



Date: 07/06/23

Your ref: Planning Policy Team: Cossington Neighbourhood Plan: Our Ref: SD

Contact Mr Stephen Day-Designing out Crime Officer

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Dear Richard,

I am writing to you in my capacity as the Leicestershire Police Designing out Crime Officer (DOCO). I have been requested to comment on behalf of Leicestershire Police in relation to the proposed Cossington Neighbourhood Plan as part of the proposed Charnwood Council planning policy.

Leicestershire Police support the creation of a Cossington Neighbourhood Plan, which has a primary objective to reflect the community wide views, comments, observations, concerns and ambitions about Cossington planning in respect to future applications and their implications.

Leicestershire Police will always attempt to reflect the aspirations of all the residents and people who work, study and pass through the area in the way that they Police the area, and will continue to do so, taking into consideration the contents of future Cossington Neighbourhood Plans. Neighbourhood Policing is a central part of Policing with resources deployed to provide visible presence and deterrent to potential offenders and contact for members of the public.

Future planning applications and any additional demand on Policing resources, will need consideration, as currently resources are deployed from areas outside Cossington. Due to changes in the Policing estate, Police responses will still be maintained through new innovation and technological advances. Neighbourhood Policing will be maintained and continue to provide a close link to the community they serve and effective community consultation.

To maintain the current levels and to accommodate future additional demand created by population growth and the resultant new dwellings, and associated infrastructure of schools, commercial, retail and other facilities such as open space additional Policing considerations should be taken into consideration.

Open Space is a key issue for Policing within the planning process of new developments with particular attention to Safer Streets issues. Ongoing government funding has been focused on providing safer routes through Open Spaces with attention to trimming of ground level foliage to 1m and trees to have foliage trimmed to 2m from the ground to provide a 1m clear field of vision. Also lighting, signage and CCTV improvements are under consideration. Any new appropriate Open Spaces should consider these issues, to provide safe transit and use of these areas. Women and girls, as well as all vulnerable persons have been subject to crime and would be able to benefit from early consideration via the planning process.



Paragraph 92 (a) & (b) of NPPF 2021 specifically provides that: -

Planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places which:

(a) promote social interaction, including opportunities for meetings between people who might not otherwise come into contact with each other – for example through mixed-use developments, strong neighbourhood centres, street layouts that allow for easy pedestrian and cycle connections within and between neighbourhoods, and active street frontages;

(b) are safe and accessible, so that crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion – for example through the use of attractive, well-designed, clear and legible pedestrian and cycle routes, and high-quality public space, which encourage the active and continual use of public areas.

Paragraph 96 states that: -

To ensure faster delivery of other public service infrastructure such as further education colleges, hospitals and criminal justice accommodation, local planning authorities should also work proactively and positively with promoters, delivery partners and statutory bodies to plan for required facilities and resolve key planning issues before applications are submitted.

Hence the inclusion of a police contribution to Leicestershire Police is a Priority consideration.

Policing is a 24/7 service resourced to respond and deploy on an "on demand" and "equal access" basis and is wholly dependent on a range of facilities for staff to deliver this. A primary issue for Leicestershire Police is to ensure that new large-scale developments make adequate provision for the future policing needs that it will generate.

At present Cossington has no current Policing facilities. However, where additional development is proposed, Leicestershire Police may seek to deploy additional staffing and additional infrastructures to ensure quality neighbourhood community-based policing.

Cossington is requested to work with Leicestershire Police by consulting with them on large-scale applications, firstly to gain their perspective from a design front and secondly to understand whether the associated growth would produce a need for additional Policing infrastructure. If this is the case then Leicestershire Police will assess each application on an individual basis, by looking at the current level and location of available officers and then the demand associated with that development.



A request for developer contributions may then be submitted to go towards the additional infrastructure needed to maintain a sustainably high level of policing within the areas covered by Cossington Parish Council.

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 states all relevant authorities have a duty to consider the impact of all their functions and decisions on crime and disorder. Leicestershire Police will work closely with our partners to design out these risks wherever possible.

Areas including public space, shop frontages and appropriate security such as shutters should include sympathetic design and be in keeping with local architecture, whilst still providing effective security.

Other key areas where planning can support the local businesses includes the night time economy. Effective planning including lighting and use of CCTV, if required will reduce the risk of crime and disorder. In support of managing these requirements providing a 24/7 service Leicestershire Police will continue to provide to residents of Cossington.

S106 Agreements

S106 Applications will be applied for in support of health, education provision, open space and other public services and likewise, Leicestershire Police would look to apply for support as a result of any additional policing demand created. Any such funds would allow consideration of equipment or in support of estate to support responses to Cossington, though Leicestershire Police will consider estate on an ongoing basis. Charnwood Council have S106 Agreements in respect to new developments within the area in support of Policing.

Statutory funding via the Policing precept and Government would follow on after occupation of any new dwellings. Also, where new demand is placed on Policing resources due to expansion, Leicestershire Police, Charnwood Council and Cossington Parish Council residents within Cossington would benefit from support of the provision of S106 and future S106 bids being considered in support of Policing provision within the Cossington Parish Council area.



Consultations on Planning Applications

Current planning consultations referred to Leicestershire Police have provided the opportunity to comment on a number of applications. It would be beneficial if further comment was referred in respect to large developments either residential or commercial. Also, where there is an increased risk of public safety via open space and large footfall as well as areas relating to changes to the night economy would be appreciated (Section 17 of Crime & Disorder Act 1998). Traveller provision is another area where Policing considerations are recommended wherever possible for comment and consideration.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.
Kind regards

Mr Stephen Day
Designing out Crime Officer