

North of Luton Statement of Clarification

At the Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee of 22nd January 2015 Councillor Nicols raised the issue of additional land being incorporated within the North Luton Strategic Allocation without the opportunity for comment.

This statement clarifies the sequence of events up to the inclusion of the land in the pre-submission version of the Development Strategy June 2014.

The area of land in question (20 hectares) was proposed to be removed from the green belt making it available for development in the pre-submission version of the Plan in January 2013 but was not specifically included in the North Luton Strategic Allocation at that time (see attached plan dated 2013). This Plan was subject to consultation for six weeks in January/February 2013.

Full Council considered the pre-submission version of the Development Strategy on the 12th June 2014. The papers for Full Council included plans showing the strategic allocations and were circulated to all Members in advance of the meeting (see attached plan dated 2014). The North Luton Strategic Allocation now incorporated the parcel of land that had been removed from the green belt. This plan was also subject to six weeks public consultation.

A Framework Plan for the North of Luton has been produced which includes the land in question. This Plan was published for consultation on the 10th November for 5 weeks and public exhibitions were held on the 22nd November and the 28th November.

The sequence of events outlined above has not breached our commitment in the Council's Statement of Community Involvement nor denied opportunity to comment on the changes.