

Cllr David Rowe, Felixstowe Town Hall, Felixstowe, IP11 2AG.

Dear Cllr Rowe,

East Suffolk Council are committed to developing an outline planning application which covers the whole allocation at North Felixstowe Garden Neighbourhood. We are currently in the middle of developing a draft masterplan for the site and therefore do not believe that it is an appropriate time to pause the process.

The Local Plan is an up-to-date statutory document and we do not believe there is any reason to question its accuracy. If you would like to discuss this in more detail, we would suggest the Local Planning Authority is the appropriate body to take up representations.

East Suffolk Council Cabinet will have the final say on whether the draft masterplan should be submitted to the Local Planning Authority. This decision is now likely to be taken next Spring/Summer. If the decision is made to submit a planning application, there will be a further round of statutory consultation which FTC will be able to respond to.

The subject of the capacity of Felixstowe Secondary School is largely an issue for the School itself, the DfE and SCC Education Team. East Suffolk Council are committed to helping by all means possible to ensure the issue is resolved as efficiently and effectively as possible. As North Felixstowe is 10–15-year strategic project we do not see how pausing this would have a material effect on the capacity of Felixstowe Secondary School. We are working closely with all parties through the development of the draft masterplan to ensure appropriate plans are made for future population growth.

Thank you for outlining in more detail several key areas of the draft masterplan that you would like to see further explored. We are in the process of refining the initial draft proposal that we put out to consultation in August.

The opinions expressed in your letter will be collated, along with all other consultation responses to inform a final version of a Masterplan, which will be published prior to entering the formal Planning Process. This in turn will provide a further opportunity for consultation with local communities and key stakeholders.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr David Beavan | Cabinet Member for HousingEast Suffolk Council