

**Andy Gutherson**

19 Feb  
2026,  
14:56

to me, Neil

Good afternoon Ian

Thank you for your further correspondence in respect of the LMWLP and the specific concerns of the Parish Council and residents regarding the potential site allocations in West Deeping. I do recognise and appreciate the frustration and uncertainty that the process is creating for you and residents. The plan-making process though is heavily prescribed and if the Council strays from that it does create the risk of legal challenge further down the line which would further lengthen the process thereby adding to that uncertainty

For completeness and clarity I would re-iterate that at the Preferred Approach consultation stage, a supporting document was published entitled 'Site Assessment Report' which provided an assessment of all the sites which had been submitted for consideration and can be found at <https://www.letstalk.lincolnshire.gov.uk/minerals-and-waste-local-plan> . SG17 is an allocated site in the current LMWLP (ref site MS29-SL), however, due to changes proposed by the proponents, the site was re-considered through the five stage site assessment process for inclusion in the emerging LMWLP as set out in Site Assessment Report. The full assessment can be found in the Site Assessment Report, however the assessment concluded that 'Whilst the identified constraints effecting this site will need careful consideration, no insurmountable or significant impacts have been identified at this stage that could not otherwise be mitigated through the implementation of appropriate planning controls'. This resulted in the significant level of challenge to the Council's assessment that you have contributed to.

A review of the proposed sites is currently being undertaken due to the time which has lapsed since the previous consultation, to ensure the most up to date information is considered. In view of the representations received the Council wants to make sure it is responding to the issues raised but this assessment process cannot be pre-judged. Strong local opposition to the site is recognised and understood but is contributing to the time being taken to review matters to ensure everything is being fully considered.

The updated Minerals and Waste Development Scheme was approved by the Council Executive on 3 February 2026 and is attached for your information. This document set outs the remaining stages and the timetable for the adoption of the LMWLP. The next stage, subject to the approval of the Council Executive, we will be undertaking a Regulation 19 consultation on the 'Proposed Submission' version of the Plan and associated documents in Summer 2026, prior to submission to the Secretary of State in December 2026 for examination. Amongst other matters this document will confirm the Council's position in relation to SG17. Any representation duly made to this version of

the plan will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate along with other prescribed documents.

As you are aware, all papers relating to forthcoming committees are published in advance of scheduled meetings. This ensures that members of public, action groups and all other interested parties have sufficient time to review the information, seek clarification where needed, and prepare informed contributions. In terms of Committee the draft Plan will go to Environment Scrutiny on 15th May 2026 and Executive on 9th June which subject to approval, we will run a 6 week consultation from mid June to end of July, at which point you will be able to make further representations if required or appropriate.

Once the papers are published, we will ensure that you are notified. If an opportunity exists to brief you in advance of the release of formal papers I will look to do so but as referenced above I can't risk jeopardising the safe process for plan production and adoption by stepping outside of due process and procedure if that could give rise to legal challenge bringing delay and costs to the Council

I appreciate that this is not the definitive answer you are looking for at this stage

Cheers

**Andy Gutherson**

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