Planning Policy
Rushcliffe Borough Council
Rushcliffe Arena
Rugby Road
West Bridgford
Nottingham
NG2 7YG

By email: localdevelopment@rushcliffe.gov.uk

Dear Sirs

Rushcliffe Local Plan Part 2: Land and Planning Policies – Publication Version

Housing Allocations in East Bridgford

I refer to the above consultation exercise and offer the following brief comments on behalf of East Bridgford St Peter’s Church of England Academy.

It is noted that the Council are proposing to allocate two housing sites either side of Butt Lane, East Bridgford (Policies 8.1 and 8.2), together accommodating approximately 125 new houses.

The Academy has no particular views to express as to the planning merits of either allocation, but wishes, by way of these representations, to request that appropriate contributions are secured to ensure that existing and new pupils continue to benefit from an outstanding\(^1\) level of education.

Our school site is not a large one and the lack of teaching space relative to pupil numbers has, over the years, proved quite challenging.

We were very fortunate to receive grant assistance to extend the school recently, which has helped considerably.

As a consequence of the above, we feel that we have the physical space (and pupil admission numbers) to accommodate those children who might move into the new houses. Any contributions would therefore be directed towards improving our older classrooms to ensure they can remain fit for purpose and teaching staff, rather than on extending the floor space further \textit{per se}.

\(^1\) East Bridgford St Peter’s has been awarded Outstanding status from both Ofsted and the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS)
Our annual budget is already very tight and our Multi-Academy Trust Board dictates that individual academy budgets cannot run into deficit.

As such, the Academy will be reliant on education contributions being secured from both housing sites to ensure that the educational needs of existing and future pupils are not compromised as a consequence of the addition of a (not insignificant) number of new housing within the village.

We always (and will continue to) welcome each and every one of our children in the village and its catchment to our school and strive to offer them the very best experience in their formative years.

I would therefore be grateful if you would formally record the above request for appropriate and proportionate education contributions to be secured from both housing allocations in order that the respective landowners/developers can factor such into their plans from the outset.

Presumably, there are other policies in the Local Plan which deal with developer contributions (criterion (g) of Policy 8.1 and criterion (f) of Policy 8.2). However, if this is not the case, then the need for education contributions ought perhaps to be reflected specifically in the policy requirements of both housing allocations.

A copy of these representations has also been sent to the Education Authority directly.

Yours faithfully

R Tomlinson
Head Teacher