

Planning Policy Team
Borough Hall
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Bedford
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Dear Planning Policy Team,

Local Plan 2040

I would wholeheartedly support the Borough to focus on options 2a to 2d in its new local Plan 2040 along the A421 transport corridor with development to the south of Bedford with 2b being my first preference and 2a my second.

The options south of Bedford already have access to the main arterial road network, M1, A1, A421. The new / improved stations on the East West Rail route south of Bedford will be complementary to options 2a to 2d. Residents from development along these routes south of Bedford will have access to the proposed east/west rail station at Stewartby or Marston Moretaine, Wixams and also, if Little Barford or Dennybrook is chosen as a large development site, a train service into Kings Cross as well as the new east/west rail proposed in this area, whether that be Sandy or Tempsford. Either of the two large sites Little Barford

I strongly disagree with any inclusion in the 2040 Plan of the new garden village sites at Twinwoods or Colworth, which are completely unsustainable because of the already congested and overloaded road network north of Bedford. The A6 coming from North Bedfordshire into Bedford is already completely congested in the morning and peak with traffic queuing for at least half a mile along Paula Radcliffe Way and also along Great Ouse Way. The A6 simply cannot take the amount of traffic that would be generated by any large-scale development along the A6 north of Bedford.

I am also concerned about the chosen east/west rail route from Bedford to Cambridge with the vast infrastructure constructions that will be needed to be provided to cross the River Great Ouse valley and the A6. This will have a huge and damaging impact on the beautiful Great Ouse Valley.

In conclusion, I support the draft Local Plan 2040 with development south of Bedford under options 2a-2d but with a strong preference for 2b.

Yours sincerely,