Comments received from Staffordshire County Council (SCC)

In terms of the cumulative impacts of Tamworth Borough Council's (TBC) potential site allocations on the highway network across Tamworth, Staffordshire County Council (SCC) would comment as follows.

The total number of dwellings in the sites that TBC has shared with SCC, that are within their administrative boundary, do not cause SCC too much concern in terms of impact on the highway network. The exception to that would be the sites in the North of Tamworth. These have a total housing yield of around 415 units, 200 of which are already consented at Ashlands Farm. SCC has secured some mitigation towards sustainable travel (S106 contribution) and the vehicle trips from the site can be accommodated on the highway network once the improvement scheme related to Arkall Farm and Browns Lane Extension is constructed. The relocation of South Staffordshire College from Croft Street to the town centre helped create some headroom by removing car trips associated with the college.

18/013 – 21

18/002 – 119

18/003 – 32

22/091 - 43

Total – 215 units

22/094 – 200 (consented)

Total – 415 units

As TBC is aware, SCC is currently preparing a report regarding potential future development in the North of Tamworth. The Upper Gungate highway corridor is full to capacity following recent development and consents in that area. Very little else can be done to add road capacity on the ground. Direct active travel routes are very limited due to the presence of the railway lines and other infrastructure, and will be complex, problematic and expensive to deliver. Local facilities are also limited increasing the need for residents to travel towards the town centre for their daily needs.

In terms of TBC's other sites, mitigation towards transport impacts (unless severe) is likely to take a vision-led approach with sustainable and active travel at the fore. SCC would expect that each site will need to contribute to these types of schemes, to be determined at planning application stage. Each development will need to connect into existing facilities, improve or expand them to ensure that their development is fully connected to facilities, and offers serious sustainable alternatives to the car for its residents. SCC's LTP and sub documents (LCWIP, BSIP) should guide the types of schemes expected. Given that many of the proposed sites are small in nature, they may not individually be able to provide schemes. SCC would like a discussion with TBC regarding how it may be possible to secure cumulative contributions from smaller sites that are clustered together, the types of mechanisms available to achieve this and any policy led approach TBC can take in their Local Plan to ensure it.

These comments relate to site allocations within TBC's administrative boundary. SCC is aware TBC will need land within other local authorities to help deliver their housing need. SCC will provide comment on these sites when more information is available.