Planning Policy Team
via Email: planning.policy@nwleicestershire.gov.uk.

[redacted]
The Cube
199 Wharfside Street
Birmingham B1 1RN

Direct Line: [redacted]

19 July 2017

Dear Sir/Madam

CONSULTATION ON THE MAIN MODIFICATIONS OF THE NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE LOCAL PLAN

Highways England welcomes the opportunity to comment on the main modifications document to North West Leicestershire Local Plan (NWLLP). It is noted that the main modifications document has been produced at the request of the Independent Planning Inspector in order to enhance the soundness of the plan in light of new evidence provided since the NWLLP was submitted for consultation.

Highways England has been appointed by the Secretary of State for Transport as strategic highway company under the provisions of the Infrastructure Act 2015 and is the highway authority, traffic authority and street authority for the Strategic Road Network (SRN). It is the role of Highways England to maintain the safe and efficient operation of the SRN whilst acting as a delivery partner to national economic growth. In relation to the North West Leicestershire Local Plan, Highways England's principal interest is safeguarding the operation of the M1, A42 and sections of the M42, A50 and A453.

Highways England previously commented on the publication version of the Local Plan in July 2016 and noted that there was a requirement to deliver 10,400 dwellings over the plan period to 2031. It is noted that this allocation has reduced to 9,620 dwellings, whilst the employment land allocation has reduced from 96 hectares to 66 hectares. Despite this reduction in anticipated growth, Highways England considers that the proposed scale of growth still has the ability to impact upon the operation of the SRN.

It is noted that developments in North West Leicestershire would be expected to contribute to improvements at A42 J13 and M1 J22, if they have a significant impact on the operation of the junctions, as set out in Policy IF4. This is welcomed by Highways England. Indeed Highways England is working alongside Leicestershire County Council in order to enable it to deliver improvement schemes to A42 J13 and M1 J22, which has recently been implemented.

Highways England also expects significant improvements to the SRN and local road network to come forward at M1 J24/24a funded through and in conjunction with the East Midlands Gateway SRFI development. Construction of these improvements has recently commenced.

Highways England has no further comments to provide, and trusts the above is useful.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]