Dear Claire,

Consultation on the Draft Darley Dale Neighbourhood Plan

Highways England welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Draft Darley Dale Neighbourhood Plan which covers the period 2017 to 2033. The document provides a vision for the future of the area and sets out a number of key objectives and planning policies which will be used to help determine planning applications.

Highways England has been appointed by the Secretary of State for Transport as strategic highway company under the provisions of the Infrastructure Act 2015 and is the highway authority, traffic authority and street authority for the Strategic Road Network (SRN). It is our role to maintain the safe and efficient operation of the SRN whilst acting as a delivery partner to national economic growth. In relation to the Darley Dale Neighbourhood Plan, Highways England’s principal interest is safeguarding the A38 located approximately 16km to the southeast of the Plan area.

We understand that a Neighbourhood Plan is required to be in conformity with relevant national and borough-wide planning policies. Accordingly, the Neighbourhood Plan for Darley Dale is required to be in conformity with the adopted Derbyshire Dales Local Plan and this is acknowledged within the document.

Following review of the housing and employment sites that have been allocated in the Local Plan for the Parish, due to the limited levels of growth coming forward within the Neighbourhood Plan area (totalling approximately 200 new homes), we do not consider that there will be any material traffic impacts on the operation of the SRN.

We therefore have no further comments to provide, and trust the above is useful in the progression of the Darley Dale Neighbourhood Plan.

Yours sincerely,
Steve Freek
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