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MATTER 4: The Melton Mowbray Sustainable Neighbourhoods

4.1 Are the sustainable neighbourhood allocations as a whole consistent with the strategic objectives for Melton Borough?

Yes - as a whole they are consistent with MBCs strategic objectives. They would meet the OAN (which I am arguing is 4,250 not 6,125 dwellings) and they seek to place housing development where there is employment opportunity and access to public transport (and the major roads network), and where environmental harm would be relatively less.

4.2 Based on all the evidence have they been positively prepared and has their identification been adequately justified?

No - because they are based on a poorly-evidenced 'policy' target of 6,125 when the FOAN is for only 4,250 (**Matter 3**).

4.3 Unable to say.

4.4 Have the interdependencies between the delivery of the MMSNs and Melton Mowbray Transport Strategy, especially the Distributor Road, been made clear and have they been adequately taken into account?

No, I do not believe that the interdependency has not been made clear *to the public*. A strategic decision has been made to drop Borough affordable housing provision from 37% to about 21% (mainly due to a drastic reduction to 15% in the MMSNs). Focussed Changes explains this as due to 'viability' issues (developer contributions). This only happened in June 2017. MBC should say more explicitly and loudly that affordable housing has been dropped to pay for the Distributor Road.

4.5 Unable to say – insufficient knowledge.

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