

TABLE OF CONSULTATION RESPONSES TO THE GREAT LINFORD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN 1 AND PLAN 2 AREA APPLICATIONS AND MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL AND GREAT LINFORD PARISH COUNCIL COMMENTS.

Consultation Response	Great Linford Parish Council Response	Milton Keynes Council Response
<p>I do not support the splitting of the Neighbourhood Plan into two parts. This seems based more on the belief that the general public is unable to see the area as a larger entity and is only able to see a smaller local area. The total area has distinct linear boundaries which are in both of the proposed areas, i.e. the canal, the Redway, leisure routes and the grid roads. These are main considerations in drawing up a neighbourhood plan and need to be considered together as a whole and not in two parts.</p>	<p>Following the initial review and consultation regarding the issues to be considered within the Neighbourhood Plan, GLPC concluded that the planning process could more effectively be conducted by dividing the total parish area into two distinct areas with a separate Neighbourhood Plan for each area.</p> <p>We believed that, by taking this approach, we could more effectively engage with local communities and prepare plans which are more appropriate to the particular needs of each area and which fitted with the GLPC vision for a stronger local community, a high quality environment, greater engagement and partnership, improved local services and social and economic wellbeing at a local level.</p> <p>We believed that it was important that a particularly strong response from residents in one relatively small part, of what is a very large and diverse community, should not have a disproportionate effect on what might be a very different neighbourhood in terms of needs and priorities a few miles away.</p>	<p>The Parish of Great Linford covers a large physical area consisting of 12 estates, including the Northern Expansion Area, many of which are very distinct in terms of their local environment and community.</p> <p>The range of issues that a Neighbourhood Plan will look to address are therefore likely to differ quite vastly across the Parish. Milton Keynes Council therefore supports the idea that preparing two separate plans will allow issues specific to certain areas to be focused on and addressed in more detail, whilst gaining more input and support from the communities directly affected.</p> <p>With regard to 'distinct linear boundaries' which run through both areas, many of these are strategic features that exist across the entire urban area of Milton Keynes and should be dealt with at a more strategic level. Whilst Neighbourhood Plans can address local issues in relation to these, they will also be addressed by Milton Keynes Council in the preparation of our new Local Plan (Plan:MK).</p>

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<p>At the same time the Councils will duplicate scarce resources in preparing the plans, organising public participation and the like.</p> <p>My comments are made as both a local resident and as the local representative of the Cyclists Touring Club.</p>	<p>By running both plans in parallel and using the same documentation and format for both we believe that costs will be only marginally greater than producing a single plan but allow us to gain a better understanding of truly local issues whilst allowing for a synergy of ideas on common subjects such as transport and infrastructure .</p> <p>Because local engagement is a key factor in preparing a Neighbourhood Plan, that truly reflects residents' opinions, it would have been important to hold a number of local meetings across the parish irrespective of the number of plans. We do not therefore consider that any more time and cost has resulted from our decision to go with two plans rather than one.</p>	<p>With regard to resources it is expected that the funding from National Government, which will be received for each of the two plans, should be sufficient to cover the cost intensive parts of the process, such as the examination and referendum, for Milton Keynes Council. Great Linford Parish Council will still however be expected to cover their own costs.</p> <p>With the two plans being prepared in parallel, the opportunity to carry out certain parts of the process in unison will also help to ensure there is no major impact on financial or staffing resources at Milton Keynes Council.</p>