can use a hard copy of the representation form or download it from our website to complete and return by post or by hand to:

  Planning Policy Team
  South Northamptonshire Council
  The Forum
  Moat Lane
  Towcester
  NN12 6AD