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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 10 July 2011 10:43
To: Local Plans (Planning Policy)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Sustainability Appraisal Addendum Consultation

I would like to comment on the proposed Sustainability Appraisal Addendum as follows:

In my view this still fails to be fit for purpose on many fronts;

- good practice is that green belt should only be used as a last resort and also as late as possible in the Strategy but 26% of the supply in the first 5 years is Green Belt.
- Furthermore it would appear that the appraisal itself only positively considered Locations to support large building developments – greater consideration should have been given to smaller areas dotted throughout the District and not rejected in the SA. Had this approach been considered it could have taken advantage of existing transport and infrastructures, allowed the newer properties to be incorporated into the communities rather than creating large estates with little chance of community cohesion.
- The environmental impact of losing large areas of green belt will change the nature of the areas affected and the nature of the way of life for many people not just in the adjacent areas but for all those in the wider vicinity of the district who pass through and enjoy the open aspects afforded and the visual amenity of a rural aspect.
- Indeed the increasing prospects of coalescence between Hawkwell/Hockley and Rochford do not seem to have been addressed or the impact considered. This is unacceptable.
- The supporting infrastructure is not sufficient across the District and unlikely to be deliverable to achieve a desirable outcome in the longer term. Indeed there are already difficulties on the roads now and it is hard to see how these could be alleviated. Such sustainability is not deliverable.
- The bus services within the South Hawkwell Location, for example, are practically non-existent and there is no guarantee that this will improve or indeed continue. The SA actually recommends a new bus service. This is not deliverable.
- In my view the social, environmental and economic factors have not been addressed and the proposals are not sustainable.

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