

Our ref:
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Date: 14 September 2020

Dear Mr Ashcroft,

Great Barton neighbourhood plan note for clarification: West Suffolk Council response

Further to your note of clarification for the Great Barton neighbourhood Plan, please find below West Suffolk Council's response to the question raised in respect of Policy GB3 which is repeated in full below for ease of reference:

Policy GB3

Does the Council have any comments on the suggestion from Suffolk County Council (13) on the proposed enlargement of the reservation of land for school provision in Policy GB3? In particular would it be in general conformity with the strategic policies in the development plan?

West Suffolk Council supports Suffolk County Council's aspirations to future-proof Great Barton primary school to prevent it from being land locked in the future should the need for further expansion arise.

The most relevant strategic development plan policy to this issue is Policy RV18 in the Rural Vision 2031 document which allocates the site in policy GB3. The policy states that;

'Development on the site must make provision for the potential expansion needs of Great Barton Primary School'.

Suffolk County Council are best placed to advise on what the educational needs are at any point in time, and it is considered best practice to plan for longer term needs where the information is available.

On this basis we consider that that this proposed enlargement of the site would be in general conformity with the strategic policies in the development plan.

If you have any queries about the council's comments, please do not hesitate to contact Ann-Marie Howell who is the principal planning policy contact for this neighbourhood plan.

Yours faithfully,



Marie Smith
Strategic Planning Service Manager