



**Michelle Welsh MP**  
Member of Parliament for Sherwood Forest  
House of Commons,  
London  
SW1A 0AA

Dear Ashfield District Council Planning Department,

**RE: Local Plan Consultation**

I write regarding Ashfield District Council's latest Local Plan proposals and the implications for Hucknall. After much consideration, I can confirm that I will be supporting the latest proposals. I believe it is vital for us to finally have a Local Plan in place, and therefore encourage residents of Hucknall to support the Plan.

While there are still important considerations to address, I welcome the opportunity to provide my thoughts on ensuring a sustainable and well-supported future for Hucknall.

Firstly, I am pleased to see that the revised plan no longer includes the proposed large-scale development at Whyburn Farm. This site has been a matter of significant local concern, and its removal from the plan will undoubtedly come as a relief to many residents. Protecting our valuable green spaces while ensuring responsible and sustainable growth is of utmost importance, and this revision is a step in the right direction.

I acknowledge that the updated plan includes a number of smaller developments across Hucknall. While I understand the necessity of meeting housing demand, I must emphasise the ongoing concerns about infrastructure in the town. Hucknall has seen substantial growth in recent years, yet the necessary improvements in roads, healthcare provision, and school places have not kept pace. It is crucial that any future development is accompanied by a clear, robust infrastructure strategy to support both existing and new residents. A well-structured plan is also essential to ensure that future growth is both controlled and beneficial to the community.

Additionally, I must stress the urgency of adopting a Local Plan as soon as possible. Without an approved plan in place, we are currently witnessing what happens when you don't have a Local Plan in place, with developers' eyes on Whyburn Farm and Misk Hills once again.

I encourage Ashfield District Council to prioritise infrastructure enhancements and to proceed with the adoption of a Local Plan without undue delay. I look forward to working collaboratively to ensure that the Local Plan is well-planned and supported by the necessary infrastructure. I will personally be writing to the inspectorate in support of the Draft Local Plan and urge Ashfield District Council to ensure that the Local Plan get over the line.

Yours sincerely,

**Michelle Welsh MP**  
Member of Parliament for Sherwood Forest