

## **Statement on behalf of Project Fields to Birmingham City Council (BCC) response to Project Fields Matter E hearing statement**

The comments are in the order of the BCC response to the Project Fields Matter E Hearing Statement.

**1.1** It remains the view of Project Fields that whilst the Council has met regulatory requirements there was no real intent to engage effectively with the local community. A plan of the scale and size of the BDP a more detailed and interactive consultation was warranted. This view is reiterated in many of the written Matter E statements for examination.

There is a real need to ensure that the consultation process and techniques used by local councils are proportionate to the scope and scale of a plan. There is also a need to ensure that a plan for twenty years of growth is based on reasonable discussion with the community to form those assumptions. The scale, significance and impact of a combined 400 hectare Sustainable Urban Extension and employment zone is not that of a large housing development but a development that is equal in size to that of Walmley or in fact any ward in Sutton Coldfield. The consultation on such a matter clearly justified more than the minimum requirements.

**1.2** Appendices 1, 2 and 3 confirm that pages of complicated evidence have been added to the evidence database after consultation close.

Please note that the purpose of the “Exam” is clear and I have not been referring to these documents.

Documents within the “History” section of the evidence database were also not available; however some of the documents are familiar due to being part of previous consultations.

Appendix 1 – This is a screen shot of the evidence database during consultation.

Appendix 2 – This is a screen shot taken in August.

Appendix 3 – This contains the list of the names of the documents which were not present during consultation.

Please note in the Suzanne Webb consultation representation (March 2014) comment’s in answer to Q-64 that during the actual consultation that documents were still being uploaded despite consultation having started.

This is also commented in the Project Fields representation and that the link to the BDP evidence database was not always apparent as one of the links took you straight to the pan itself and one link to the evidence. (Q-2)

Please also refer to my comments in 1.3.

**1.3** In response to the Council comments that some of the documents I reference “*are updates to existing evidence and further detailed assessments which were made as soon as practicable.*” Using TA23 to TA29 as an example these are not updates or detailed assessments but key inputs into the evidence for the BDP for transport and connectivity. This is verified by the Councils own process as follows:

Using document TA8 Transport and Infrastructure Evidence Base and Strategy 2014 the process on page 6, Figure 1.2 “Evidence Collection Process” describes the intended stages evidence is required for input into the draft BDP and then public examination.

In Table 3.1 “Modelling Approach” - this confirms what process formed part of Stage 3 and when this occurred. The table below is an extract from 3.1.

Stage 3a	Transport Modelling Assessment	May 2014
Stage 3b	Junction Modelling	Between January and April 2014
Stage 4	Green Belt Development Movement Infrastructure Plan	January 2014

TA23-29 are documents which if they had been available during consultation would have given the local community and businesses more insight into how the SUE and Peddimore development would be served in terms of transport and connectivity. It is also unclear why the Council started at Stage 4 and worked backwards.

The documents are highly technical so it would be even more important to publish these during the consultation process when (at least in theory) it would be possible to engage with the Council to find out more information and make representations.

**1.3.1** It is also noted that the IMP1 – Infrastructure Delivery Plan June 2014 presented for examination supersedes the October 2013 document used for consultation. This is starting to render the consultation a pointless exercise if documents are to be superseded and new information presented during examination.

**1.3.2** During consultation residents could only comment on the documents TA2-TA7 alongside the previous version of IMP1. Had we been privy to the additional documentation this would have created the opportunity to have made more detailed representation on the overall viability of Peddimore in relation to the SUE.

**1.3.3** In September 2014 I asked a question on the matter of the consultation via the public gallery at a Birmingham Council Meeting. I was assured that all background evidence and supporting information were publicly available from 21 October 2013 (see Appendix 4).

**1.3.4** Using the Councils own words used on the Birmingham Development Plan Evidence Base they state very clearly:

*“In order to pull together the policies contained in the Birmingham Development Plan (BDP), a number of studies were undertaken to establish currently levels and provision of various uses across the city.  
Below are the documents which form the 'evidence base' for the BDP and links to other associated documents referred to in the plan”*

**1.4** My comment is referring more to the substantial difference in the evidence data base (since consultation close as per 1.2) and that the audit trail of documents is not as it was presented during consultation. Therefore it has proved challenging to keep track of documents and their content and location when preparing for public examination.

With regards to the change from 3,500 to 5,000 in policy GA5 this was brought to the attention of the Council immediately following consultation during a meeting I had with council officials. Market Capacity was stated as 3,500 in the plan.

**1.5** As per my comment six in the Project Fields Matter E Hearing Statement.

**1.6** The Councils state that the omission of the CCG was an admin error only and that the Trust was consulted. However it does not explain why if this is the case relevant policies within the BDP do not explain how they will mitigate the impact of the Heart of England Foundation Trust reconfiguring the services between three centres of excellences (COE). Two of the COE's are in fact outside of the boundaries of Sutton Coldfield which will therefore impact any sustainable urban extension. This would have been a key output of any meeting and key input into the plans policies.

**1.7** As per my comment six in the Project Fields Matter E Hearing Statement.

**1.8** As per my comment six in the Project Fields Matter E Hearing Statement.

**1.9** As per my comment two in the Project Fields Matter E Hearing Statement.

**1.10** As per my comment two in the Project Fields Matter E Hearing Statement.

**1.11** As per my comment four in the Project Fields Matter E Hearing Statement.

**1.12** At no point following consultation close and a review of my comments made during the consultation did the Council seek to clarify or arrange a meeting with me.

**Appendix 1 and 2 – As per attached documents**

**Appendix 3 - These are a list of the documents not present during consultation:**

<b>Document Reference</b>	<b>Document Name</b>
Sub -03	Submission Sustainability Appraisal
Sub -06	Pre submission habitat regulation's assessment
Sub- 08	Evolution of Sustainability Appraisal
PG2	Green Belt Assessment Addendum
PG3	Version during consultation was 2012
PG4	Sutton Coldfield Green Belt Site Phase 2
DC2	Duty to Cooperate Statement (2014) Duty to Cooperate Appendices 1-6 (2014) Duty to Cooperate Appendices 7-12 (2014) Duty to Cooperate Appendices 13-17 (2014) Duty to Cooperate Appendices 18-20 (2014) Duty to Cooperate Appendices 21-27 (2014) Duty to Cooperate Appendices 28-31 (2014)
G6	Draft Greater Icknield Master Plan
ES6	Update to Waste Capacity Study
ES9	Strategic Flood Level Assessment Level 2
ES20	Technical Paper 2 (Unsure if this is the same document as was there in March)
EMP2	Employment Land Review
EMP3	Employment Land Study for Economic Zones and Key Sectors 2012
EMP4	Employment Land and Office Targets
EMP5	Retail Needs Assessment
EMP6	Retail Needs Assessment Update
EMP7	City Centre Retail Assessment
EMP8	Local Centres Strategy 2006
EMP9	Shopping and Local Centres SPD 2012
EMP10	Birmingham City Centre Enterprise Zone Investment Plan 2012
H5	Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Show people Accommodation 2014
H8	Education Development Plan 2014
H9	Private Sector Empty Property Strategy
H10	5 Year Land Supply
H11	SCHLAA 2013
TA1	Birmingham Mobility Action Plan
TA8	Transport and Infrastructure Evidence Base and Strategy 2014
TA18	Birmingham City Centre Vision for Movement 2010
TA19	Intelligent Transport Strategy
TA20	Creating Growth, Cutting Carbon
TA21	Birmingham Eastern Fringe Bus Study 2014
TA22	Birmingham Eastern Fringe Rail Study 2014
TA23	Minworth Roundabout Option Development and Appraisal Report Part 1
TA23	Minworth Roundabout Option Development and Appraisal Report Part 2
TA23	Minworth Roundabout Option Development and Appraisal Report Part 3
TA23	Minworth Roundabout Option Development and Appraisal Report Part 4
TA24	Tyburn Roundabout Option Development and Appraisal Report Part 1
TA24	Tyburn Roundabout Option Development and Appraisal Report Part 2

TA24	Tyburn Roundabout Option Development and Appraisal Report Part 3
TA24	Tyburn Roundabout Option Development and Appraisal Report Part 4
TA25	Peddimore Access Modelling Final Report Part 1
TA25	Peddimore Access Modelling Final Report Part 2
TA25	Peddimore Access Modelling Final Report Part 3
TA25	Peddimore Access Modelling Final Report Part 4
TA26	Peddimore Access Modelling Access Option 2 Part 1
TA26	Peddimore Access Modelling Access Option 2 Part 2
TA27	M42 Junction 9 Base Model
TA26	M42 Junction 9 Initial Appraisal
TA27	Green Belt Travel Demand Model Report Part 1
TA28	Green Belt Travel Demand Model Report Part 2
TA29	Green Belt Travel Demand Model Report Part 3
IMP01	Infrastructure Development Plan June 2014 Version
IMP02	CIL Prelim Draft Charging Schedule
IMP03	CIL Economic Viability Assessment

- Development Plan
- Big City Plan
- Approved Planning Policies
- Draft Planning Policies
- Revoked Planning Policies
- Local Development Framework
- Neighbourhood Planning
- Regional Planning
- Local Planning Literature
- Contact Us

### Streets, Transport and Parking

### Waste and Recycling

### Other Useful Sites

associated documents referred to in the plan.

### Planning for Growth

[Housing Targets Technical Paper \(2013\) \(Size: 53.5](#)

[Duty to Cooperate Statement \(2013\) \(Size: 53.5](#)

### Sustainability Appraisals and Habitat Asses

[Issues & Options - Sustainability Appraisal Sco](#)

[Issues & Options - Sustainability Appraisal \(20](#)

[Consultation Draft - Sustainability Appraisal \(20](#)

[Consultation Draft - Habitats Regulations Asses](#)

[Options Consultation - Sustainability Appraisal](#)

[Options Consultation - Interim Sustainability Ap](#)

[Options Consultation - Interim Sustainability Ap](#)

[Options Consultation - Proposed Site Allocatio](#)

[Options Consultation - Habitats Regulation Ass](#)

[Options Consultation - Sustainability Appraisal \(2013\)](#)

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## Spatial Delivery of Growth

[Transport Analysis of Green Belt Options \(201](#)

[Transport Analysis of Green Belt Options \(201](#)

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[Green Belt Option Areas - Landscape Charact](#)

[Green Belt Option Areas - Landscape Charact](#)

[Green Belt Option Areas - Archaeology & Histo](#)

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[Green Belt Option Areas - Landscape Character](#)

[Green Belt Option Areas - Archaeology & History](#)

[Housing Delivery on Green Belt Options \(2012\)](#)

[Green Belt Options Assessment \(2013\) \(Size: 335 Kb Type: PDF\)](#)

### **Environment & Sustainability**

[Waste Capacity Study \(2010\)](#)

[Total Waste Strategy \(2011\)](#)

[Strategic Flood Risk Assessment \(2012\)](#)

[Leisure Study \(2004\)](#)

[Playing Pitch Strategy \(2011\) \(Size: 335 Kb Type: PDF\)](#)

[A Strategy for the Conservation and Enjoyment of Green Spaces](#)

[Green Living Spaces \(2013\)](#)

[Climate Change Action Plan 2010+ \(2012\)](#)

[Climate Change Adaption Plan 2012+ \(2012\)](#)



[Technical Paper 1 - Carbon Dioxide Emissions](#)

[Technical Paper 2 - National Contribution to Lo](#)

[Birmingham & Black Country Biodiversity Actio](#)

### **Economy & Network of Centres**

[Employment Land Review \(2012\)](#)

[Employment Land Study for the Economic Zon](#)

[Employment Land & Office Targets Study \(201](#)

[Retail Needs Assessment \(2009\)](#)

[Retail Needs Assessment Update \(2013\)](#)

[City Centre Retail Assessment \(2013\)](#)

[Local Centres Strategy \(2006\) \(Size: 1.73 Mb Ty](#)

### **Homes and Neighbourhoods**

[Strategic Housing Market Assessment \(SHMA\)](#)

[Housing Growth Plan - to be considered at Cab](#)

## **Connectivity**

[Transport Evidence Base - Stage 1 Scoping \(2](#)

[Transport Evidence Base - Stage 2 Context \(2](#)

[Transport Evidence Base - Stage 3 Initial Resu](#)

[Transport Evidence Base - Stage 4 Emerging  
PDF \)](#)

[Rights of Way Improvement Plan \(2007\)](#)

[Cycle City Ambition Bid \(2013\)](#)

[West Midlands Local Transport Strategy 2011](#)

[Towards a World Class Integrated Transport N](#)

[West Midlands Metropolitan Freight Strategy \(2](#)

[Parking Policy \(2010\)](#)

[Low Carbon Transport Strategy \(2012\)](#)

[Cycle City Vision \(2010\)](#)

[Site Delivery Plan \(2013\) \(Size: 11.4 Mb Type: PDF\)](#)

[Infrastructure Delivery Plan \(2013\) \(Size: 4.03 Mb Type: PDF\)](#)

## Monitoring

[Local Development Framework - Annual Monitoring Report](#)

## Evidence of Previous Stages of Consultation

Details of previous consultations can be found in the following documents:

## Other Supporting Documents

[Big City Plan \(2011\)](#)

[Aston Newtown & Lozells Area Action Plan \(2009\)](#)

[Sutton Coldfield Town Centre Regeneration Framework \(2008\)](#)

[Bordesley Park Area Action Plan \(2013 Draft\) - Final](#)

[Longbridge Area Action Plan \(2009\)](#)

[Sustainable Management of Urban Rivers & Floodplain](#)

[Parks & Open Space Strategy SPD \(2006\)](#)

[Aston Newtown & Lozells Area Action Plan \(20](#)

[Sutton Coldfield Town Centre Regeneration Fr](#)

[Bordesley Park Area Action Plan \(2013 Draft\) -](#)

[Longbridge Area Action Plan \(2009\)](#)

[Sustainable Management of Urban Rivers & Fl](#)

[Parks & Open Space Strategy SPD \(2006\)](#)

[Public Open Space in New Residential Develo](#)

[Loss of Industrial Land to Alternative Uses SP](#)

[Car Parking Guidelines SPD \(2012\)](#)

[Sustainable Communities Strategy - Birmingha](#)

[Natural Environment & Rural Communities Act](#)

[Big City Culture 2010-2015 \(2010\)](#)



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**Birmingham Development Plan -**



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In order to pull together the policies contained number of studies were undertaken to establish

- Policies
- Local Development Framework
- Neighbourhood Planning
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## 2. Submission Plan

[SUB1 - Pre-Submission Document - Part 1 \(2014\)](#)

[SUB1 - Pre-Submission Document - Part 2 \(2014\)](#)

[SUB1 - Pre-Submission Document - Part 3 \(2014\)](#)

[SUB2 - Modifications Following Pre-Submission](#)

[SUB3 - Submission Plan Sustainability Appraisal](#)

[SUB4 - Submission Policies Map \(inc minor modifications\)](#)

[SUB5 - Pre Submission Sustainability Appraisal](#)

[SUB6 - Pre-Submission Habitat Regulations Assessment](#)

[SUB7 - Pre-submission Comments\(2014\) \(Size: 1.1 MB\)](#)

[SUB8 - Evolution of the Sustainability Appraisal](#)

[SUB9 - Pre-submission - Summary of Comments](#)

[SUB10 - Council Response to Comments on Local Development Framework \(2014\) \(Type: PDF \)](#)

[SUB11 - Consultation Statement \(2014\) \(Size: 1.1 MB\)](#)



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[STRAT3 - Overall Approach Paper \(2014\) \(Size: 6.9 MB\)](#)

#### 4. Planning for Growth

[PG1 - Green Belt Assessment \(2013\) \(Size: 6.9 MB\)](#)

[PG2 - Green Belt Assessment Addendum \(2013\)](#)

[PG3 - Housing Delivery on Green Belt Options](#)

[PG4 - Sutton Coldfield Green Belt Sites Phase 1](#)

[PG5 - Green Belt Option Areas - Landscape Character](#)

[PG5 - Green Belt Option Areas - Landscape Character](#)

[PG5 - Green Belt Option Areas - Landscape Character](#)

[PG6 - Green Belt Option Areas - Archaeology](#)

[PG7 - Ecological Constraints & Opportunities \(2013\) \(PDF\)](#)

[PG7 - Ecological Constraints & Opportunities \(2013\) \(PDF\)](#)

[PG7 - Ecological Constraints & Opportunities \(2013\) \(PDF\)](#)

## 5. Duty to Cooperate

[DC1 - Duty to Cooperate Statement \(2013\) \(Si...](#)

[DC2 - Duty to Cooperate Statement \(2014\) \(Si...](#)

[DC2 - Duty to Cooperate Appendices 1-6 \(201...](#)

[DC2 - Duty to Cooperate Appendices 7-12 \(20...](#)

[DC2 - Duty to Cooperate Appendices 13-17 \(2...](#)

[DC2 - Duty to Cooperate Appendices 18-20 \(2...](#)

[DC2 - Duty to Cooperate Appendices 21-27 \(2...](#)

[DC2 - Duty to Cooperate Appendices 28-31 \(2...](#)

## 6. Spatial Delivery of Growth

[G1 - Big City Plan \(2011\)](#)

[G2 - Aston Newtown & Lozells Area Action Pla...](#)

[G3 - Sutton Coldfield Town Centre Regenerati...](#)



[G6 - Draft Greater Icknield Masterplan \(2014\)](#)

## **7. Environment & Sustainability**

[ES1 - Sustainable Management of Urban Rivers](#)

[ES2 - Parks & Open Spaces Strategy SPD \(2011\)](#)

[ES3 - Public Open Space in New Residential Developments](#)

[ES4 - Natural Environment & Rural Communities](#)

[ES5 - Waste Capacity Study \(2010\)](#)

[ES6 - Update to Waste Capacity Study Addendum](#)

[ES7 - Total Waste Strategy \(2011\)](#)

[ES8 - Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 1](#)

[ES9 - Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 2](#)

[ES10 - Leisure in Birmingham \(2004\)](#)

[ES11 - Playing Pitch Strategy \(2011\)](#)

[ES16 - Sustainable Energy Action Plan \(2009\)](#)

[ES17 - Green Commission Vision Statement \(2013\)](#)

[ES18 - Carbon Plan Analysis \(2013\)](#)

[ES19 - Technical Paper 1 – Carbon Dioxide Emissions \(2013\)](#)

[ES20 - Technical Paper 2 – Impact of National Planning Policy Framework \(2013\)](#)

[ES21 - Birmingham & Black Country Biodiversity Action Plan \(2013\)](#)

## 8. Economy & Network of Centres

[EMP1 - Loss of Industrial Land to Alternative Uses \(2012\)](#)

[EMP2 - Employment Land Review \(2012\)](#)

[EMP3 - Employment Land Study for the Economic Regeneration of Birmingham \(2012\)](#)

[EMP4 - Employment Land & Office Targets Study \(2012\)](#)

[EMP5 - Retail Needs Assessment \(Volumes 1 & 2\) \(2012\)](#)

[EMP6 - Retail Needs Assessment Update \(Volume 1\) \(2014\)](#)

[EMP7 - City Centre Retail Assessment \(2014\)](#)

[EMP10 - Birmingham City Centre Enterprise Z](#)

## 9. Homes & Neighbourhoods

[H1 - Housing Targets 2011-31 Technical Paper](#)

[H2 - Strategic Housing Market Assessment \(SHMA\)](#)

[H3 - Strategic Housing Land Availability Asses](#)

[H4 - Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation Asses](#)

[H5 - Gypsy, Traveller & Travelling Showpeople](#)

[H6 - Affordable Housing Viability Study \(2010\)](#)

[H7 - Housing Growth Plan \(2013\)](#)

[H8 - Education Development Plan 2014-19 \(20](#)

[H9 - Private Sector Empty Property Strategy 20](#)

[H10 - 5 Year Land Supply \(2014\)](#)

[H11 - Strategic Housing Land Availability Asses](#)

[H10 - 5 Year Land Supply \(2014\)](#)

[H11 - Strategic Housing Land Availability Asses](#)

## **10. Connectivity**

[TA1 - Birmingham Mobility Action Plan \(BMAP\)](#)

[TA2 - Car Parking Guidelines SPD \(2012\)](#)

[TA3 - Transport Analysis of Green Belt Options](#)

[TA3 - Transport Analysis of Green Belt Options](#)

[TA4 - Transport Evidence Base - Stage 1 Scop](#)

[TA5 - Transport Evidence Base - Stage 2 Cont](#)

[TA6 - Transport Evidence Base - Stage 3 Tran](#)  
[PDF \)](#)

[TA7 - Transport Evidence Base - Stage 4 Gree](#)  
[PDF \)](#)

[TA8 - Transport & Infrastructure Evidence Bas](#)

[TP9 - Rights of Way Improvement Plan \(2007\)](#)

[TA12 - Towards a World Class Integrated Tran](#)

[TA13 - West Midlands Metropolitan Freight Str](#)

[TA14 - Parking Policy \(2010\)](#)

[TA15 - Low Carbon Transport Strategy \(2012\)](#)

[TA16 - Smart City Vision \(2012\)](#)

[TA17 - Smart City Blueprint – Best Practice No](#)

[TA18 - Birmingham City Centre Vision for Move](#)

[TA19 - Intelligent Transport Strategy \(2010\)](#)

[TA20 - Creating Growth, Cutting Carbon \(2011](#)

[TA21 - Birmingham Eastern Fringe Bus Study](#)

[TA22 - Birmingham Eastern Fringe Rail Study](#)

[TA23 - Minworth Roundabout - Option Develop](#)

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[TA23 - Minworth Roundabout - Option Develop](#)

[TA24 - Tyburn Roundabout - Option Development](#)

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[TA24 - Tyburn Roundabout - Option Development PDF \)](#)

[TA24 - Tyburn Roundabout - Option Development Type: PDF \)](#)

[TA25 - Peddimore Access Modelling - Final R](#)

[TA25 - Peddimore Access Modelling - Final R](#)

[TA25 - Peddimore Access Modelling - Final R](#)

[TA25 - Peddimore Access Modelling - Final R](#)

[TA25 - Peddimore Access Modelling - Final R](#)

[TA26 - Peddimore Access Modelling - Access PDF \)](#)

[TA26 - Peddimore Access Modelling - Access](#)

[TA27 - M42 Junction 9 Base Model - Local Mo](#)

[TA28 - Green Belt Travel Demand Model Report](#)

[TA29 - Green Belt Travel Demand Model Report](#)

## 11. Implementation

[IMP1 - Infrastructure Delivery Plan \(2014\) \(Size: 11.4 Mb\)](#)

[IMP2 - Site Delivery Plan \(2013\) \(Size: 11.4 Mb\)](#)

[IMP3 - CIL Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule](#)

[IMP4 - CIL Economic Viability Assessment \(2013\)](#)

## 12. Monitoring

[MON1 - Local Development Framework – Annual Monitoring Report](#)

[MON2 - Local Development Framework - Authorisation](#)

## 13. History

[HTY1 - Statement of Community Involvement \(2008\)](#)

[HTY2 - Core Strategy Issues and Options \(2008\)](#)

[MON1 - Local Development Framework – Ann](#)

[MON2 - Local Development Framework - Auth](#)

### 13. History

[HTY1 - Statement of Community Involvement \(](#)

[HTY2 - Core Strategy Issues and Options \(200](#)

[HTY3 - Core Strategy Issues and Options Sum](#)

[HTY4 - Core Strategy Issues and Options Sus](#)

[HTY5 - Core Strategy Issues and Options Con](#)

[HTY6 - Core Strategy Issues and Options - Int](#)

[HTY7 - Core Strategy 2026 Consultation Draft](#)

[HTY8 - Core Strategy Preferred Options - Inter](#)

[HTY9 - Core Strategy - Habitats Regulations A](#)

[HTY10 - Core Strategy Consultation Draft – Co](#)



[HTY13 - Options Consultation – Interim Susta](#)

[HTY14 - Options Consultation – Interim Sustain](#)

[HTY15 - Options Consultation – Habitats Regu](#)

[HTY16 - Consultation Summary \(included with](#)

[HTY17 - Pre-Submission Sustainability Apprais](#)

HTY18 - Unused

HTY19 - Unused

[HTY20 - Pre-Submission Policies Map \(2013\)](#)

[HTY21- Local Development Scheme \(2014\)](#)

[HTY22 - The Birmingham Plan - Unitary Develo](#)

#### **14. Examination Documents**

[EXAM1 - Inspector's Procedural Correspondence](#)

[EXAM2 - Councils response to the Inspectors F](#)

[EXAM2A - BDP Proposed Main Modifications](#)

[EXAM2B - BDP Proposed Additional Modifica](#)

Appendix 3 is contained within Project Fields Matter E Statement

From: Baljinder.Chauhan@birmingham.gov.uk  
To: suzanne.webb\_projectfields@hotmail.co.uk  
CC: Phil.Wright@birmingham.gov.uk  
Subject: Written Response to your Question at City Council on 16 September 2014  
Date: Fri, 26 Sep 2014 15:00:19 +0000

Dear Ms Webb

Please find below your Question and Response at the City Council Meeting on 16 September 2014.

**A Questions from Members of the Public to any Cabinet Member or District Committee Chairman**

**7 Ms Suzanne Webb to the Cabinet Member for Development, Transport and the Economy, Councillor Tahir Ali**

“Hello, good afternoon, the consultation process used for the Birmingham Development plan is considered:

- Woefully inadequate and restricted in its duration.

The consultation was not about a planning application, but 80,000 dwellings, which included an urban extension the size of any Ward in Birmingham. The scale of the proposals therefore warranted a more detailed and effective consultation.

Why no comments were taken on board is also unclear;

- Most were articulate and considered.
- Explaining that Sutton is already at saturation point and its infrastructure at capacity.
- That the proposal for 400 hectares of development was not sustainable.

Since 2012 communities are supposed to be allowed back into planning and not excluded as this process has done.

I can assure you that the proposed housing development for Sutton is too significant for residents to accept the weaknesses of this consultation process.

To this end I would like to ask Sir Albert Bore to explain why only the bare minimum consultation techniques were used and that despite the volume of public comments little or no changes were made to the plan?”

**Councillor Tahir Ali in reply**

“Thank you Lord Mayor, and I would like to thank Suzanne Webb for asking the question. As it falls within my portfolio, I will be answering the question today. The consultation

undertaken on the Birmingham Development Plan has far exceeded the statutory minimum requirements as set out by the present Government. The most recent formal consultation process began on 6 January and ended on 3 March 2014, a period of 8 weeks. However, the pre-submission plan and all background evidence and supporting information were publicly available from 21 October 2013. The Cabinet meeting approving the document, for consideration by full Council over 2 months before the start of the formal consultation. A letter was also sent out to all those on the consultation database including all those who had previously commented on the core strategy. Officers also presented the proposals in advance of the consultation at a very well attended meeting of the Sutton Coldfield New Hall Ward Committee on 29 November 2013. The formal consultation process included formal letters being sent out to all those on the consultation database and all those who had commented on the previous stages. The draft plan document was available at libraries and neighbourhood offices and notice was placed in the Birmingham Mail. An article was included in 'The Forward' the Council's own newspaper which is delivered to all homes across the City. All the documentation was provided on the Council's website. Sessions were held on several occasions including weekends in Walmley and Sutton Coldfield libraries to provide advice and assistance to people wishing to respond. Similar sessions were also held in a number of libraries elsewhere in the City and there were representations to District Committees and Ward Committees on request. This included meetings on all Ward Committees in the Sutton Coldfield area. Officers also attended other meetings organised locally, a total of 1,524 people and organisations responded to the consultation. It was possible to comment on more than one section or policy of the plan making the total number of responses to 5,863. Comments were received on all aspects of the plan but the largest number relate to the proposals for the green belt development. The Council has considered all of these responses and has concluded no major modification to the plan are required. The Plan has now been submitted to the Secretary of State for consideration an examination in public is scheduled to commence on 21 October where those who are objecting to the proposals in the Birmingham Development Plan will have the opportunity to make their case to the inspector. Thank you Lord Mayor."

Kind Regards

**Baljinder Chauhan**  
**Committee Services**  
**0121 675 5853**

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