

By Email

Our Reference: COM3641_2025

Date: 31/10/2025

Tollerton Parish Council (sent via email)
Methodist Church – Parish Council Office
Stanstead Avenue
Tollerton
Nottinghamshire
NG12 4EA

Dear Ms Gilbert

Re Stage 2 Complaint - Consultation on the Draft East of Gamston/North of Tollerton Development Framework Supplementary Planning Document

I am writing following receipt of your formal complaint received on 16 October 2025 in response to my letter dated 3 October 2025, and your subsequent email received on 24 October 2025 regarding the public engagement event held on 22 October 2025. In accordance with Rushcliffe Borough Council's Complaints Procedure, your complaint has been escalated to Stage 2.

I have reviewed the consultation material and discussed your complaint with the Planning Policy Manager and Head of Planning. I am satisfied that the consultation on the Draft East of Gamston/North of Tollerton Development Framework Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) has been undertaken in a fair, transparent and accessible manner in line with regulation and Council policy. Consequently, the Council is unable to pause or reschedule the consultation. The deadline for comments is 5pm on Wednesday 5 November.

The consultation on the SPD is being conducted in accordance with the Regulation 12 (b)(i) of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 which states that consultation on a SPD must be '*not less than 4 weeks*'. Both the consultations on the Design SPD and on the East of Gamston/North of Tollerton SPD exceed 4 weeks, as mandated by regulation.

Thank you for informing the Council that some households have not received a leaflet publicising the consultation. An external distribution company was instructed by the Council to deliver leaflets to households and businesses w/c 13 October 2025. The leaflets contain details of where the SPD can be viewed and how to respond. The Council received confirmation from the distribution company on 16 October 2025 that the leaflets had been delivered.

To ensure that the consultation was well advertised with a high level of engagement, the SPD consultation has been publicised using a variety of methods which go beyond what is mandated by regulation. In addition to leafleting, the consultation has been publicised via social media and the Council's website. Individuals and organisations on the Council's consultation database have also been contacted directly either by email or post. A 5-hour public meeting was held on 22 October 2025 which was well attended and attendees were able to submit formal written comments on the day. Comment sheets were also available for the public to take away.

The Draft SPD has been published in a variety of digital methods, including a PDF, a web-based summary and an accessible version. Taking into account the points raised in your letter dated 16 October regarding the accessible version of the SPD, the

Council has reviewed the accessible version and amended keys and plans where required.

Details of how the SPD consultation was conducted, including a list of bodies consulted, how the consultation was undertaken and the methods used will be published through a Statement of Consultation. Regarding reports of flooding in recent years, the Environment Agency and Local Lead Flood Authority have been consulted on the SPD and any comments received will be considered as the SPD evolves.

Reference copies of the SPD were provided at the public engagement event, and reference copies have also been available for the public to view in Council offices and libraries during the consultation. The Council is unable to provide printed copies of the 122 page colour SPD for the public to 'take away' due to the high costs of printing. If a member of the public is unable to access the SPD, be that hard copy or digital, the Council will consider supplying a copy on a case-by-case basis.

An Equality Impact Assessment was undertaken of the Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy through which the East of Gamston/North of Tollerton site allocation was adopted. The Equality Impact Assessment and addendums are enclosed.

The SPD is not a 'forgone conclusion'. The current consultation is seeking comment on the Draft East of Gamston/North of Tollerton Development Framework SPD. Once the consultation has closed, all comments received will be considered, along with any outstanding evidence, through the preparation of the final version of the SPD. The SPD will then be presented to Cabinet as the decision-making body. The final SPD is expected to be considered by Cabinet in December 2025, however this will depend on the volume and complexity of the comments received through the consultation, and any required amendments.

The Made (adopted) Tollerton Neighbourhood Plan is a material consideration in the determination of planning applications, and part of the Development Plan. Once adopted, the SPD will also be a material consideration. Any planning application submitted for the site will be considered in line with material considerations, including the Local Plan, Neighbourhood Plan and the SPD (once adopted). This reinforces the importance of ensuring that an adopted SPD is in place, prior to the determination of any planning application.

I am satisfied that our internal complaint procedures have now been exhausted. I regret that you have felt it necessary to complain to the Council and I would also like to bring to your attention to the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman should you wish to take your complaint further. The Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman can be contacted at:

Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman
PO Box 4771
Coventry
CV4 0EH

Telephone: 0300 061 0614
Web: <http://www.lgo.org.uk>

Sincerely,

Leanne Ashmore
Assistant Chief Executive and Director of Planning and Economic Growth, Rushcliffe
Borough Council

Enclosed:

- Equality Impact Assessment – Submission Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy (ref. CDO7)
- Equality Impact Assessment – Examination Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy (ref. EX23 & EX 38)
- Equality Impact Assessment – Main Modifications Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy (ref. REX71)