

NEV Planning Obs dSPD Comments and Responses (Individuals)

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
3	Mr K	Chapman	1	Redlands Farm. This was previously described as being a small hamlet of 30/50 houses by Councillor Heenan. It now appears to be 300/400 high density houses. These would be out of keeping with the surrounding area. I would be in favour of 30/50 well designed houses in a small hamlet, but 300-400 house is far too many.		Noted. The current planning application for Redlands Airfield is based on detailed site assessment, and supported by a full Environmental Impact Assessment including Transport Assessment. A higher quantum of development may be acceptable subject to meeting day to day needs of the new residents in a sustainable manner. The planning application is being assessed by the Council.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
3	Mr K	Chapman	2	Having 300-400 houses having access to the rural Wanborough road causes concern. This is a small rural road often frequented by walkers, cyclists and horses. Having hundreds of extra cars on this road with roundabout access will create the potential for more congestion and risk to other road users.		<p>Wanborough Road has a relatively high theoretical traffic capacity north of the Redlands Airfield access; this is due to a wide width carriageway and long and straight sight lines. Increased traffic movements through Wanborough and surrounding parishes is however a concern and is reflected in policy. To address this the SPD sets out how contributions will be secured to manage and control the traffic movement through the sensitive areas of Wanborough and surrounding parishes through a series of measures as part of a traffic calming and management scheme.</p> <p>With regards to walkers, cyclists and horse riders, Wanborough Road currently experiences significantly high traffic speeds which dangerously conflict with use of the road by these user groups. To address this a scheme is also being developed to reduce traffic speeds on the road, making it safer for horse riders and on-carriageway cyclists, and pedestrians and off-road cyclists to be catered for a shared footway/cycleway.</p> <p>Upon the provision of roundabouts along this road, these are not proposed and the circles along the road on the Masterplan simply indicate a junction between two or more roads.</p>

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3	Mr K	Chapman	3	Any development from Redlands should not vent traffic onto the Wanborough Road inline with the initial proposals.		The policy direction for the NEV does not preclude access to Wanborough Road, but does stipulate that measures should be implemented to avoid rat-running through existing adjacent villages and east Swindon. Due to Wanborough Road north of the Redlands development access having sufficient capacity to accommodate the development, access from the development in this direction cannot be precluded or reasonably objected to. In this accord, the current access proposals prioritise the northbound movement and SBC are reviewing these proposals through the planning process. To further disincentivise southbound vehicle movement along Wanborough Road, the SPD further considers the securing of financial contributions and site specific works to provide traffic calming and traffic management of Wanborough Road, through Wanborough Parish and surrounding settlement areas.
3	Mr K	Chapman	4	There is no mention that I can see in the plans of how we could limit traffic rat running through Wanborough High Street. There needs to be plans in place to stop traffic using small rural roads to get access to Junction 14 of the M4.		Rat running through Wanborough is considered in Local Plan Policy NC3 and will be addressed in two ways: 1) implementing a scheme of traffic calming and management on Wanborough Road and throughout Wanborough to make rat-running less attractive and 2) increase the capacity of the A419 corridor and increase access to it via the Southern Connector Road thereby increasing the attractiveness of this route to the M4 via an improved Junction 15.

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3	Mr K	Chapman	5	The proposed road connecting Lotmead Village with Foxbridge village appears to show a roundabout on the Wanborough Road. My understanding was that this was supposed to be a flyover with no access to the Wanborough Road. Again given access to these new villages to a small rural road will create more traffic congestion and the potential for rat running.		The junction shown on the draft Masterplan is illustrative and the actual form of junction will be subject to detailed design.
4	Mrs M	Nowell	1	I am extremely concerned at the inadequate infrastructure provision to cope with the vast number of houses to be built in East Swindon. My concerns were consolidated after attending a recent NEV consultation meeting.		Noted. The purpose of the SPD and the accompanying documents is to ensure that the infrastructure required for the New Eastern Villages can be delivered in a co-ordinated and timely manner.
4	Mrs M	Nowell	2	The inhabitants of the new development will need to come into Swindon. Currently the roads are already extremely overcrowded at peak times and increasing lanes on Greenbridge roundabout will simply move the problem further into the town centre. I feel sorry for the inhabitants of Swindon Road who will end up with a solid traffic jam on their doorstep. Inevitably, Covingham Drive will end up as a 'short cut' alternative.		Connectivity with the town centre is important to the success of the development and hence the NEV Obligations SPD sets out a comprehensive, but not exhaustive list of infrastructure measures designed to maximise traffic capacity along the A420 and A419 corridors, but also to maximise and prioritise sustainable transport by walking, cycling and public transport. These measures aim to improve accessibility throughout the eastern side of Swindon and to maximise connectivity with the Town Centre.

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4	Mrs M	Nowell	3	Existing Park and Ride schemes in Swindon have not been successful so why do developers naively think that this scheme will magically solve the problem.		The proposed park and ride complies with Local Plan Policy NC3 and forms a single element of a much wider transport package. The proposed park and ride will be served by a bus priority route through the development leading to a new bridge over the A419 and then leading into the town centre supported by priority measures being brought forward as part of a Rapid Transit Study. The park and ride will therefore be served by high quality infrastructure to maximise its attractiveness over the car and is appropriately located to allow journeys along the A420 corridor to circumvent the existing junctions serving the Police Station, Gablecross and The White Hart junction.

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4	Mrs M	Nowell	4	<p>Health</p> <p>What additional provision is to be made at the Great Western Hospital to accommodate the extra population? Very recently my elderly mother had to be rushed into hospital. She had to wait in the ambulance for 45 minutes outside the hospital as there were no beds available and staff were rushed off their feet. Later, 8 patients were on beds in the corridor. It is a sad reflection that there was a clearly labelled file in A & E Reception for 'Corridor Patients' implying that this was not an isolated incident. GWH is already struggling, the additional population will only make the waiting lists for treatment even longer and demoralise staff further. The public identified the reduced provision of beds when GWH was being built but were assured this would be taken care of. Will our concerns now also be ignored?</p>		<p>Health care provision, in accord with Policy NC3 will be provided at the District Centre. The Council is working with health care providers to ensure that the health care requirements of the residents are fully met.</p>
4	Mrs M	Nowell	5	<p>Fire Service</p> <p>Is there any further provision to expand the Fire Service who will have to cover a huge additional area?</p>		<p>Policy NC3 in the Local Plan identifies the requirement to safeguard land for a fire station towards the southern part of the site. Discussions are ongoing with the W&FS.</p>

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4	Mrs M	Nowell	6	I fear that the impact of the development will reduce East Swindon to a traffic thoroughway into Swindon and reduce vital services to existing residents who will also have to put up with years of confusion, chaos and delays while the development is being built. I feel a lot more thought needs to be put into the consequences of this development.		The Local Plan and associated Supplementary Planning Documents form the policy framework under which the development parcels will be assessed for compliance. In order to prove compliance, each development will be subject to the planning process and will be required to submit thorough and comprehensive Transport Assessments and Environmental Impact Assessments to determine the impact upon existing residents and services and to propose appropriate mitigation packages.
5	S	Chapman	1	Object to the current Masterplan document that has recently been released by Swindon Council. Objection does not necessarily around the development itself (although Redlands Farm was previously described by Councillor Heenan as a small hamlet of 30-50 houses and now appears to have changed to 300-400 houses which is way more than originally proposed). Object specifically because the plan is now showing 2 access points to the Wanborough road from the new development and it is understand that in the original plan there should have been no access directly to this road.		The policy direction for the NEV does not preclude access to Wanborough Road, but does stipulate that measures should be implemented to avoid rat-running through existing adjacent villages and east Swindon. Whilst two accesses are proposed, the Masterplan and associated Infrastructure Delivery Plan includes measures to maximise priority routes into Swindon and to surrounding areas that avoid Wanborough Road, which itself will be made less attractive through traffic calming and management measures.

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5	S	Chapman	2	Any development from Redlands Farm should NOT feed traffic onto the Wanborough Road as the road simply is not made for such a large amount of traffic, and so will directly impact access in and out of Wanborough village.		<p>The policy direction for the NEV does not preclude access to Wanborough Road, but does stipulate that measures should be implemented to avoid rat-running through existing adjacent villages and east Swindon. Due to Wanborough Road north of the Redlands development access having sufficient capacity to accommodate the development, access from the development in this direction cannot be precluded or reasonably objected to. In this accord, the current access proposals prioritise the northbound movement and SBC are reviewing these proposals through the planning process.</p> <p>To further disincentivise southbound vehicle movement along Wanborough Road, the SPD further considers the securing of financial contributions and site specific works to provide traffic calming and traffic management of Wanborough Road, through Wanborough Parish and surrounding settlement areas.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
5	S	Chapman	3	Giving 300-400 houses access to the rural Wanborough road causes great concern, since it is a small rural road that is often frequented by walkers, cyclists and horses. Having hundreds of extra cars on this road with 2 roundabout accesses will dramatically increase the likelihood of congestion and risk to other road users.		<p>Wanborough Road has a relatively high theoretical traffic capacity north of the Redlands Airfield access; this is due to a wide width carriageway and long and straight sight lines. Increased traffic movements through Wanborough and surrounding parishes is however a concern and is reflected in policy. To address this the SPD sets out how contributions will be secured to manage and control the traffic movement through the sensitive areas of Wanborough and surrounding parishes through a series of measures as part of a traffic calming and management scheme.</p> <p>With regards to walkers, cyclists and horse riders, Wanborough Road currently experiences significantly high traffic speeds which dangerously conflict with use of the road by these user groups. To address this a scheme is also being developed to reduce traffic speeds on the road, making it safer for horse riders and on-carriageway cyclists, and pedestrians and off-road cyclists to be catered for a shared footway/cycleway.</p>

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5	S	Chapman	4	There is no mention that I can see in the plans of how we could limit traffic rat running through Wanborough High Street. We are all aware in Wanborough that this is already an issue, as there are lots of cars using Wanborough daily as a through road to get to Junction 14 of the M4. Another 300 or 400 houses will only lead to a substantial increase in the number of cars doing this. There needs to be plans in place to stop such heavy traffic from using the small rural roads for this		Rat running through Wanborough is considered in Local Plan Policy NC3 and will be addressed in two ways: 1) implementing a scheme of traffic calming and management on Wanborough Road and throughout Wanborough to make rat-running less attractive and 2) increase the capacity of the A419 corridor and increase access to it via the Southern Connector Road thereby increasing the attractiveness of this route to the M4 via an improved Junction 15.
5	S	Chapman	5	The proposed road connecting Lotmead Village with Foxbridge village appears to show a roundabout on the Wanborough Road. My understanding was that this was originally supposed to be a flyover with no access directly to the Wanborough Road. Again, giving these new villages access to a small rural road will only create more traffic congestion and the potential for rat running.	Please consider our position, look seriously at the proposed road systems and try to find an approach that provides the additional housing you require whilst not destroying our village life.	The junction between the road link to Commonhead Roundabout (the Southern Connector Road) and Wanborough Road has not been fully designed. However, the policy direction of avoiding rat running through Wanborough will dictate the design of this junction to limit accessibility to Wanborough Road from all directions.

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6	Mr & Mrs A B	Senior	1	We note that the document shows the line of the canal as a green canal corridor. However we are concerned that it does not include the requirement for the proposed development to make provision for the funding of the building of the canal as an enforceable part of the infrastructure development. This seems to be a serious oversight and we would be grateful for your clarification on this matter		The Masterplan clearly identifies the safeguarding of the route for the canal at the New Eastern Villages in accord with Policy NC3 of the adopted Local Plan. The Council continues to work in partnership with delivery partners, including the W&BCT, to enable shared infrastructure. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery of the canal through the planning process.
6	Mr & Mrs A B	Senior	2	We were pleased to see a section of canal is included in the plans of this development as the prospect of the restoration of the canal between Semington and Abingdon will add so much to the general amenity provided by Wiltshire as a scenic yet progressive county.		Noted.
9	Fiona	Balbernie	1	<p>We, in Stroud, have witnessed a great improvement in community spirit and congeniality with the restoration projects on, and alongside our canal.</p> <p>Voluntary groups bring people together. Wildlife is appreciated more, documented, valued. New building projects all too often, ignore, or skirt around, real opportunities to include and improve on, the important aspects of "village" life.</p>		Noted.

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9	Fiona	Balbernie	2	I hope the canal work will be supported and encouraged around Swindon - for everyone's benefit now, and into the future !		Noted.
41	Mr K	Oatley	1	I fully support the further development projected, extending this amenity, used by many and encouraging a wildlife corridor in the expansion of Swindon. Such a benefit, apart from the obvious, it will afford a water control element which in turn will, for the most-part, eliminate flooding risk. It will afford eventually a great recreational facility corridor and bring back to Swindon, in a new form, part of it's wonderful heritage.		Noted.
42	Mr P	Shepherd	1	I comment on behalf of my Mother who lives at 10 Peregrine Close, Covingham. The impact of the development appears to create a significant impact on the River Cole and we are concerned that this may negate the positive effects of the flood relief measures installed by the Environmental Agency on Covingham Drive and near Peregrine Close.		Noted. The Council has been working in partnership with the Environment Agency, and the emerging NEV SuDS Vision SPD is available for consultation prior to formal adoption. This addresses the issue of flooding in more detail, in line with the Adopted Local Plan and the Council's responsibility as Lead Flood Risk Authority.

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42	Mr P	Shepherd	2	Also the Plan does not show detail of how and where the road bridge over the A419 will link up with Covingham Drive. This will almost certainly create traffic jam problems at peak periods as drivers coming from the A419 and also from the new development area will seek to use Covingham Drive and St Paul's Drive to avoid the already difficult traffic situation at the White Heart roundabout and the Shrivenham Road problems. The Green Bridge measures will not avert these problems.		The detail of the bridge over the A419 is yet to be fully developed, in order to firmly determine landing points. With regards to the congestion, that this bridge connection may cause, it is anticipated that the transport package works associated with the NEV will address many of the congestion issues on the primary network and thus avoid any rat-running through Covingham exacerbating capacity issues.

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43	Karen	Brown	1	I would like to say that I am not at all happy about the proposed NEV development. It is being built partly on a flood risk area. The amount of upheaval and cost in changing all the roads to cope with the extra traffic is extremely high. Why is it that there are brownfield sites that are empty and have been for years that could be used for housing but they are just left and instead villages are being swallowed up and countryside built on. If the brownfield sites were used there are already roads in place. The extra traffic would be less on smaller brownfield sites and could slot in to existing roads easier and at less cost than the massive development being proposed. Swindon town centre is losing more and more shops all the time. Could the existing shops be moved all together and then the empty parts of the town centre could be used to develop for housing.		Noted. The principle of development is established in the Adopted Local Plan, which was subject to an independent Examination in Public in 2014.
43	Karen	Brown	2	I do not like the Great Stall Bridge proposals as it means that the NEV traffic will be able to use Merlin Way but anyone else coming off the A419 has to use the White Hart junction. For people that live in Coleview and Covingham will lose their access to their roads so that NEV can have access instead. How is that fair.		The scheme's for Great Stall Bridge and White Hart are being developed from the initial designs to minimise, where possible, any impact to current users.

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43	Karen	Brown	3	I do not understand why the access to Ermin street is being taken out. How are people supposed to go to Ermin street? Will all the traffic be sent to Greenbridge Roundabout and then have to use the 361 to get to the traffic lights and turn right into Swindon road. Seems to me that people already in Swindon are being penalised every step of the way to accommodate NEV.		The White Hart improvement works are being designed to maximise efficiency and rationalise the junction to operate like traditionally designed junctions. However, it is acknowledged that constraints to existing users need to be addressed in some cases and these will be considered as the schemes evolve.
43	Karen	Brown	4	I also see that Gablecross roundabout is being changed to traffic lights. Why? roundabouts keep traffic moving. All the new proposals are for putting traffic lights at junctions which just slows down the traffic.		The junction designs for Gablecross are not advanced enough to confirm this change. Notwithstanding this, signal controlled junctions have a higher capacity than roundabouts and maximise the throughput of traffic from all arms. Conversely to this, roundabouts prioritise the arms with the heaviest traffic flows and hence those arms with low levels of traffic can experience significant delays.

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43	Karen	Brown	5	<p>I am also very concerned about the proposed plans for the Nythe road junction. The plan to make it 4 lanes either side of the traffic lights is just going to create a big car park at the junction as the traffic will have to filter down to 2 lanes again. I live in the area where the road will be widened. I do not want traffic closer to my house. What is going to happen to the footpath and cycle way which is very well used. Will we have to lose part of our front garden? It is difficult to get out of our driveway with the amount of traffic at some times. If there are 4 lanes it will be impossible to turn right and it will mean having to drive to Greenbridge roundabout to turn round.</p> <p>I suggest that the Nythe road junction could be left as 2 lanes and a roundabout put in with part-time traffic signals to enable people leaving Nythe Road to get out during peak traffic times.</p>		The Nythe Road junction plans have not been fully developed and the appropriateness of any widening scheme has not been established.

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43	Karen	Brown	6	I don't think that the plans are well thought out at all. The majority of the traffic for NEV is being sent down Oxford Road. Roads are being closed forcing drivers to have to drive further to get to destinations that previously they could reach on the original roads. The town centre at Jury's Inn is another example of bad traffic planning. A perfectly good roundabout was taken out and a route past the law courts put in with traffic lights that hold up all the traffic and send drivers off on an extra journey that previously wasn't needed. Also it is now no longer possible to turn right and go down to Manchester Road. How is that an improvement.		Traffic associated with the NEV will have a number of destinations and routes open to it and not all traffic will impact upon Oxford Road. Notwithstanding this, Oxford Road, like other routes, will be subject to improvement works to maximise efficiency.
43	Karen	Brown	7	Why can't the traffic from NEV also be sent down Covingham Drive and Kingfisher Drive? Those areas have a lot of green spaces that could be used to widen the roads rather than the Oxford Road which doesn't have that luxury.		It is essential for SBC to promote and prioritise the primary roads serving Swindon to serve the NEV, in order to avoid unnecessary rat-running and material environmental implications for residential areas. In this regard, the focus for the NEV mitigation package is to maximise the capacity of the A420 and A419 corridors in order to serve Swindon as expediently as possible and to provide quick and direct access to the Strategic Road Network.
43	Karen	Brown	8	I am also concerned with how the proposed Nythe road junction will affect the value of my property. I'll be living beside a dual carriageway with loads of traffic and extra noise streaming past my house.		The plans for the Nythe Road junction have not been sufficiently developed to confirm the noise implications associated with its improvement.

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44	Mr R	Sewerniak	1	The Redlands development is beyond the planning boundary described by the Liden Brook and contravenes the protected rural buffer. The Redlands airfield is a massive asset to Swindon and should be enhanced otherwise Swindon will be nothing but boring houses for London commuters ultimately resulting in the promotion of miscreants.		The principle of development at Redlands Airfield is established in the Adopted Local Plan, which was subject to independent Examination in Public in 2014.
44	Mr R	Sewerniak	2	No NEV development can commence until the southern connector road to Commonhead Roundabout (not planned until May 2021) is constructed, otherwise, despite any cosmetic safety plans, there is a real danger of fatalities due to construction traffic using the local roads through Wanborough or Covingham.		Each development parcel will be subject of a Construction Management Plan which will determine appropriate routing of construction vehicles. This will be dealt with through the application process against what routes are available at the time.

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44	Mr R	Sewerniak	3	<p>In relation to the NEV developments, proposals to introduce traffic lights anywhere are unacceptable. Do not repeat the jungle of unnecessary and incomprehensible lights at the bottom of Croft Road. Despite the best efforts of your US consultant's models there is absolutely no need for traffic lights anywhere. We all know that roundabouts work well and are a Swindon tradition which must be adhered to. Properly designed roundabouts with 10mph speed limits (enforced by speed cameras or with rumble strips) will work fantastically. Here is an opportunity to be internationally innovative which must be pursued in order to make Swindon famous; otherwise the town will be another dull thoughtless conurbation.</p>		<p>Roundabouts work efficiently when similar traffic flows arrive on each arm, where there is a disparity in flows those carrying a small quantum of traffic are significantly prejudiced against. Traffic signals address this by controlling the access across all arms of the junction ensuring minimal delays across the highway network. In this accord, where land allows, where traffic flows are comparably equal and when the junction design is compatible with the urban form, roundabouts may be used. Alternatively, where movement represent a priority and land is constrained, traffic signals will be necessary.</p>

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44	Mr R	Sewerniak	4	<p>The proposed Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) for the NEV developments will not work unless they are extremely enormous because the soils are impermeable and the attenuation volume will be compromised. The floodplain is nearly always sodden even when there is no rain. The combined effects of drainage run-off from all the NEV developments and other developments in the River Cole catchment have not been taken into account. A holistic hydrodynamic numerical flood model for River Cole floodplain with and without the NEV developments for various return periods up to the 1 in 100 year event is a must in order to provide the design parameters for the developers so they do not skimp on their designs and exacerbate future flooding. The Wiltshire and Berkshire Canal can be added to this model to demonstrate its flood protection potential. In fact the canal must be constructed together with the NEV developments so that it provides construction fill material as well as a water amenity in the long term. With property flooding being a political issue every winter, it is probably illegal to pursue developments within the floodplain without having undertaken a comprehensive flood study to meet Environment Agency approval.</p>		<p>The Council will be consulting upon a draft SUDs SPD in the near future.</p>

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45	Mr J	Ratsey	1	<p>Planning of interventions to improve the traffic flows needs to consider a range of scenarios. For example, will employment opportunities in Swindon buck the current trend and substantially increase or will the NEV be a dormitory for people working elsewhere? Even if the employment is in Swindon, where is it likely to be? Most likely on the edge and not in the centre, I suspect.</p> <p>Any traffic modelling needs to be realistic and not influenced by unrealistic assumptions. Traffic, like water, will take the path of least resistance and drivers are helped by software which evaluates the options and identifies the fastest route.</p>		<p>A number of scenarios have been modelled as part of a comprehensive access strategy for the NEV. The Council is working in close partnership with adjacent authorities and deliver partners, including Highways England, and all planning applications will be accompanied by a detailed Transport Assessment.</p>

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45	Mr J	Ratsey	2	<p>Proposals for White Hart junction need to be considered carefully in the context of the traffic capacity of the adjacent roads. For example, the A420 east of that junction has roundabouts and traffic lights which combine to make a big obstruction to traffic flow while the Oxford Road to the west of White Hart also has limited capacity unless improved. The main problem with the roundabout at White Hart junction is the large diameter resulting in traffic on the roundabout moving quickly which makes it difficult to join the traffic flow. This can be fixed at low cost with some speed bumps.</p>		<p>The White Hart junction forms a part of a wider Transport Package that includes works to junctions along the A420 and Oxford Road. With regards to possible speed inhibiting measures on White Hart, this will be achieved through signal control and any implementation of speed humps would be considered dangerous where significant numbers of vehicles cross land and are constantly turning.</p>

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45	Mr J	Ratsey	3	The Swindon Local plan identifies this bridge "the green bridge") as being for buses, cyclists and pedestrians. The proposal to make it "bus priority" is actually gibberish unless bus priority is implemented in a way to prevent cars using the bridge to get into Swindon. It would provide a route into Swindon which avoids both the White Hart and Greenbridge junctions and will inherently attract considerable traffic with considerable disruption, inconvenience and extra noise for the people primarily living in Covingham but also for adjacent areas where the extra traffic will pass through. Therefore this bridge must be left as limited access as described in the Local Plan. It's bad enough having developers who are doing their best to tear up the Local Plan but SBC must not be a party to such destructive practices.		The Local Plan states that "the development shall provide: a green bridge across the A419 near Covingham Drive to provide for walking, cycling and public transport." The policy does not explicitly exclude general traffic provision, however SBC are further assessing the bridge and traffic demand to confirm that exclusive use of the Bridge by walkers, cyclists and bus users does not have significant repercussions elsewhere on the transport network.
45	Mr J	Ratsey	4	It appears from the map that the link road from NEV to Commonhead will cross the existing Covingham - Wanborough road at a junction. What measures will be put in place to prevent this junction being used as a short cut from NEV to Swindon which bypasses all the traffic lights between Commonhead and Coate roundabout?		The junction form between Wanborough Road and the Southern Connector road has yet to be determined, however its form will evolve to minimise rat-running.

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45	Mr J	Ratsey	5	I note that the proposed future alignment of the restored Wilts and Berks canal is shown on the maps. Will SBC impose integration of the canal into the developers' plans as has been done at Wichelstowe? This will offer various benefits including opportunities for drainage and flood risk management, creation of habitat and biodiversity and potential property value uplift as well as creation of a recreational facility. (Which has me wondering why this wasn't also done for Badbury Park where the developers must be generating a healthy profit.)		In accord with Policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV.
45	Mr J	Ratsey	6	What is being done to improve the A419, in particular the section between Commonhead and the M4? I understand that this is not under the control of SBC. However, this improvement must be put on the list of enabling infrastructure to be put in place before any houses are built in NEV. And please don't nod through incremental development under the guise of "no significant impact" because we all know that the cumulative impact is very significant.		The M4 Junction 15 works are currently secured against development at Commonhead and include widening the A419 and increasing the capacity of the junction alongside other approach road works. Notwithstanding this, relationship between the NEV and the M4, these works exist as a listed item in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan for this development.
46	Mr K	Price	1	Illegible		

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47	Fiona	McAnespie	1	Throughout the document you refer to 8,000 new dwellings, yet one of the first outline planning applications - relating to Redlands - is for significantly more dwellings than was originally anticipated. Is the figure of 8,000 realistic?		The Adopted Local Plan identifies the NEV as a strategic allocation of about 8,000 homes. Each planning application will be assessed on its own merits, in conformity with the Local Plan.
47	Fiona	McAnespie	2	You refer many times in the SPD to achieving the effective delivery of infrastructure on a 'right place, right time' basis. That is obviously very important, but it already appears that the Redlands development will go ahead before the relief road to the Commonhead roundabout is built. Will the right place, right time apply in practice?		Each development will be assessed for its phased impact against the merits of existing and planned infrastructure; this will include the Redlands development.
47	Fiona	McAnespie	3	I'm not sure what relevance 2.3 has, since no contributions are being sought through CIL. Given the huge impact of the NEV on infrastructure, it's surprising that no contributions are being sought. Paras 2.6 and 2.7 refer to the need for obligations and policy burdens not to threaten the viability of development, from a land owner and developer's perspective. What is safeguarding the council tax payers of Swindon, to prevent the burden of infrastructure provision from falling to them?		Contributions will be secured via S106 agreements, rather than through CIL, to maximise the delivery of local and related infrastructure, rather than Borough wide infrastructure.

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47	Fiona	McAnespie	4	2.15 - Policy HA2; what safeguard is there to prevent the majority of affordable homes being delivered off-site, leading to 'ghettoisation'? Does the council have no specific policies relating to Highways, Education and Healthcare?		In accord with Local Plan policy, all the village proformas set out the requirement for the delivery of 30% affordable homes with the exception of South Marston (20%).
47	Fiona	McAnespie	5	How does the Framework Section 106 Agreement work in practise, when development will go ahead piecemeal?		The purpose of the SPD is to ensure the delivery of infrastructure at the NEV can be secured in a holistic and timely way.
47	Fiona	McAnespie	6	Para 4.17 - what does this mean in practise? For example, what will be considered an appropriate level of infrastructure delivery in the case of the Redlands development which appears likely to be delivered well out of phase?		The infrastructure requirements for Redlands are clearly set out in the Redlands village proforma.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
47	Fiona	McAnespie	7	Appendix B - suggests that measures will be taken to minimise 'rat-running' through existing adjacent villages and east Swindon. What will these measures be and when will they be implemented? Mention is made of a health care facility; how closely is the council working with GWH to increase capacity in line with the large increase in population which NEV will presumably deliver?		To avoid rat-running, the key aims are to maximise capacity of the primary road network, being the A420 and A419 corridors, and thereby reduce journey times. This will be achieved by increasing capacity at key junctions on these corridors. Further to enhancing the attractiveness of these corridors, the NEV will also have direct and expedient access to the A420 directly and the A419 by the New Southern Connector Road which will transmit traffic to Commonhead Roundabout and onto the M4. Alternative routes, being those which would be subject to rat running, will be downgraded in their attractiveness with traffic calming measures throughout South Marston, Wanborough and their surrounding settlements. This balance between maximising attractiveness of the major routes and disincentivising traffic from using the tertiary routes should mitigate any perceived rat-running. The traffic calming and management schemes are secured
47	Fiona	McAnespie	8	Appendix B e - no mention of Hinton Parva; can it be added?		The Village Proforma's of Redlands, Foxbridge and Lotmead Village includes provision for contributions to traffic calming and management measures within Wanborough and surrounding villages and hamlets. It is considered that Hinton Parva is included within this and where necessary may be subject to mitigation works as a result of the NEV.

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47	Fiona	McAnespie	9	Appendix D - why are Diversity Impact Assessments and Health Impact Assessments not being made mandatory? Without them, how will you assess that legal obligations are being met in these areas?		A DIA accompanies the SPD. It is not necessary to conduct a HIA on the SPD. The Local Plan is subject to an HIA.
48	Mr D	Knight	1	Further to the Paris accord and the UK's climate change law and commitments, it is essential that any new development considers how energy use can be minimised and energy generation can be 100% renewable and additional to existing capacity. I urge you to incentivise the developers to go beyond legislation with regards to energy efficiency schemes, to consider a renewably powered district heating system or to insist on new renewable generation being developed in association with the scheme. The Westmill community wind and solar farm to the east of Swindon is an excellent example of how this can work and the new abundance plan also should be linked and supported.		Noted.
48	Mr D	Knight	2	Please ensure that excellent provision is made a requirement of the planning process to ensure that safe separate routes are including to enable access by all in the new development. Linked to this is the canal route towpath (see below), which can be a key walking/cycling artery through the development.		Agree with towpath usage.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
48	Mr D	Knight	3	<p>W&B Canal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •It's very good to see that the protected canal route has been included •The construction of the canal must be included as part of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure and should be funded by the developers •The canal offers opportunities for flood relief and land drainage •The canal offers a wonderful opportunity to make a distinctive character for the New Eastern Villages •Working canals in other location have created property uplift, and will do so here as well •A built canal will create both recreational and leisure assets as well as improving people's well-being •A built canal will create wildlife habitat assets and increase biodiversity 		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
49	S	Bacon	1	I'm pleased to see that the Eastern Villages Draft SPD does intend that the land required for public open space and biodiversity is being protected, and that "the route for the Wilts & Berks Canal as set out on the Policies Map will be safeguarded and protected from development". However, simply saying that the Wilts & Berks Canal is a 'good thing' will not get it built. The development brief must ensure that it will be built before the housing - when it is relatively less expensive to do so.		The Adopted Local Plan requires the route of the canal to be safeguarded. The Council continues to work in partnership with delivery partners, including the W&BCT, to enable shared infrastructure. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery of the canal through the planning process.
49	S	Bacon	2	The developers will be very happy to include in their publicity material artists' impressions of people walking, cycling, and generally enjoying the proximity of the canal - but that's no guarantee that these facilities will actually exist once the developments have been completed. There should be an obligation that the canal - in effect the 'icing on the cake' - is provided in much the same way that it has already been built in East Wichel and by the new Waitrose. Something special is already happening in these areas - and if the Council is not careful, the Eastern Villages will be built without that 'something special' in place.		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
49	S	Bacon	3	<p>It's already been demonstrated that developers can get significantly higher prices for houses that are by water. Look at the Arborfield Garrison SPD in central Berkshire - the very first housing development on the Garrison site is the one surrounding an already-existing lake, and of course Crest Nicholson are making as much of it as they can. Look at countless other housing schemes by canals, and you'll find the same effect: Water-side properties sell at a premium.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>
49	S	Bacon	4	<p>We can demonstrate that the Wilts & Berks Canal will enable bio-diversity, enable exercise and provide an attractive open space - just take a short trip on 'Dragonfly' from the landing stage at Wichelstowe Waitrose and count the walkers, cyclists and runners on the towpath! However, that's not all. Look on a canal as a very long 'Balancing Pond'. Why contrive a deep and largely dry 'Balancing Pond' alongside a development when a living waterway can add character - and mitigate the effects of flooding?</p>		<p>Point noted.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
49	S	Bacon	5	Please add flood-control to the attributes of the planned canal through the Eastern Villages. What would this represent for the cost of the new developments? A small percentage, but then there would be the added bonus of biodiversity, open space and improved well-being. Please don't simply make the canal an after-thought, a what-might-have-been, or 'we-warned-you-about-the-flooding'; please make it a central provision for the development plan and everyone will gain, not least the developments with something that other parts of Swindon will lack.		Points noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
50	Mr C	Rolph	1	<p>I write in support of the canal reinstatement within this plan and make the following points.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It's very good to see that the protected canal route has been included • The construction of the canal must be included as part of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure • The canal should be funded by the developers • The canal offers opportunities for flood relief and land drainage • The canal offers a wonderful opportunity to make a distinctive character for the New Eastern Villages • Working canals in other locations have created property uplift, and will do so here as well • A built canal will create both recreational and leisure assets as well as improving people's well-being • A built canal will create wildlife habitat assets and increase biodiversity 		Support noted.
50	Mr C	Rolph	6	<p>The size of the SuDS ponds will depend on the estimate of how much stagnant water remains in the ponds following a storm, hence how much attenuation capacity is available for the next storm. The developer will wish to optimize the pond size and this may compromise the efficiency of SuDS.</p>		Noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
50	Mr C	Rolph	7	Note that the developments are to be built on islands set above the floodplain so as to be above the 1 in 100 flood level in the catchment, but what is this level? The only way to know the flood level is to carry out a holistic hydrodynamic numerical model of the River Cole catchment with and without the NEV to assess the effect of the islands on predicted flood levels and flows. Tagging the canal on to this model will show how the canal forms a flood barrier to protect the NEV. Such a model needs to be instigated by SBC.		Noted.
50	Mr C	Rolph	8	<p>Submission of technical notes : Note 1 (dated March 2016), which deals with Water Management generally and describes how the Wilts and Berks canal provides flood mitigation and</p> <p>Note 2 (dated April 2016) which describes how the canal can provide a flood barrier to protect the NEV.</p>		Noted.
50	Mr C	Rolph	9	Canals add value to residential development, provide for leisure and recreation and public amenity to the localities through which it travels. It is illogical that SBC has all but ignored the canal within its Masterplan; to the extent that its planned corridor is marginalised and out of sight and contact with their urban development plans.		The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
51	Mr C	Jenkins	1	As an active member of the Wilts & Berks Canal Trust I am very pleased to see that the protected canal route has been included in the planning for the new Eastern Villages. This planning should explicitly include the Wilts & Berks Canal as part of the infrastructure for this new development and as a result be funded by the developers of the site; who will in turn be the recipients of the “premium” payments that house buyers will be willing to pay to have such a superb amenity as part of their local infrastructure		The Council continues to work in partnership with delivery partners, including the W&BCT, to enable shared infrastructure. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery of the canal through the planning process.
51	Mr C	Jenkins	2	The provision of the Wilts & Berks Canal will have enormous beneficial effects on the local communities of the Eastern Villages. The canal will provide a fantastic “green corridor” for wild life and increased biodiversity. It will also provide health and recreational opportunities (kayaking, cycling, running, walking, fishing, bird watching) for both local residents and the wider community; while also providing significant benefits for flood relief and land drainage in the area.		Points noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
51	Mr C	Jenkins	3	Inclusion of the Wilts & Berks Canal in the planning for the Eastern Villages is essential, but must be paid for by the developers. It is a unique opportunity that should be exploited to the full and I hope it will get full support from Swindon Borough Council.		The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.
52	Mr P	Stapleton	1	The proposed canal will be a very valuable addition to the local and national amenity, but without a requirement for the developer to build it during the development, it is almost certain that it would never get built. The developers may even find that the ability to charge more for their properties because of the canal would recompense them in part for the cost of the work.		The Council continues to work in partnership with delivery partners, including the W&BCT, to enable shared infrastructure. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery of the canal through the planning process.
53	Mr S	Drinkwater	1	It is very welcome news that the New Eastern Villages SPD has committed to protect the route of the Wilts and Berks Canal from development (DSP Appendix B, section d). As a volunteer with the Cotswold Canals Trust, I have seen first hand the massive environmental improvements for both wildlife and people that a restored canal has brought to the Stroud area and received many favourable comments from local people.		Noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
53	Mr S	Drinkwater	2	<p>However, to turn a protected route into a restored canal requires funding both for materials and some civil engineering input, even though much of the labour would most likely be provided by volunteers. A restored canal will almost certainly bring financial returns for the developers, reflected in the increased desirability of their properties for many reasons, such as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provision of recreational and leisure assets - Increased confidence in drainage and flood relief provision - Improved wildlife habitat and diversity <p>As such, it seems only fair that the developers should be contracted to provide funding to ensure the restoration can be completed successfully.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

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54	Mr I	Cutler	1	<p>I would like to make a comment supporting the general approach and highlighting the inclusion of the Canal route.</p> <p>It is important that the canal route is fully protected and included in this proposal in full.</p> <p>The construction and repair of the canal should in my opinion be funded by the developers as they will benefit significantly by this proposal.</p> <p>The construction of the canal would provide a significant area for recreation and leisure as well as improving the general area.</p> <p>It would also provide flood relief and land drainage for the development area as well.</p>		<p>Support noted. The Council continues to work in partnership with delivery partners, including the W&BCT, to enable delivery of shared infrastructure. The canal route through the NEV is safeguarded. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
55	Mr D	Chalmers	1	<p>As a member of the Wilts & Berks Canal Society I am delighted to see the canal is included in plans for the Eastern village. It will provide a lovely green corridor for the residents. It would be much better for residents and the house builders if the builders paid to have the canal and necessary infrastructure built at the time of building the houses. From residents both those living alongside the canal as well as those walking to see boats moving along will enhance their enjoyment. From the builders it provides a place to take rain water away from the nearby streets and also with a canal they can add a premium to the house price. The nearby development did build the canal as part of their development and I believe that has been successful and, when further restoration is carried out elsewhere, they will see boats passing along.</p> <p>So I ask that an amendment be made requiring builders to provide a canal as requirement of the</p>		Support noted. The Council continues to work in partnership with delivery partners, including the W&BCT, to enable delivery of shared infrastructure. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
56	Mr B	Acres	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •It's very good to see that the protected canal route has been included •The construction of the canal must be included as part of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure •The canal should be funded by the developers •The canal offers opportunities for flood relief and land drainage •The canal offers a wonderful opportunity to make a distinctive character for the New Eastern Villages •Working canals in other location have created property uplift, and will do so here as well •A built canal will create both recreational and leisure assets as well as improving people's well-being •A built canal will create wildlife habitat assets and increase biodiversity 		Support noted. The Council continues to work in partnership with delivery partners, including the W&BCT, to enable delivery of shared infrastructure. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.

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57	Mr D	Donaldson	1	<p>I am a Wilts & Berks Canal Trust volunteer and am delighted that the canal route is protected through the Eastern Villages.</p> <p>However protecting the line of the canal is not enough.</p> <p>To be truly effective as a flood relief mechanism whilst also being a well designed and aesthetically pleasing canal it needs to be built before or in conjunction with the rest of the development.</p> <p>It simply does not make sense to spend millions of pounds to create a drainage system with pipes, channels and attenuation dams etc. only to spend millions modifying it to fit a canal system .</p> <p>The exact area to protect and leave aside for the canal with its locks and pounds may lead to land being wasted and wrong assumptions being made</p> <p>In my opinion there is a risk that flooding may occur whilst the drainage system is compromised during the canals construction.</p>		<p>Support noted. The Council continues to work in partnership with delivery partners, including the W&BCT, to enable delivery of shared infrastructure. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
57	Mr D	Donaldson	2	<p>I would suggest the best solution is to have the developers build the canal as they have done in Wichelstowe East. Anything else may lead to a botch job.</p> <p>The developers have everything to gain. They can sell properties which are canal side or close to the canal at a premium. The villages will be able to boast they have a lowered flood risk thanks to the presence of the canal. Their work will be showcased to all the narrow boaters who pass along the canal.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
57	Mr D	Donaldson	3	<p>The vision of the Swindon of the future that I have been promoting as a Wilts & Berks Canal Trust volunteer is a Swindon with a canal at its heart. If the canal is built properly Swindon will equal or surpass other towns with canals in its beauty and character.</p> <p>Swindon has a unique position at the hub of the Wilts & Berks, North Wilts system and has the potential to attract hundreds if not thousands of narrow boaters bringing vast sums into the local economy as well as providing a number of permanent jobs.</p> <p>Swindon would become a destination of choice for narrow boat tourists, particularly as it has so many attractions in its surrounds, Uffington White Horse, Avebury , etc.</p> <p>The environment created by the canal in the Eastern villages will make the villages a very desirable place to live . Canals offer recreational and leisure opportunities as well as providing a wildlife corridor. A great place to live!</p>		Points noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
58	Mr J	Gorton	1	<p>I would just like to add a comment regarding the proposed development:</p> <p>The plans show a stretch of "safeguarded" canal route. I presume this means that the stretch will be kept for future restoration by others. The cost of actually restoring this stretch of the canal as part of the development must be pretty small in the overall scheme of things and it seems foolish not to do it as it would undoubtedly enhance the environment and wildlife. If left as a corridor, it could end up as a dumping ground and become a scar across the landscape. This is a great chance to push the restoration forward.</p>		<p>The route is safeguarded in Policy NC3 of the Adopted Local Plan. The Council continues to work in partnership with delivery partners, including the W&BCT, to enable delivery of shared infrastructure. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking and cycling.</p>
59	Mr D	Jarvis	1	<p>There seems to be no provision for funding the canal provision. Surely this should be from a developer contribution or clause 106 money?</p>		<p>The Council continues to work in partnership with delivery partners, including the W&BCT, to enable delivery of shared infrastructure. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>
59	Mr D	Jarvis	2	<p>There seems to be no open water areas. These are popular for water sports and also as quiet areas of natural beauty in such places as Milton Keynes. They could of course provide water for the canal.</p>		<p>Point noted.</p>

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60	Mr B	Knight	1	<p>Although there is a lot in this document, I was pleased to see, if my understanding is correct, the inclusion of the route of the derelict Wilts and Berkshire Canal.</p> <p>Having walked many restored Canals before and after restoration , and seen the numbers of like minded people using same I feel that this route should be included in the plan for restoration along with ALL other proposals of building work within the plan.</p> <p>Canals are NOT just for the minority who actually boat the canals.</p> <p>This route goes through a lot of low lying land (and old flood plain) and would enable the ability to reinstate lost drainage,</p> <p>Benefits are for all nature lovers and environmentalists, walkers cyclists, fishermen, a HUGE unrealised potential recreational facility for all where the majority costs of delivery could be absorbed by developers with very little impact on the public purse (for a change)</p> <p>Economically restoration is good for housing, (waterside housing is hugely sought after).</p> <p>Businesses thrive through increased</p>		<p>The route is safeguarded in Policy NC3 of the Adopted Local Plan. The Council continues to work in partnership with delivery partners, including the W&BCT, to enable delivery of shared infrastructure. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking and cycling.</p>

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				<p>footfall (look at Banbury) and an even greater benefit for small villages and hamlets.</p> <p>The reasons for reclamation are too numerous to mention all.</p> <p>I believe if this unique opportunity is missed future generations, will look around other similar restorations and ask, WHY NOT US?</p>		
61	Louise	Clarkson	1	<p>From experience of what a restored canal has done for the Stroud district, I can say that it has lifted an otherwise run down, neglected part of the region into a positive asset to the community as a whole. Our canal is used now by people taking exercise, getting to work as they feel safer in the area now, as well as wildlife. The area around the canal now is prosperous and really attractive. New businesses have sprung up linked to opportunities the canal has opened up.</p>		<p>Noted. The Council continues to work in partnership with delivery partners, including the W&BCT, to enable delivery of shared infrastructure.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
61	Louise	Clarkson	2	<p>The property developers alongside our canal paid for the restoration of the canal through land that they were developing in Stroud. The canal-side properties attracted premium prices so the developers re-couped much if not all of their money. All the properties sold quickly as the canal was seen as such a great asset to the area. Come and see for yourselves if you are in any doubt.</p> <p>Could I suggest that you get the developers to restore the Wilts and Berks canal bordering the development area as part of their planning permission? The canal would be an excellent, accessible resource for the whole community to enjoy. Many parts of ours are wheel chair accessible, giving those in wheel chairs the opportunity to enjoy some open green spaces independently in many cases.</p> <p>The canals provide a wild life corridor through urban areas. They also aid flood relief too, providing a good route for channelling excess run-off away from built up areas. We know our canal does that when the locks turn into waterfalls.</p>		Points noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
61	Louise	Clarkson	3	<p>You have a great opportunity here to work with the Wilts and Berks Canals trust and the developers to create something really beautiful and of lasting benefit.</p> <p>Surely this is an opportunity NOT to be missed?</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>
62	Kate	Linnegar	1	<p>I am writing to ask that the new development know as the New Eastern Village has the inclusion of the canal as a compulsory part of the build paid for by the developers. I can see that the proposed canal route has been included on the plans which is good. There are obvious benefits to having the canal but I doubt whether it will be achieved if not during initial construction by the developers. The benefits include creating a wildlife habitat and an increased biodiversity, opportunities for flood relief and drainage, an increase in the value of the properties and most importantly a benefit to the well being and enjoyment of the residents and visitors to the area,</p>		<p>The route is safeguarded in Policy NC3 of the Adopted Local Plan. The Council continues to work in partnership with delivery partners, including the W&BCT, to enable delivery of shared infrastructure. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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63	Mr J	Wood	1	Please re consider the inclusion of the canal development in your proposals of the new development. At this stage the overall cost is minimal compared with the environmental benefits for future residents of the new estate.		The route is safeguarded in Policy NC3 of the Adopted Local Plan. The Council continues to work in partnership with delivery partners, including the W&BCT, to enable delivery of shared infrastructure. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.

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64	Mr I	Williamson	1	<p>It is very good to see the Wilts and Berks canal as a key part of the proposed development.</p> <p>I have worked on various parts as a volunteer over the last 20+ years and currently live in Semington opposite the junction with the K&A.</p> <p>I think it is essential that the developers should fund the restoration in this key area as many of their customers will derive huge benefits from it being restored fully. The value of the properties they build over looking the restored canal will command higher prices and therefore greater revenue from them. This should be put into the restoration project. Many developments around the canal system have seen this happen.</p> <p>It also ties in very well with the social and health agendas highlighted in the document.</p> <p>I look forward to hearing positive news and seeing the much needed houses built soon.</p>		<p>Support noted. The route is safeguarded in Policy NC3 of the Adopted Local Plan. The Council continues to work in partnership with delivery partners, including the W&BCT, to enable delivery of shared infrastructure. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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65	Mr P	Pickup	1	<p>The following are my comments on this consultation as it relates to the agreed route of the Wilts and Berks Canal through this new development.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I wish to urge Swindon Council to require the Developer and any other organisation concerned to fund the construction and infrastructure of this section of the canal 2. Construction of this section of the canal, linking to the existing Wichelstowe section, will represent a great step forwards towards a completed canal. 3. It should contribute significantly to making adequate provision for land drainage and flood relief. 4. It will enhance recreational and leisure facilities in the area and encourage wildlife. 5. It will give great encouragement to the many volunteers who contribute so much of their time and expertise to recreating the canal in its entirety. 		<p>Noted. The route is safeguarded in Policy NC3 of the Adopted Local Plan. The Council continues to work in partnership with delivery partners, including the W&BCT, to enable delivery of shared infrastructure. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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66	Mr J	Andress	1	<p>As a Wiltshire citizen interested in the benefits restored Canals have brought to towns in Wiltshire, particularly the Kennet and Avon Canal, I have read the documents about the New Eastern Villages expecting to see the construction of the planned extension of the Wilts and Berks canal section that was built as part of the Wichelstowe development to be a requirement for the development of the NEV. With all the plant and machinery that will be on site for the development the cost will be much, much less than if it were to be undertaken later as a separate project.</p> <p>You will I feel sure appreciate the benefits that having a canal can bring to the development not only as an attractive feature helping to increase property values, but also providing leisure and exercise activities as well as helping with drainage and flooding control.</p> <p>I am therefore asking you to please incorporate the need to construct this extension of the canal from the Wichelstowe stretch to the farther limits of the NEV.</p>		<p>Noted. The route is safeguarded in Policy NC3 of the Adopted Local Plan. The Council continues to work in partnership with delivery partners, including the W&BCT, to enable delivery of shared infrastructure. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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67	Mr K	Philips	1	<p>Re. New_Eastern_Villages_Draft_Village_Proformas_and_Infrastructure_Requirements__March_2016_</p> <p>I note with relief that, 'The route for the Wilts & Berks Canal will be safeguarded and protected from development (Policy NC3, part d)). Ensure that associated development infrastructure does not prejudice the delivery of the canal'</p> <p>However, I don't think this goes far enough. I believe it should be the developers responsibility to pay for and develop the canal as part of environment and leisure facilities of the Eastern Villages.</p>		<p>Noted. The route is safeguarded in Policy NC3 of the Adopted Local Plan. The Council continues to work in partnership with delivery partners, including the W&BCT, to enable delivery of shared infrastructure. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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67	Mr K	Philips	2	<p>In 'New_Eastern_Villages_Planning_Obligations_Draft_SPD__March_2016_' Appendix B, it says 'The development shall provide ... High quality public realm including outdoor civic space'. This should specifically include a canal with towpath for leisure walkers and cyclists. Such a development would greatly enhance the character of the area, provide leisure and recreational opportunities. Just the existence of such a thing would enhance people's well-being. The mental health and wellbeing benefits of public water spaces is well documented.</p> <p>I was pleased to note, 'The development shall provide ... sports and leisure facilities, including playing pitches, a leisure centre and a 25m swimming pool.' I am a keen swimmer and gym goer myself. But outdoor pursuits, especially walking, which is much more widely accessible regardless of fitness, provides much more health and wellbeing benefits than indoor exercise.</p> <p>I'm not a home owner, but I would think that a canal here would benefit the value of the properties as well.</p>		Points noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
67	Mr K	Philips	3	<p>'New_Eastern_Villages_Planning_Obligations_Draft_SPD__March_2016_' Appendix B, include 'The development shall provide ... development of the Wilts & Berks Canal in this area to make it navigable, and provide canal-side foot and cycle paths that are also accessible to wheelchairs and mobility scooters along its entire length and with good frequent access points.'</p> <p>On this final point I would like to note that I used to push my elderly mother (who I used to care for) along the canal from Kings Hill towards Waitrose. I would like to note failure of the council in this instance to force Waitrose provide a safe accessible route from the canal to the shop. All it would have required is a hundred yards of footpath at a gentle slope from SU 13473 82956 to SU 13403 82981. The current arrangement of climbing the very steep bridge at SU 13651 83222 is in no way accessible. I am strong and fit. Most carers would be stopped at this point and have to turn back.</p>		Points noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
68	Mr K & J	Black	1	<p>It is very pleasing to note that the route of the Wilts and Berks Canal has been included in these proposals.</p> <p>It has been shown that a restored canal has a very beneficial effect on the adjacent area, providing recreational and leisure space for the local community, as well as wildlife habitat.</p> <p>It is vital that provision is made within any development proposals for the funding of the restoration of the canal for the benefit of the community as a whole.</p>		<p>Noted. The route is safeguarded in Policy NC3 of the Adopted Local Plan. The Council continues to work in partnership with delivery partners, including the W&BCT, to enable delivery of shared infrastructure. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
69	Mr K	Fisher	1	<p>Having trawled my way through all the pdf files on the SBC website relevant to this huge new development, I find one key issue stands out for me, and that is the apparent oversight in enabling the development of the canal through the expansion. It is good to see that the route of the canal is protected, but unless its construction is included as part of the NEV infrastructure and funded by the developers, I fear it will forever remain simply as a 'protected route'.</p> <p>I do not understand why the developers are not chomping at the bit to be part of its development. It will for sure increase the value of homes in the area and could form an integral part of the flood relief and drainage strategy that they will have to fund and construct anyway. By completing the canal through the NEV it will provide the area with its own very unique character. In time it will become an area for recreation and leisure whilst creating wonderful wildlife habitats and increasing biodiversity and contributing to the social value this town so needs.</p> <p>Please do not loose this opportunity – it will not come about again. Please think of the future and the bigger picture this section of canal</p>		<p>Point noted. The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

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				has for the complete restoration of the Wilts and Berks Canal. Imagine Swindon at the hub of a canal running from Semington to Abingdon and the tourism that could bring. Please think long term!		
70	Mr J	Baxter	1	Congratulations on ensuring that the line of the canal is safeguarded. That is vitally important as this will provide an important local amenity and wildlife corridor that will be well used by those who will live within the proposed village area and the links with the existing canal will help to advance and promote the well supported plans for its eventual re-opening from Semington to Abingdon. Its importance to economic activity for Swindon and its environs in both the short and long term activity cannot be underestimated.		Point noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
70	Mr J	Baxter	2	<p>One of the essential elements of any housing scheme will be the dispersal of the large amount of water that will emanate from the proposed housing both in terms of road surface water and any other drainage. That has to go somewhere so why not make the canal the conduit for all this water - in one fell swoop it provides a further outlet to prevent flooding within the development and it also provides a readily available source of water for the canal to operate. Yes there would have to be safeguards to ensure that the cut itself does not flood but as the canal develops in length, its capacity to disperse the water increases. It would also obviate the need, I would suggest, for the developers to construct underground holding tanks (as has had to happened in other parts of the country where the accumulated water is then released over time) or holding ponds for flood mitigation. Areas thus released can then provide for a slightly higher density of houses, That in turn provides additional income for the developer to offset any additional costs to provide the waterway amenity.</p>		<p>The Council acknowledge that a canal can provide some of the main principles of an overall SuDS scheme to provide drainage and flood risk benefits and it has been recognised in the emerging SuDS Vision SPD that if delivered as part of the development, the canal can be part of the drainage solution for some areas of the development. Therefore, the Council are willing to consider the canal as part of the drainage solution for a development parcel, where it is being proposed by the applicant however, we cannot specify which drainage solutions are used to meet the requirements of an overall SuDS scheme.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
70	Mr J	Baxter	3	<p>I would suggest that developing the canal cut at the same time as the housing provides an additional selling point for those who will live close by. I live close by to the Kennet & Avon Canal in Bradford on Avon and there is no doubt that people are attracted to our estate because the canal is just a few minutes walk away. Indeed if one looks today (April 27)at the local estate agents site for a home near to mine it states "Exceptionally well appointed terraced home enjoying a highly desirable cul-de-sac position within close proximity to the Kennet & Avon Canal, " I firmly believe that the developers who will be associated with the Eastern villages site will sell their homes quicker as a result of providing such an amenity so please ask your planners and councillors to make the complete canal provision with towpath for pedestrians and cyclists an integral part of the development and not a future add-on.</p>		Points noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
71	Mr C N	Barry	1	<p>I have read your SPD in some detail, and would like to record my concern that the Canal does not receive the attention it should. I am a member of the Wilts & Berks Canal Trust, and have also seen the document it has sent out, outlining the significant contribution a new canal can make to the alarming drainage and flood control issues that are bound to affect developments in a flood plain. It particularly points out that even though the developments will be on 'islands', the existence of these will mean a higher water level in flood times than would otherwise have been the case. Nowhere in the SPD do I see this aspect.</p> <p>The Canal offers significant measures to reduce any flooding in the first place. As such it should be integral to the development, and constructed contemporaneously, to take advantage of the benefits it brings, not least as a source of spoil for the proposed islands.</p>		<p>The Council acknowledge that a canal can provide some of the main principles of an overall SuDS scheme to provide drainage and flood risk benefits and it has been recognised in the emerging SuDS Vision SPD that if delivered as part of the development, the canal can be part of the drainage solution for some areas of the development. Therefore, the Council is willing to consider the canal as part of the drainage solution for a development parcel, where it is being proposed by the applicant however, we cannot specify which drainage solutions are used to meet the requirements of an overall SuDS scheme.</p>

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72	Mr N	Lambden	1	<p>I am writing in support of the Wilts & Berks canal being a confirmed part of the New Eastern Villages development.</p> <p>The social, economic and environmental advantages are well established everywhere canals have been restored or developed. They are a very important recreational facility as well.</p> <p>The construction of this section of the canal should definitely be included and funded by the developers as part of their social commitment.</p> <p>There are additional benefits such as flood relief and bio-diversity that make for a compelling case for this to be done.</p>		<p>Points noted. The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>
73	Joan	Branton	1	<p>The Consultation document does not include any funding for the building of the canal.</p> <p>Surely the canal should be included as part of the infrastructure of the New Eastern Villages'</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

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75	Mr N	Ritchie	1	<p>I write in support of this development proposal – particularly since the plans also embed a protected route for the Wilts & Berks Canal.</p> <p>This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to have a unique multi-use facility in the centre of a community, at no cost to the Council! I urge Councillors and planners to grasp this opportunity for fully funding the construction and ongoing maintenance of this waterway from the developers own budget.</p> <p>Imaginative use of Section 106 agreements and long term covenants will ensure this community asset becomes a massive community gain, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surface water drainage Wildlife habitats Leisure uses, including canoeing, walking, cycling, fishing, boating etc. Community wellbeing, with a natural focus on a linear waterway instead of bland areas of ubiquitous grass and urban shrubs. <p>I urge the Local Authorities to embrace the concept of a fully funded, fully restored waterway as an intrinsic part of this new development.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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76	Mr M	Fuller	1	<p>I was very pleased to see that a protected route for the restored Wilts & Berks Canal is provided in the New Eastern Villages scheme.</p> <p>The canal will be a great asset for the area and judging by the Kennet & Avon canal here in Bradford-on-Avon, will provide for many recreational and leisure activities, be good for wildlife and add a distinctive character to the area.</p> <p>I would think it could also contribute to flood relief and land drainage schemes.</p> <p>My main concern is that its construction and funding should be provided by the developer. I trust this will be the case in any future negotiations.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>
77	Mr M	Monk	1	<p>I would like to voice my support for the development of the Wilts & Berks canal in the proposed development.</p> <p>There are so many advantages – for wildlife, recreational (walking, cycling, canoeing etc.), flood defences and generally enhancing the environment.</p> <p>Quality of life is so important in new developments so that there is more than just buildings.</p>		<p>Support noted.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
78	Sheila	Wade	1	<p>I am pleased to see that you have included the re-sited line of the Wilts & Berks Canal in your infrastructure plan.</p> <p>As an active volunteer in the waterways movement I am aware, as you must be also, of the value water adds to development (see CRT studies for quantifiable amounts). This is both in terms of property values (between 10% and 25% upwards lift) and in terms of people well being outcomes (physical activity and mental health) and of course environmental outcomes (increased biodiversity, flood water alleviation).</p>		Point noted.
78	Sheila	Wade	2	<p>I was very disappointed to observe however, that no provision has been made within the consultation document to provide, via the planning process, for the inclusion of the costs of constructing the canal. Without the canal being built as part of the development, this large development will be without character, and will lack the benefits and value described above.</p> <p>I am hoping that this oversight will be remedied after the consultation phase, as the costs must be included as an enforceable part of the development plan in order that the proposed canal build will go ahead.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

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79	Mr D	Edwards	1	<p>it is exciting to see the proposed Masterplan for the New Eastern Villages infrastructure, and in particular the provision for protecting and re-instating the canal route through the area.</p> <p>Seldom do opportunities like these present themselves, and it is imperative that the construction of the canal is included in the development as it will then blend seamlessly into the rest of the scheme.</p>		Point noted.
79	Mr D	Edwards	2	<p>It would also be of great financial benefit if the developer can incorporate the construction of the canal within their remit. It has been shown in many parts of the country that canal side developments attract a premium, not only because of their scenic value, but with the additional benefits enjoyed by local inhabitants who use the canal towpath for walking, cycling, fishing etc. Wildlife also thrives in the canalised environment, so it really is a win win situation.</p>		Point noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
79	Mr D	Edwards	3	<p>I understand from studies made in my own area that canal side developments also attract investment in local services (shops, restaurants, leisure services) all of which helps to boost the local economy. As a regular canal boater, my wife and I target areas where regeneration has taken place as they so often provide much enjoyment. It is heart-warming to see the large increase in the use of the canal for recreation, not just for boaters, but local inhabitants too.</p> <p>I do therefore urge you to include the provision of the canal in your development proposals, and we can then look forward to Swindon being re-connected to the canal system which would then provide a number of additional cruising routes connecting the Kennet & Avon canal and the River Thames.</p>		Point noted.
80	Mr P	Henden	1	<p>Have had a look at the documents and they come across as quite impressive !</p> <p>I have a particular interest in waterways. Water is so beneficial, not only is a necessity for basic living but it also brings vast environmental benefits. So it is good to see that the Wilts & Berks Canal has been included in the master plan.</p>		Noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
80	Mr P	Henden	2	<p>However, there does seem to be one major over-sight – funding inclusion for restoration of the canal !</p> <p>So, I would urge you to do all that you can to bring home to Swindon BC this short-coming. I really feel that the restoration and associated construction should be included as part of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure programme and funded by the developers. After all, it is well known that the presence of a canal close to property significantly enhances their values and I see no reason why this should not be the case here.</p> <p>Other benefits of the canal that come to mind are that of leisure and recreational and assets, thereby significantly enhancing users' state of mind all important in these health conscious times.</p> <p>Furthermore, the canal will produce wildlife habitats and help to develop biodiversity.</p> <p>There has been an increasing focus in recent years in relation to water management. A re-vitalised canal could be a very useful tool in this respect both for land drainage and flooding relief.</p>		<p>Points noted. The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

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81	Lorna	Friis	1	<p>Whilst it is really great to see that protection of the canal corridor has been included in the plans, there does not appear to be any inclusion of restoration, leisure space, flood mitigation or green (biodiversity) space development using the historic canal site on the plans. It would seem to be highly beneficial to any new development to have a canal in close proximity (and one which could provide leisure routes and facilities to join up the Wilts, Berks and Kennet and Avon routes). Indeed, in the past, similar sites have shown an increase in property value, through canal renovation. Additionally, while 'flood mitigation' has been mentioned throughout the document, further details of how this will be managed are not included. Although maybe not the most obvious choice to everyone, the added benefit of potential flood mitigation and leisure provision that the canal restoration could bring would make the site more convincing for housing redevelopment.</p> <p>I would like to suggest that both funding and restoration/construction of the canal corridor is included as part of the redevelopment plans for this site.</p>		<p>Points noted. The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

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82	Eunice	Salmon	1	<p>I have been a member of the Wilts & Berks Canal Trust for many years and was delighted to hear from them that the protected canal route has been included as part of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My family and I really enjoy using the canals and their associated towpaths for leisure and recreational purposes. • Canals add a slow and calming dimension to an area which I know from personal experience has benefitted my mental and physical healthy and well-being. (The area around the Waitrose store is much more attractive because of its proximity to the canal) • We have been fortunate enough to enjoy canal boating holidays in this country and abroad and have specifically travelled to some areas only because of their canal side location so the construction of the canal can only bring economic benefits to an area. • We long to own a canal side property and would actively seek to find one locally should this unique opportunity arise. • Also see the wider benefits of canals such as the creation of new 		<p>Points noted. The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

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				<p>wildlife habitats resulting in greater biodiversity and understand that they can contribute to drainage/flood relief schemes too.</p> <p>To this end I feel very strongly that the construction of the canal should go ahead and that it should be funded by the developers.</p> <p>I sincerely hope that this fantastic and unique opportunity is not overlooked. Please GO FOR IT!</p>		

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83	Mr D	Maloney	1	<p>I shop and socialise in Swindon and was surprised to hear that the Wilt & Berks is not being considered as part of the development. What a missed opportunity this would be. I see the Wilts & Berks progressing on the outskirts of Chippenham and the difference it has made not only to walkers and cyclists (who enjoy the route and the fresh air and the opportunity to exercise safely) but also to the wildlife due to the added habitat and increased bio diversity. Kingfishers and bats are often see along this length.</p> <p>Its a great opportunity for Swindon folk to get an amenity paid for by developers and not the local tax payers, it will of course add land drainage and flood relief opportunities and increase the character of the area.</p> <p>Please don't miss this opportunity to add such a valuable asset at virtually no cost to the council or the local population.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

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84	Mr C	Arch	1	The construction of the canal must be part of the New Eastern Village infrastructure, funded by the developers. Canals have the effect of lifting areas as opposed to lowering them. Property prices will be enhanced and there will be a very positive effect on wild life. My partner and I with my sister and brother-in-law are enthusiastic cruisers and we have cruised parts of many canals. I hope – some day – to cruise through Swindon.		The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
85	Dawn	Dimmer	1	<p>I am delighted that the council are planning to safeguard and protect the canal from development but am hoping that the next edition of the consultation process will be a little more specific on who will be responsible for the funding of the provision of the canal. Surely this should be the developers?</p> <p>I would like to think that SBC will learn from their involvement at Wichelstowe.</p> <p>The council and/or the developers learned far too late that properties along the canal are worth a higher premium than was anticipated. As a result I hope the council will get a higher fee from the future/agreed development company (for the benefit of Swindon tax payers) and insist the developers PAY for the inclusion of the canal, considering the huge profit they are likely to make on the project. They have the knowledge now, that if they build houses on both sides of the canal, it will make them a lot of money (and they should not fill the properties with 'affordable or social' housing, as they did at Wichelstowe). Surely if people pay a premium for their home they will be more likely to look after their local area and will not allow it to be spoiled?</p>		<p>Support noted. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
85	Dawn	Dimmer	2	The canal will offer a distinctive character for the New Eastern Villages and additionally offers opportunities for flood relief and land drainage. By building the canal into the future plans for the area can any help to maximise both recreational and leisure assets, thereby improving people's well-being too. It will additionally, of course, create wildlife habitats and increase biodiversity.		Points noted.
86	Mr E	Thomas	1	I am very pleased to see that the protected route of the canal has been included in the Master Plan, the evidence based route essentially following an amalgam of the long established route in the Scott Wilson Canal Feasibility Report of 1998 and the later studies by Halcrow Consultants. This route has recently been developed in greater detail by the voluntary professional engineers of the Engineering Committee of the Wilts & Berks Canal Trust to include both vertical and horizontal canal alignments together with suggested sites for flood retention ponds from which de-silted water can be diverted in a controlled fashion to feed the canal.		Points noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
86	Mr E	Thomas	2	It is logical for the canal to be included and integrated fully into the New Eastern Development infrastructure in order to enhance the development (eg canal side housing and public access to canal) as the canal bounds much of the perimeter of the housing development islands. It is also essential that the flood retention ponds (doubling for feeding the canal) are built as part of an integrated overall plan to handle the overall flood flows as I doubt that the SUDS systems being incorporated within the housing islands will not be sufficient in themselves to handle the flooding in the River Cole sub-basin, of which the NED is an important part.		Points noted.
86	Mr E	Thomas	3	The canal and flood retention ponds should be funded by the developers in the same way as the successful system in Wichelstowe, the canal offering opportunities for integrated flood relief and land drainage. Also their excavation will realise an excess in "cut" over "fill" which will be useful for raising the housing development above flood level.		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.

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86	Mr E	Thomas	4	The canal in the NEV will form part of the planned redeveloped 100km long Wilts and Berks Canal connecting directly into/around the Coate Water Country Park to the west and the Vale of the White Horse to the east. It is essential that every opportunity for connectivity is taken. The Trust's Consultants have over the last 15years undertaken several high level feasibility and water resources studies which have confirmed the wide ranging opportunities for progressively developing the canal for navigation, public access and wildlife corridor, by maximising the use of both developers and volunteers (W&BCT has over 2,500Members).		Points noted.
87	Judy	Drinkwater	1	Developers should be encouraged or even enforced to fund the canal construction as they will benefit from the enhanced environment near their houses and this will be reflected in the prices they obtain.		The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.
88	Mr D	Hunt	1	In order for this project to succeed the Wilts & Berks Canal is vital and should be funded by the developers.		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.

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89	Mr J	Davison	1	<p>In the plan you mention the canal. My experience (a few years ago with British Waterways on canal side development) is that canal side properties sell at a premium price. It is also documented by others that a canal corridor enhances biodiversity. The line of the canal is also generally attractive to walkers and leisure cyclists. Exercise and good health is a welcome feature.</p> <p>On biodiversity, you could work with developers to accommodate wildlife. At British Waterways this was something that was considered important. In the case of the Eastern Villages, particularly any three storey buildings could include bricks for swifts www.swift-conservation.org.uk</p>		Points noted.

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90	Mr T & D	Jones	1	<p>We are pleased to see that a route for the Wilts and Berks Canal is protected in the plans for the New Eastern Villages but strongly feel that the canal's construction must be included in the infrastructure, funded by the developers. Construction at the same time as the rest of the infrastructure would give the opportunity to dispose of excavated material within landscaping bunds etc. and avoid the considerable disruption of construction at a later date. A completed canal would provide excellent recreational opportunities for local people and improve their well being while giving the new villages a distinctive character. A working canal would also offer opportunities for land drainage, create new wildlife habitats and increase biodiversity.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

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91	Mr M	Spelman	1	<p>I do not live in Swindon but visit regularly to enjoy the stunning local countryside, villages, wildlife and towns. I was delighted to note that the planned Development incorporates provision to maintain the line of the old Wilts and Berks canal.</p> <p>As proposed this will ensure an invaluable continuous strip of greenery providing opportunities for exercise and leisure for the new residents; in addition, it will I trust provide a long distance footpath for visitors linking with the towpath of the former Wilts and Berks canal as this is progressively restored.</p> <p>Much better to take this opportunity to restore the canal to its original stat. There should be relatively little extra funding implications with partial funding from the developers, reflecting the premium value of waterside development sites.. Further funding, if needed, may be available from external agencies, including heritage Trusts, the canal volunteers and the general public.</p>		<p>Point noted. The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
91	Mr M	Spelman	2	<p>A restored canal would have many benefits, including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a reclaimed historical heritage that fits well with Swindon's more famous railway heritage - create opportunities for boating, cycling, walking and fishing leisure activities - provide a picturesque linear park and path for recreation - become a valuable section of a long distance path when linked up to other sections of the Wilts & Berks canal route - offer huge environmental benefits for water plants and wildlife and wetland creatures - provide practical educational opportunities for local schools and youth- not only for its historical relevance, but also giving opportunities for local schools/communities to become involved in reconstruction and maintenance -giving options in water transmission, and in land drainage and flood prevention: a canal can become a temporary storage place for large volumes of water in times of storms and flooding. - provides locations for waterside housing and commercial developments. These are much sought after and such 		<p>Points noted. The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

Rep No Title and Initial Surname

Comment No Justification

Proposed changes

Officer response

properties attract a substantial premium over other locations. This premium will be the source of much of the funding provided by developers

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
91	Mr M	Spelman	3	<p>Such an attractive feature can be created with need for little on-going funding by obtaining commitment from the Wilts and Berks Canal Restoration Trust to be responsible for day-to-day maintenance once the restoration work is complete- many voluntary Railway and Canal Trusts have shown themselves well able to shoulder these responsibilities</p> <p>Swindon can benefit further by negotiating that the Wilts and Berks Canal Trust prioritises the restoration of long distance footpaths and canal on stretches adjacent to the East Towns canal restoration- thus ensuring a considerably longer stretch of access and leisure pathway and waterway than just the length through the East Villages Development area itself.</p> <p>All these works are most easily and cheaply carried out, and with least disruption to local communities, if they are carried out at the same time as the East Villages are developed.</p> <p>For all these reasons, I urge that the Development plan includes full restoration of the Canal from the beginning</p>		<p>Points noted. The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
92	Mr M	Knight	1	<p>It is good to see that the Swindon Borough Council Consultation on New Eastern Villages designates the Wilts & Berks canal route as a Green Corridor, but why not include for the developers of the area to actually construct the canal.</p> <p>This would enhance the whole area and provide an income for the Swindon area.</p> <p>Also this land is fairly low lying so the canal would provide flood relief. Birmingham redeveloped their canal area and now have a canal centre visited by many people bringing prosperity to the area , so why not Swindon.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
93	Mr R	O'Hanlon	1	<p>I am responding to this consultation document, particularly in respect of the rebuilding of the Wilts & Berks Canal through, and alongside, the proposed development.</p> <p>I am delighted to note that the protected canal route has been included in the proposals.</p> <p>What concerns me is that there appears to be no mechanism for providing a funding stream to make sure it happens! In my view, the canal should form one part of the infrastructure of the whole development.</p> <p>The canal</p> <p>1 will provide opportunities for land drainage and flood relief</p> <p>2 will enhance the particular character of the new developments</p> <p>3 will create leisure and recreational opportunities</p> <p>4 will create wildlife habitats and help to encourage biodiversity</p> <p>I short I believe that the canal should be an integral part of the development and that it will benefit the whole of the Eastern Village's</p>		<p>Points noted. The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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				area. Its construction should therefore be funded by those benefitting from its presence i.e. the developers, and planning consent for development should be conditional on providing funding for its rebuilding.		
94	Mr J	Webb	1	As a retired Construction Professional, a Chartered Quantity Surveyor I would make the point that dealing with the canal construction as part of the enabling infrastructure is far more economical than trying to construct it retrospectively. As to construction costs I am mindful of it being a fact that developments benefiting from a waterway, particularly a canal which will help to alleviate flooding rather than to contribute to it as some rivers do, carries a premium often quoted as circa plus 20%. This surely underlines the fact that the canals construction costs should be met by the developers of the private sector housing. They will benefit from enhanced value so it is surely only right that they should finance the costs required so as to reap this benefit.		Point noted. The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
94	Mr J	Webb	2	<p>I remain firmly of the view that when built the canal through the Eastern Villages will represent something special and will be much valued by the residents both now and in the future. Well done Swindon for taking an enlightened and forward thinking approach to the contribution that new or should I say restored canals/waterways can make in terms of benefits to the wider community. I recall the same debate when our wonderful Kennet and Avon Canal was being restored. Look what a financial and environmental benefit that has turned out to be.</p>		Point noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
95	Mr C	Evans	1	<p>I note from the Swindon Borough Council Consultation on the New Eastern Villages that it contains a proposal to include a canal route through the New Village area. This is a very welcome proposal as it will represent yet another forward step in reinstating the much needed canal link between the Thames and the Kennet & Avon canal.</p> <p>The canal link from the Thames to the Kennet & Avon canal will establish a much needed 'ring' for Southern England and the Borough must be strong in supporting this aim. Equally whilst the provision of additional housing is important there must be a moral element to such development i.e. construction of works which will provide an enhancement to a wider audience. To this end the Council must ensure that any developer takes responsibility for the construction of the section of the canal, identified in the Consultation document, as pre-requisite to any development approval.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
95	Mr C	Evans	2	<p>Canals that have been restored across the UK have provided many benefits and not just for boaters:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Canals provide a green corridor which are not only beneficial to wildlife, biodiversity and the ecology of the area but also of considerable benefit to walkers, cyclists, fishermen and other outdoor activity enthusiasts. 2. Canals assist in water management and flood alleviation. 3. A canal will enhance the atmosphere of the new development and provide a boost to the general feeling of well-being of the new residents. 4. Where canals have been reinstated there has been an a measurable increase in tourist activity with an increase in associated jobs, facilities and trade. <p>This single stretch of canal development cannot do this for Swindon in isolation in the short term, but as an important part of the overall reinstatement of the canal these benefits will accrue in the future if the opportunity is grasped now.</p>		Points noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
96	Mr I	Burns	1	Having read the document I am pleased to the reference in Appendix A for the route for the proposed Wilts & Berks Canal restoration is to be safeguarded. However I would argue that this provision should be extended to an explicit requirement for the developers to either construct or fund the construction of the canal as part of the overall infrastructure requirements.		The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
96	Mr I	Burns	2	<p>Residential sites overlooking rivers, canals & other water features are now considered highly desirable, with a consequent increase in property value. Additionally canals are now popular locations for many forms of informal recreation, both on the water and alongside it. They can also assist in the provision of flood relief and land drainage requirements (which is another requirement of the NEV SPD). There would therefore be considerable public benefit to residents of the NEV scheme and the wider public from the inclusion of the construction of the canal in the planning obligations. The Council is, of course, well aware of the benefits that have accrued from the construction of the canal in the development to the south-west of the town, and similar benefits would accrue from the canal's continued construction to the south-east/east of Swindon.</p> <p>I therefore request that a specific reference to the construction of the canal be included in the table at para 4.19 of the draft SPD.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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97	Valerie	Scatchard	1	There is no provision for the funding of the building of the canal or its infrastructure. The line of the canal has long been protected for such an eventuality as this, but in order to achieve the objectives of providing a 'green corridor', thereby creating wildlife habitats and increasing biodiversity, and recreational and leisure facilities, not only for the new residents of the villages, but for Swindon, the building of this section of the canal should be an enforceable part of the infrastructure by the developers.		The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.
97	Valerie	Scatchard	2	<p>The newly constructed section of the canal would also provide an opportunity to aid flood relief and land drainage.</p> <p>Placing the canal at the heart of this development would enhance it and help create a more distinctive character for residents and visitors alike.</p>		Points noted. The Council are willing to consider the canal as part of the drainage solution for a development parcel, where it is being proposed by the applicant however, we cannot specify which drainage solutions are used to meet the requirements of an overall SuDS scheme.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
98	Mr R	Locke	1	<p>What an opportunity for the NEV scheme to include the section of the reconstructed Wilts & Berks Canal (d, p19).</p> <p>This will enhance the aims of the SPD in many ways, including: The Walking and Cycling network (b, p17) and The provision of Wildlife Habitat and increased Bio-Diversity (b, p18)</p> <p>The Canal will provide Distinctive Character for the NEV and hence increase likely house prices. Thus the whole of the Canal section through the NEV should be funded by the developers, who will surely benefit financially from the Canal project.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>
99	Mr B	Smith	1	<p>I am pleased this plan includes protection of the canal route, however I feel construction of the canal should be part of the plan . This should be funded by the developers (as it has been shown in other areas that this enhances property values) The canal would also help to provide flood relief and land drainage , as well as enhanced biodiversity and nature habitats. The canal would provide a leisure amenity and a unique character to the Eastern villages.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
100	Mr G & B	Smith	1	<p>May I start with praise for the Council for including within its suggestions a protected route for the Wiltshire & Berkshire Canal?</p> <p>However, this is, in my humble opinion, woefully insufficient, since it introduces an interval of time between the villages' construction and the waterway's restoration during which advantage can be taken by those selfish amongst us that would profit from building on the canal line at some later opportune moment.</p> <p>As evidence, I point to the very near crippling of the Lichfield & Hatherton Canals' restoration from various directions from various 'interests'. The M6 Toll, road and housing schemes, HS2, to name a</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>
100	Mr G & B	Smith	2	<p>There is a monetary factor here, too, in that, for example, how much more costly to the nation will it be to re-construct the waterway within a thin narrow corridor left to the canal than when undertaken as a small adjunct to the major developments.</p>		<p>Point noted.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
100	Mr G & B	Smith	3	<p>The result would bring with it a wonderful opportunity for a 'canal-side living' type of character to what might otherwise be a bland, 'rabbit's hutch' type of development, not improved by their multiplication.</p> <p>In addition to improving people's well-being, inclusive recreational and leisure activities would energise the new communities and improve the net wildlife costs of the development by introducing waterway friendly animal diversity.</p> <p>The developers receive a 'property uplift' as reward for their investments, as will businesses in the vicinity, no doubt, adding to their numbers, in the process.</p>		<p>Points noted. The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

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101	Mr P & J	Shannon	1	<p>My wife & I were very encouraged to see that the canal route had been secured in the plans for Eastern Villages but disappointed that an opportunity seemed to have been missed to commit the developer to add funding to this area which will have such an enormous benefit both to the market value of the homes and to the general contribution to the area. Swindon has struggled over the years to identify itself as an exciting, vibrant place in the middle of the most glorious belt of countryside. The opportunity of the canal redevelopment gives a focus and presence to this but it will only work if all those involved have a stake in it and a commitment to taking it forward.</p> <p>We would urge you to include canal funding in the developer specification</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
102	Mr G	Fox	1	<p>Consider:</p> <p>☒ building the canal is not included in the development approval, it will need to be built later, at greatly increased cost, and huge disruption to the community. The cost will fall on the Trust, local governments, or the charitable grant entities, instead on the main beneficiary, the developers. The disruption will come from moving thousands of cubic metres of dirt through the Villages after construction of the community has been completed.</p> <p>☒ the bridges are not built by the developer, street levels will need to be changed after they have been built, and all sorts of utility disruptions may be encountered.</p> <p>☒ the canal right of way is left as a green space, it will need to be planted and maintained, wasting funds that could have been used to build the canal.</p> <p>☒ Even worse, if the canal site is landscaped, removing the landscaping at a later date may be considered a negative impact, requiring mitigation and fauna protection.</p> <p>☒ The canal will inevitably become</p>		<p>Points noted. The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

part of the storm water drainage system, and possibly a flood water storage site. These benefits cannot be achieved if the canal is deferred.

As an amenity, the canal will add greatly to the value of the development, for both those who use it, and those who simply look at it or like to know it's there. An opportunity for the developer to "give back" for the privilege of developing this community.

It will attract wildlife and helps create a sense of place and interest in the community. Along the canal, each season has it's special features and educational opportunities. Youth groups, such as the Scouts can include activities like canoeing and fishing in their offerings..

The canal will be just as much a part of this development as the more commonly found amenities such as parking, landscaping and public buildings.

103 Mr M Doble

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We are glad to see that the protected canal route has been included, but feel that the construction of the canal must be included as part of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure. As such, the canal should be funded by the developers.

The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
104	Miss B	Hollman	1	<p>I am writing to comment on the plans for the New Eastern Villages. In my opinion, these impressive proposals are missing a vital element - an obligation to develop the canal as part of the infrastructure of the development. The developers must fund the development of the canal. Indeed, it would be in their own self-interest to do this as it will enhance the value of the housing development.</p> <p>Canal restoration projects have been phenomenally successful elsewhere and this can be replicated for the Eastern Villages. Canals bring many benefits including recreation and leisure and habitat creation for wildlife. A canal will act as a focal point for the local community, enhancing the landscape and the built environment. It should be part of the infrastructure of the development. A canal may also help with flood relief and drainage, if this is an issue for this development.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
105	Mr M	Jarvis	1	<p>Just a short email to say it is very good to see that the above development has recognised the importance of the canal in the overall master plan of the area. This is important as it will offer a lot of space for both wildlife, flora and fauna as well as for leisure purposes.</p> <p>However, I think it should be funded by the developers as we have seen that a premium price can be charged in areas with such an amenity and feature. It will also add a unique aspect to the area as we have seen in both Wichelstowe and East</p>		<p>Support noted. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>
106	Mr G	Charlton	1	<p>May I start by congratulating Swindon Council on trying to push ahead with a major house building programme. This country, and Wiltshire is no different, desperately needs more housing, and the best time to incorporate some really good features for the well-being of the new residents, such as a canal, is before the building starts. I appreciate that costs are always a nightmare, but if the work is done before a start is made on the houses themselves, then while the developers have the major pieces of earth moving equipment on site, the costs are minimised. And spread over 8000 houses, the cost per house is really small.</p>		<p>Support noted.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
107	Juanita	Poulton	1	<p>I am very pleased to see that the proposed canal line behind the Eastern Villages has been included in the plans and is thus protected. However, the costs of such a project would be beyond the fund-raising abilities of the Wilts & Berks Canal Trust. Similarly, Swindon Borough Council is under financial pressures. The solution must lie in incorporating the construction of the canal in the contract for the construction of the New Eastern Villages. I recommend that Swindon Borough Council should establish a Section 106 Agreement with the prospective developer of the NEV sites. This way the housing developments and the canal construction will be co-ordinated from the outset, thereby enhancing the appeal of the new residential areas to potential buyers.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
108	Mr B	Singleton	1	<p>I am concerned to see that the NEV Consultation document does not make provision for the development to provide for the funding of the restoration of the section of the Wilts and Berks canal within its bounds.</p> <p>Canal restoration brings a great many advantages in terms of wildlife protection and enhancement, land drainage, leisure and business opportunities, and improvements to property values.</p> <p>I urge to you to ensure that any built development along the course of the canal route is required to include funding for the restoration of the canal, both for the wider benefits of the canal, and for the specific value it will add to the development.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>
109	Mr T	Peacock	1	<p>I am writing to urge you to include the restoration of the Wilts & Berks canal section located along the edge of the Eastern Villages development in the developer's requirements for being allowed to proceed this development.</p> <p>The canal will add to the quality of life for people in the area; it will enhance leisure facilities and provide an excellent habitat and focus for all sorts of environmental and ecological sustainability.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
110	Mr J	Dodwell	1	<p>I'm pleased that there is mention of the Wilts & Berks Canal and that the line of the canal is shown as a green corridor.</p> <p>However, without the Council willing the means to fund the works, there will be a risk, I fear, of the proposed canal being just an idea.</p> <p>In other parts of the country - e.g. Droitwich in Worcestershire - developers were required under what were then S 106 agreements to make a contribution to canal restoration.</p> <p>One reason they did so because they recognised the uplift in property values that can come from waterside property development. In some cases , this can be 20%. As it is the developer who can benefit by selling the houses at a higher price, it makes sense that the developer should pay for the resultant higher prices.</p>		<p>Point noted. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
110	Mr J	Dodwell	2	Another reason is that new developments bring with them flood relief/drainage problems to be resolved. Often, this can be done by draining (with suitable "traps" to catch the silt) the water into the Canal. This saves the developer having to make payments to connect to main drains of the local drainage authority. Indeed, since the Olympic site in London was created, annual payments are made to the canal authority for the right to drain. This should be done here and so provide an annual income for the Wilts & Berks Canal, helping to make it financially sustainable. Instead of householders paying the local water company for drainage, they would pay the canal owners.		Point noted.
111	Janet	Bremner	1	I am delighted to see that the protected canal route has been included, however it is really important that the construction of the canal is also included as part of the New Eastern Villages Infrastructure and that funding is provided for it by the developers and I would urge you to include this requirement in the final agreement.		The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
111	Janet	Bremner	2	<p>The benefits of a working canal to any community are huge. The economic benefits of canal developments are well known and well documented. Canals are a magnet not only for boat users, but also walkers and cyclists. They appeal to all ages. They are a wonderful recreational facility, helping encourage residents and visitors to exercise and contributing to their wellbeing. They are home for a variety of wildlife which adds interest to the area and benefits the environment as a whole. They enhance the appearance of an area, give it its own character and improve property values.</p> <p>A working canal in this development would have such a huge, positive impact in so many ways, I urge you to do all you can to make it a reality.</p>		Points noted.
113	Mr R	Dewey	1	<p>It is clear from my experience that a restored/new canal has the potential to bring huge benefits to an area and I urge you and your council to grasp the opportunity with both hands and require developers to build the new canal through the new development area.</p>		Support noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
114	M L	Savage	1	I am writing to request that SBC includes, in the NEV consultation document, a requirement that the development proposals must include provision for adequate and appropriate funding for building the extension of the W&B Canal to link with that which was required of, and built by, the developers at Wichelstowe.		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.
114	M L	Savage	2	<p>As a resident of Wanborough and this Borough, I have a number of very specific reasons for requesting this requirement, as set out below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The vital need for additional flood prevention/relief and land drainage that will be required by this very substantial area of development 2. The environmental and wildlife benefit the canal will bring with its biodiversity as a nature corridor. 3. The value to property in the NEV (attractiveness of the location enhanced by the presence of the canal) 4. A boundary that will maintain the distinct character of the village of Wanborough 5. An excellent social and leisure facility for the benefit of all residents of the Borough and a sound business investment from the tourism potential that the canal will bring 		Points noted. The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
115	Mr C	Harmer	1	<p>In parallel with any housing development, it is important to plan for services such as schools, shops, doctors, etc., and also leisure and recreation facilities.</p> <p>With recreation, leisure and the natural environment in mind, I feel you ought to consider a substantial tranche of section 106 money to the Wilts and Berks Canal Trust for the regeneration of an important link in the canals network which would also put Swindon on the canals map. Studies commissioned by Stroud District Council predict many millions of pounds per annum of tourism money coming into the Stroud Valleys once the refurbishment of the Stroud water canal is complete – it is already well on its way. The prediction is that the income benefit over time will well exceed the regeneration outlay, and you might like to discuss this with SDC. But please consider the Wilts and Berks.</p>		Points noted. The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
116	Jennifer	Smith	1	From a general point of view I should say that the plan does meet all those areas which are considered important - I feel that a canal in the area will take away surplus water thus reducing flood risk - I don't know whether this is a flood prone area. To me perhaps the most important is the wildlife habitat it will provide (you might get otters who knows). I should say that when they completed the Wey Navigational Canal to Basingstoke it brought a lot of prosperity to the area - those tourists on the boats like going to the pubs and spend money in the local shops.		Points noted. The safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.
117	Mr A	Norris	1	Whilst appreciating that the protected line of the canal has been included there are a multitude of good reasons to include a fully restored canal, built in the early stages and funded by the developers whilst construction equipment is on site, and as a condition of the planning approval.		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
117	Mr A	Norris	2	<p>The canal will go a long way to provide a flood prevention and land drainage scheme in an area that is low lying and historically prone to flooding.</p> <p>The canal will greatly enhance the whole area and any development alongside the canal will command great views and thus be more desirable and fetch a premium! (Thus the developers can afford to fund a fully restored canal)</p> <p>If correctly planned and made wide enough in places the whole canal corridor will provide a recreational area, parkland and a wildlife habitat. It will also provide a wide buffer zone between the eastern expansion and the adjoining rural villages of Shrivenham, Bourton, Bishopstone, Wanborough etc. (some where there is great opposition towards the expansion)</p> <p>Once constructed the canal itself, the canal corridor and the surrounding recreational and wildlife areas should be offered, in parts, free to interested organisations to continue their use/upkeep/development and preservation thus removing any long term commitment/burden/expense on the developers. (Suggest - Canal and River Trust, Wilts & Berks Canal</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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				<p>Trust, Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, Swindon BC, Parish Councils, RSPB, Woodland Trust, etc.! (There must be many more!)</p> <p>The restored canal will greatly improve the environment in so many ways, enhancing the lives of all who live, work and travel there not just those who use the canal itself as a mode of transport/leisure! And the natural green environment will greatly increase bio-diversity within the area.</p>		

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
118	Mr H	Sullivan	1	<p>I have seen the proposal for the Eastern Villages developments and I would like to say that I am very pleased that the proposal incorporates the protected canal route which is very important for the future protection of Swindon's rural recreational and wildlife environment.</p> <p>I have seen the proposal for the Eastern Villages developments and I would like to say that I am very pleased that the proposal incorporates the protected canal route which is very important for the future protection of Swindon's rural recreational and wildlife environment.</p> <p>This development gives Swindon the opportunity to carry out the restoration of this important and historical part of Swindon's heritage for the future use and enjoyment of the growing population in this area.</p> <p>The healthy environment that the canal will create will encourage many outdoor activities including walking, cycling, wildlife watching and many others. This environment will provide excellent long term recreational opportunities to improve the well-being of the population in this area and for the whole of Swindon.</p>		Support noted.

The provision of the recreational facilities will make this a “sought after” area to live and visit which, in turn, will create more business, community and recreational opportunities.

Similarly to the excellent developments of the canal, ponds and other waterways at Wichelstowe, this is now an opportunity to incorporate the construction of the canal as part of the developers contribution to the overall ecosystems that supports the housing development. As such this work can be funded by the developer as part of this commitment.

The incorporation of the canal development into an overall “water management infrastructure” will also provide opportunities for the developers to create the essential drainage and flood relief features at the same time.

I look forward to enjoying the recreational activities that the canal will bring to Swindon and Wiltshire as party of this development.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
119	Mr C	Brampton	1	I would like to comment by saying I feel the canal will be of huge importance to the community. Canals offer a drainage solution and breathe life into existing communities. I feel this should be funded by the council and hope that the canal will form an integral part of your consultation policy.		The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.
120	Mr P	Wood	1	I am responding to the consultation regarding possible funding for restoration of the canal in the Swindon area. I would like to add my support for such a venture .The benefits to restoring a waterway are numerous from creating wildlife habitats, angling ,walking ,picnic areas, and from my perspective opportunities for boating and also canal towpaths being fairly level they are very accessible for people with mobility problems.		Point noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
121	Heather	Stuart	1	<p>I have become aware of a possible canal route through eastern villages in Swindon and wanted to express my enthusiasm for the project. I understand that you are in deliberation as to whether to go ahead with plans and would like to assure you that, as a now frequent visitor to the Swindon area, I would be all for it.</p> <p>We have no such attraction as a canal where I live and can confidently write that a stroll or a boat trip along a canal would be very appealing for tourists visiting the area.</p>		Support noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
122	Anne	Farrow	1	<p>I was quite shocked to see that, although the Wilts and Berks canal route was protected, there is no obligation for the developers to actually build it like there was for Wichelstowe. While the building is taking place, this will be an ideal opportunity to get that part of the canal built and like Wichelstowe will add a lovely feature to the development. Putting the canal in at a later stage would be disruption for the people living there and much more expensive. I know a lot of people who live in Wichelstowe and they are all very positive about the canal in their village.</p> <p>I also thought it was Council policy when developing land along the route of the canal to ensure the building of it was part of that development project.</p> <p>I do hope that you will reconsider not requiring the developer for the Eastern villages to build the canal too.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
123	Mr G	Knapp	1	<p>The incorporation and construction by the developer into the plans of the Wilts and Berks Canal through the new proposed village.</p> <p>This will add a nature corridor which could also be used for leisure of walking, cycling , fishing and boating.</p> <p>Historically the canals have proved positive for local residents and increase in property attraction and value.</p> <p>The canal will also act as flood relief and drainage.</p>		<p>Points noted. The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p> <p>The Council acknowledge that a canal can provide some of the main principles of an overall SuDS scheme to provide drainage and flood risk benefits and it has been recognised in the emerging SuDS Vision SPD that if delivered as part of the development, the canal can be part of the drainage solution for some areas of the development.</p> <p>Therefore, the Council are willing to consider the canal as part of the drainage solution for a development parcel, where it is being proposed by the applicant however, we cannot specify which drainage solutions are used to meet the requirements of an overall SuDS scheme.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
124	Mr I	Jackson	1	<p>With the restoration of the former Wilts & Berks Canal gaining momentum in the Swindon locality it is very good to see that the canal route has been protected.</p> <p>When fully restored the Canal has the potential to become an important tourism artery between the South Midlands & South East England and Bath & the South West adding significant tourism income not only to Swindon itself but to communities in the surrounding areas through which the canal passes. In the short term a fully restored Canal as opposed to the green canal corridor would bring significant benefits linking as it would with the existing Wichelstowe restored length.</p> <p>Full restoration of the Canal by the Developers would be relatively inexpensive as an integral part of constructing the infrastructure of the proposed development. It would give a much needed impetus to further restoration of the Canal either side of Swindon. Likewise the developer would benefit from property uplift by creating recreational and leisure assets combined with significant additional biodiversity.</p>		<p>Point noted. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
125	Brenda	Farrow	1	Although there will be an increased cost for the development by including the canal at this stage, there would be significant savings by including the canal as part of the development rather than a later add on. House prices adjacent to canals and waterways gain a considerable up lift in price as the area will be more desirable to live in. Bearing this in mind, surely the developers should fund the whole canal?		The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.
125	Brenda	Farrow	2	<p>Flooding</p> <p>The Eastern Villages development is largely on a flood plain. There have been several instances around Swindon and elsewhere in recent years where flooding has caused very significant damage. With global warming, increased rainfall is expected thereby increasing flood risk. It is therefore essential that the new development is planned and developed with the flood risks addressed.</p> <p>A canal provides a ready mechanism of reducing flood risk and so the canal should form an integral part of the development not as an after project.</p>		<p>The Council acknowledge that a canal can provide some of the main principles of an overall SuDS scheme to provide drainage and flood risk benefits and it has been recognised in the emerging SuDS Vision SPD that if delivered as part of the development, the canal can be part of the drainage solution for some areas of the development.</p> <p>Therefore, the Council are willing to consider the canal as part of the drainage solution for a development parcel, where it is being proposed by the applicant however, we cannot specify which drainage solutions are used to meet the requirements of an overall SuDS scheme.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
125	Brenda	Farrow	3	<p>Canals are the most used recreational resource in the country with over 95% of users - they are used for walking, fishing, cycling, wild life watching etc. Having the canal for local residents and wider will be a welcome resource encouraging exercise with its associated health benefits and reducing traffic with people commuting by cycle rather than car. As someone who grew up in Swindon, I found it lacked green spaces and areas for recreation (running/walking/Sunday bike rides etc.). Swindon needs more of these areas for the community.</p> <p>The benefits of having the canal for the community will outweigh the costs in the long term and by incorporating the canal into the original plans will be the most cost efficient way of doing this.</p>		<p>Points noted. The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
126	Jenny	Debley	1	<p>I'm pleased to see the canal mentioned & that the route has been protected, but think that plans could be improved to the benefit of all Swindon's residents not just those in the New Eastern Villages.</p> <p>As this is the ideal time to include the construction of the canal in this area, then why can't the developers fund this? I can't imagine that it would add a huge additional cost (either financially or in terms of time) to these developers & it seems madness not to get the canal constructed & paid for when this large project is being undertaken. Having a completed, functioning canal will create a beautiful, diverse environment for everyone to enjoy. Canal boaters, cyclists, walkers etc. will all benefit, as will local businesses nearby. I regularly walk along the canal from Bathampton to Bath, & from Bradford-on-Avon & all stretches are very popular, the tea rooms & pubs are often full, & houses nearby sell quickly, despite their inflated prices.</p> <p>More people may be encouraged to walk to work & the traffic congestion could fall, as could the traffic fumes.</p> <p>Nearby schools could use stretches as outdoor classrooms, & local wildlife/conservation groups may</p>		<p>Points noted.</p> <p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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			<p>expand their membership as more people would have the opportunity to connect with nature. The canal can be used for land drainage & for flood defences when necessary, & this may become an important feature in future years so needs to be fully considered.</p> <p>I believe this is an ideal time to create a new, distinctive character for this area, & the canal should play a much larger part.</p> <p>I'm pleased to read that the other listed buildings such as Earls court Manor etc. are also being protected, as this is vital.</p>		

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
127	D	New	1	<p>I am a local resident to the eastern villages (live in Coleview) and I would like to see the development of the villages to incorporate the proposed canal extension. I recognise the plan is to leave the path of the canal available but I would like the building of the canal to be enforceable as part of the development by use of section 106 monies (or whatever they are called nowadays). As a local resident this would mean the development incorporates the peaceful and enjoyable component of a canal that we would be able to regularly walk and cycle along. The Wichelstowe development included the canal so why isn't the east villages development doing the same. Canals also promote healthy living and this is especially important as the canal will promote healthier lifestyles, especially for younger people who would be encouraged to be outside walking along the canal rather than staying inside due to limited outside space. As an NHS worker who sees the cost of obesity, this can surely only be a good thing for the public.</p> <p>A canal will also support wildlife and flood defences so great for the environment also.</p> <p>I hope this comment regarding the</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
				canal is heard and that this becomes a mandatory component of the development, funded by the developers.		
128	H	Hill	1	<p>Some key points regarding the NEV and the place for the canal route:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Firstly it's great to see that the protected canal route has been included. • The construction of the canal needs to be included as part of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure and should be funded by the developers • The canal offers opportunities for flood relief and land drainage and to make a distinctive character for the New Eastern Villages • Working canals in other location have created property uplift, and I believe would also do so here as well • A built canal will create both recreational and leisure assets as well as improving people's well-being and also create wildlife habitat assets and increase biodiversity. 		<p>The Council acknowledge that a canal can provide some of the main principles of an overall SuDS scheme to provide drainage and flood risk benefits and it has been recognised in the emerging SuDS Vision SPD that if delivered as part of the development, the canal can be part of the drainage solution for some areas of the development.</p> <p>Therefore, the Council are willing to consider the canal as part of the drainage solution for a development parcel, where it is being proposed by the applicant however, we cannot specify which drainage solutions are used to meet the requirements of an overall SuDS scheme.</p> <p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
129	D	Hutchinson	1	<p>As a narrow boat user am very aware of how canals can bring enjoyment to local communities as well as passing business to the area. I support the Wilts and Berks canal and am very please to see a protected canal route has been included in the coming plans.</p> <p>However I feel an opportunity has been missed in requiring the building and hence funding of the canal to be included in the requirements of the new eastern villages plans, building the canal at the same time as the development would minimise future disturbance, bring character to the development from the outset, and allow recreational use by the residents in the area from the outset setting up the feel of the area while also providing people with things to do, providing wildlife habitat. and in future connecting with the wider canal restoration as becoming a through water as part of a network of over 2000 miles of canal.</p>		Point noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
130	Mr M	Crofts	1	<p>I am impressed by the potential of the proposed development to add to Swindon's status as a 'Great Western powerhouse'. This consultation must not be seen as a tick-box exercise to provide a bulk supply of mass-produced housing, but rather an opportunity to make a statement about Swindon's evolution.</p> <p>Re-creating the Wilts & Berks Canal through the Eastern Villages will demonstrate the Council's vision by adding a distinctive element to Swindon. It will be a significant step within the longer term project of linking the Kennet & Avon to the River Thames.</p>		Point noted.
130	Mr M	Crofts	2	<p>However, in the Eastern Villages there is a separate and critical reason for requiring the canal to be provided by developers as a pre-condition. Effective management of surface and storm water discharges will be essential in this vulnerable area. The canal will be vital to flood prevention alongside its role in enhancing bio-diversity and creating leisure opportunities within a pleasant residential environment.</p>		<p>The Council acknowledge that a canal can provide some of the main principles of an overall SuDS scheme to provide drainage and flood risk benefits and it has been recognised in the emerging SuDS Vision SPD that if delivered as part of the development, the canal can be part of the drainage solution for some areas of the development.</p> <p>Therefore, the Council are willing to consider the canal as part of the drainage solution for a development parcel, where it is being proposed by the applicant however, we cannot specify which drainage solutions are used to meet the requirements of an overall SuDS scheme.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
131	Mr J	Theobald	1	<p>I support the Wilts & Berks Canal Trust and I think that the restoration of the canal should be an integral part of the proposed development, funded by the developers.</p> <p>The restored canal would;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide flood relief & drainage • Create a wildlife habitat and increase biodiversity • Add a distinctive character to the development & make the homes more 'desirable'. • Provide local recreation & leisure opportunities to residents. <p>The increased sale price which a developer could realise on his properties, given the canal's presence, should be able to adequately fund it's restoration across that development - for the long term benefit of all Swindon residents & other locals</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
132	P	Davis	1	<p>I do hope common sense prevails, and I hope you will proceed with this canal build to bring the restoration of the Wiltshire and Berkshire Canal closer, and that it should be included as part of the new Eastern Villages Infrastructure.</p> <p>Working canals, as in my area (Ebley, Stroud) have created a property uplift, and many people including myself enjoy the recreational areas of the restored canal, we also have more birds and wildlife since the restoration, and one would assume this would also happen with the Eastern Villages Project.</p> <p>Also having the Developer pay for the restoration costs would be the sensible option in this case</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>
133	Mr I	Woodhead	1	<p>The Wilts and Berks Canal restoration line is located on the edge of this proposed development. May I ask that the construction of the canal be included as part of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure and that the funding of this stretch be the developers' responsibility.</p> <p>The restoration of the Kennet and Avon Canal has shown that it not only produced recreational and business opportunities along its whole route, but wildlife biodiversity as well</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

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134	Mr J	Millican	1	<p>There is much to commend the document I have been looking at however, given the themes of recreation, green infrastructure, wildlife corridors, open spaces, etc. which are repeated throughout, I believe more consideration should be given to developing the canal whose route, I am pleased to see, is being protected.</p> <p>I cannot see anywhere, a proposal to fund the rebuilding of what would be a huge benefit to the community. Other new developments have been built round canal infrastructure to the benefit of all from a healthy lifestyle to a safe place to exercise. With todays hectic lifestyle, people need to be able to get out locally to walk, run, cycle, etc.</p> <p>What better and safer environment than a restored canal towpath specifically designed for multiple user types. The canal can be designed to help alleviate flooding and can be lined with trees providing wildlife habitats. A canal is, by its very nature, both an open space and a wildlife corridor. Canal-side developments are very popular places to live for all the reasons I've mentioned.</p> <p>The Wilts & Berks Canal will become part of a long distance footpath</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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			<p>extending from Rugby to Bath and Swindon has the opportunity to be in the centre of that.</p> <p>I do hope consideration can be given to reinstating the canal through the Eastern Villages as your plans develop, thereby covering parts of sections EN1, EN2, EN3 and EN6 (green infrastructure, community forest, open spaces, sustainable walking/cycling routes, flood alleviation and recreation).</p>		

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
135	Mr J	Bull	1	<p>I am writing to you as an advocate of the restoration, reinstatement, and indeed building of canals wherever possible. I know that you have consulted on and had a number of very positive responses to the proposals to restore a canal through the centre of Swindon so clearly you understand the advantages of having water and boats close to residential areas.</p> <p>It increases the attractiveness of the location.</p> <p>As a result it increases the value of property.</p> <p>The presence of a canal increases the tourist spend in a town.</p> <p>It encourages water based and towpath activities.</p> <p>It provides a wildlife corridor.</p> <p>It can act as a drainage corridor and help with flood relief.</p> <p>As expected, you have included a canal route through this new development. I understand there is some worry about the building of bridges but they should be seen as an asset not a problem.</p> <p>This is all positive.</p> <p>What is not mentioned is any obligation on the developer to construct the canal. This is a grave mistake. A canal needs to be built as part of the development so that it begins to reap the above advantages straight away rather than having a waste land in the middle of the</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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				<p>development "awaiting" the canal. It is always much easier to do all the construction at once rather than in bits and pieces.</p> <p>Lastly, I think it may well be worth thinking about a marina, either within the present development or next door. Yet again this would be a gold plated asset for the town as well as the Eastern Villages area.</p>		
138	Mr T	Lunt	1	<p>I would like to express my concern that the current proposal for the New Eastern Villages development does not include any requirement on the developer to fund the building of the canal or its infrastructure.</p> <p>It is very important for the future of Swindon that this green corridor is protected for the future and the canal is constructed. Please can you rectify the omission in the current proposal so that the canal construction is an enforceable part of the development.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

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139	Mr M	Norris	1	Regarding the above consultation I do hope that adequate provision is provided for the construction of the canal and that it will be included as part of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure, The canal should be funded by developers as this has worked very well in Stroud on the Cotswold Canal, A built canal will create both recreational and leisure assets as well as improving people's well-being. A built canal will also create wildlife habitat and increase biodiversity.		The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.
140	L	Phelps	1	the construction of the canal like Wichelstowe must be included because it offers recreational facilities and creates new wildlife habitats		Point noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
141	M	Wood	1	<p>It is very good to see that the protected route of the Wilts and Berks Canal has been included but the actual construction of the canal must also be included as part of the New Eastern Villages Infrastructure. The canal will offer opportunities for flood relief and land drainage. It also offers a great opportunity to give a distinctive character to the Eastern Villages. Working canals in other places have increased local property prices and will create a recreational asset and improve the wellbeing of people in the area. A built canal will increase biodiversity and wildlife habitats. There will be a variety of benefits and no downsides.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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142	Mr M	Bridge	1	<p>Although not a resident of Swindon I have been a member of the Wilts & Berks Canal Trust and its predecessors since about 1980 and have put in a lot of time on practical restoration work as a volunteer, travelling from the Manchester area a couple of times most years for weekends and occasionally for full weeks. The work to which I have, in a small way, contributed has produced a number of sections that are navigable, or close to being so, and this is pleasing. Equally pleasing is the short but impressive length at Wichelstowe as this demonstrates the commitment of Swindon Council, something that we restoration volunteers don't always find.</p> <p>However, and this is the reason for my writing, I believe that the Wichelstowe length of canal was built by the developer as a condition of undertaking the development. This must have been at the insistence of the Council, presumably by means of a Section 106 agreement, though I have been unable to find specific reference to this. I am therefore disappointed that, while leaving a clear route for the canal in the proposals for the New Eastern Villages, there is no suggestion of using Section 106 to secure a substantially greater</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
			<p>restored length. As properties close to water (including canals) attract premium prices, the usually quoted range being an uplift of between 15 and 30%, this could probably be done at little or no net cost to the developer. There may also be savings in construction costs by using a reinstated canal as part of the drainage system. Once completed the canal will, over time, enhance the area's wildlife and environment for local residents.</p> <p>In short, I believe that there is much to gain and little, probably nothing, to lose by making the reinstatement of the canal a condition of planning consent and encourage the Council to do so.</p>		

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
143	J	Gasgoigne	1	<p>I am writing in connection with the draft SPD for the Swindon new Eastern Villages planning consultation. I am encouraged to see that the agreed line of the Wilts and Berks Canal is protected, but I think that the draft document should go further and require that construction of the canal should be included and funded by the developer. They will benefit from the constructed canal, in that property values will be enhanced by an in-water, in-use canal. I live by the Kennet and Avon Canal and can vouch for the fact that waterside property commands a premium and is sought after. It will also act as an amenity for walkers, cyclists and nature lovers as well as boaters.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
144	Mr N	Dowson	1	<p>Firstly, I am delighted to see that provision is being made for including a new route for the Wilts & Berks canal through the new development. However, I feel strongly that the opportunity should be taken to actually construct the canal at the same time as the rest of the development. This is because it is a unique opportunity to do it while the equipment is there to utilise. Also, all the disruption to the area would be taking place at the same time as opposed to constructing the canal at a later date! This surely makes good sense and would also benefit the developers by increasing the attractiveness of the development to prospective purchasers. This has been highlighted recently with the development going on alongside the newly restored canal in Stroud as well as more locally at Wichelstowe. In fact it has added significantly to the property prices. With this in mind I think that something like a section 106 agreement should be made with the developers in order to get them to fund the work, as it would benefit both them and the local community they will be developing the site for. If this opportunity is not taken now it may be many years before any funds from elsewhere are available and then think of the upheaval with heavy construction plant operating</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
				<p>within a settled residential area!</p> <p>Linking as it would, the already constructed canal at Wichelstowe, would instantly provide a 'green corridor' around south east Swindon bringing recreational and environmental benefits to Swindon as a whole.</p>		
146	H	Bacon	2	<p>We already know that water run-off from housing and other developments can cause a flooding risk especially around Swindon, and usually a 'balancing pond' has to be included in the plans. Why create lots of these when a canal can act as a linear balancing pond?</p>		<p>The Council acknowledge that a canal can provide some of the main principles of an overall SuDS scheme to provide drainage and flood risk benefits and it has been recognised in the emerging SuDS Vision SPD that if delivered as part of the development, the canal can be part of the drainage solution for some areas of the development.</p> <p>Therefore, the Council are willing to consider the canal as part of the drainage solution for a development parcel, where it is being proposed by the applicant however, we cannot specify which drainage solutions are used to meet the requirements of an overall SuDS scheme.</p>
146	H	Bacon	3	<p>The development at East Wichel shows that a canal adds character to an area, and it could do so as well for the Eastern Villages - but only if the development package ensures that the canal is built before the housing. King shill and Moulden Hill show that a built canal creates recreational and leisure assets and increases people's well-being.</p>		<p>Point noted.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
146	H	Bacon	4	<p>Henry the Heron's attracted to the canal in Swindon because there are fish. The wildlife habitat around the Wichelstowe Waitrose didn't happen by accident - it had to be created, including the right conditions to attract water-voles; there's evidence that water-voles are now well-established there. Please increase the biodiversity in NEV by making sure that the canal can be delivered in good time.</p> <p>Therefore, please re-focus this plan.</p>		Point noted.
147	A	Steuart-Smith	1	<p>I've reviewed this proposal and would like to affirm my support for the inclusion of the protected canal route.</p> <p>I hope this will be included and funded by the developers; I think it will really help to create a distinctive character for the development, as well as providing leisure and recreational opportunities and improving biodiversity.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
148	Mr R	Gregory	1	Wilts & Berks Canal. Nice to see a route for the canal is included in the planned expansion. I think developers should contribute to the reinstatement of the canal as it adds value to properties by water with all the amenities it provides, as it is said waterways for all, look forward to a successful outcome. One only has to look at Ebley Stroud how it has come alive.		Point noted. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.
149	Mr B	Tunncliffe	1	I believe that there would be considerable benefit to the provision of community and leisure infrastructure if the planning obligations within the Supplementary Draft Document were extended. The extension should require that construction of the canal be an intrinsic part of the Draft, not merely ensuring the safeguarding and protection of the canal route, as currently proposed.		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
149	Mr B	Tunncliffe	2	<p>This would mean that the canal would be funded by the developers, as was the case at Wichelstowe, with benefits to them, as well as to the public. The new canal-cut would add a distinctive character to that part of the New Eastern Villages development through which it would run. The developers would benefit from achieving higher prices for waterside houses, as in other developments. They would also have opportunities to resolve flood relief and land drainage problems less expensively by making use of the controlled flow of the water in the canal to carry off seasonal high rainfall.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>
149	Mr B	Tunncliffe	3	<p>At the same time, they would be providing an attractive waterside walk and cycleway, with the added interest of an ever-increasing bird and mammal population along its route.</p> <p>I am an enthusiastic supporter of canal restoration projects, both on the Wilts and Berks and on the Lichfield and Hatherton Canals.</p> <p>I commend this extension to you, to cover canal construction within the Eastern Villages plans, for your serious consideration.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
150	D	Trott	1	It is good to see that the protected route of the Wilts and Berks canal is shown on the master plan. However no mention is made that the canal will be built as part of the development. The funding for the canal build should come from the developers to provide a tranquil setting along the side of the development increasing the biodiversity and habitat locations for the wildlife and increase the leisure options for the people of the Eastern Villages and Swindon.		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.
150	D	Trott	2	The construction of the canal must be included as part of the New Eastern Villages development which will provide many activities such as walking, cycling, fishing, bird watching as well as canoeing and boating, keeping the residents of Swindon more active and fitter.		Point noted. The safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.
150	D	Trott	3	<p>The canal offers flood relief, land drainage and water management as it is extended.</p> <p>This will be a missed opportunity if this section of the canal is not built during the development of the New Eastern Village.</p>		Point noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
151	Mr P	Wagstaffe	1	<p>Please, please make provision for the Waterway in your Plans.</p> <p>I have worked in the Boating Industry for over 50 years including a period as Customer Relations Manager at British Waterways.</p> <p>I served a number of Terms on the Government INLAND WATERWAY ADVISORY COUNCIL (IWAAC). IWAAC and the Government regard Waterways and their Restoration as Important and "UNDERVALUED ASSETS".</p> <p>I and my family cruise the River THAMES and other Waterways with good regular trips to Lechlade. We have supported the Cotswold Canal Project by assisting with the Fund Raising Trip Boat in Lechlade.</p> <p>It would benefit The Eastern Village to make provision for the WATERWAY.</p>		<p>Noted. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
152	Mr J	Hanks	1	<p>I hear that at the new Eastern Village project that it is suggested that a length of the Wits and Berks under restoration canal is to be included in this development but that funding is unclear Now due to the fact that the developers will be the first and most significant beneficiaries of this new canal ,increased values better amenities a great nature corridor as well as better land drainage plus flood relief</p> <p>As the developers have the resources both physical and financial they should be made responsible for making this canal project happen</p> <p>I wish you all at Swindon every success with this project</p>		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.
153	T	Quinn	1	<p>I am very pleased to see that the canal will be a protected part of the development.</p> <p>The construction of the canal must be included in the infrastructure and should be funded by the developers.</p> <p>The canal will offer opportunities for flood relief and land drainage and will also create a wonderful wildlife habitat as seen at other canal areas within Swindon. I feel the developers should fund it because it will add to the value of the house built there and increase the opportunity for recreational and leisure improving the well being of residents.</p>		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
154	D	Wells	1	I feel it would be beneficial in many ways for the canal to go through the eastern villages. I fully support this proposal.		Support noted.
155	J	Johnson-Little	1	Please note I would like SBC to ensure the canal at Wichelstowe is continued through NEV. The canal is an important future amenity to bring tourism and enjoyment through Swindon.		Point noted.
156	A	Lockley	1	As a long-time supporter of the Wilts & Berks canal restoration project, it is good to see that the current proposed route for the restored canal is safeguarded in the SPD. I think that the experience with the Wichelstowe development shows that the developers should be obliged to construct the canal as shown on the master plan. Whilst the development is in construction, the cost of providing the canal will be relatively small; suitable plant will be onsite, and disruption to neighbouring residents or businesses will be less than if the canal is constructed later.		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
156	A	Lockley	2	<p>The developers at Wichelstowe were surprised to find how desirable the canal side homes were - they were the first to be sold, suggesting that homebuyers place significant value on the canal environment.</p> <p>Canal side homes in the new development could be sold at premium prices.</p> <p>The whole development would have a distinctive character, rather than being another faceless large housing estate.</p>		Point noted.
156	A	Lockley	3	<p>If the new canal section can be linked to the Wichelstowe section, a continuous corridor would result. This would significantly enhance the value of both sections of the canal:</p> <p>The use of the canal for trip boats and canoes would be more viable and could become a tourist attraction, bringing in visitors and increasing the potential for businesses catering to visitors - shops, cafes, pubs etc.</p>		Point noted. The safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
156	A	Lockley	4	The canal would also be a resource for water management, potentially easing land drainage problems and reducing flood risk.		Point noted. The Council acknowledge that a canal can provide some of the main principles of an overall SuDS scheme to provide drainage and flood risk benefits and it has been recognised in the emerging SuDS Vision SPD that if delivered as part of the development, the canal can be part of the drainage solution for some areas of the development. Therefore, the Council are willing to consider the canal as part of the drainage solution for a development parcel, where it is being proposed by the applicant however, we cannot specify which drainage solutions are used to meet the requirements of an overall SuDS scheme.
156	A	Lockley	5	The habitat for various wildlife species would be more valuable in the form of a continuous corridor, which would enable species to spread more easily and adapt to changes. This would increase biodiversity and offer greater opportunities for recreation and study.		Point noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
157	J	Godwin	1	<p>We write in support of the Wilts and Berks Canal in relation to the New Eastern Villages.</p> <p>It is good to see that the line of the Wilts and Berks Canal has been protected, but we feel that this stretch should be funded in full by the developers. The restored canal would offer flood relief and land drainage, recreational and leisure facilities and would create wildlife habitats and increase biodiversity.</p>		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.
158	J	Airey	1	<p>It is very good that the protected canal route has been included. Consideration should be given to including the funding for the building of the canal. The canal should be funded by the developers to provide a recreation and leisure asset for the Eastern residents and people of Swindon.</p>		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.
158	J	Airey	2	<p>The Canal should be incorporated to provide flood relief and land drainage which is forecast as a future requirement with the changing weather patterns. The Kennet and Avon is a very good example of what can be achieved. With benefits for wild life and increasing the leisure options of fishing, boating, cycling and walking offering the residents of the new development and Swindon a choice of activities to become fitter.</p>		Points noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
159	J	Laverick	1	<p>I have studied the above and other documents associated with the Eastern Villages development and am pleased to note that a route for the proposed new alignment for the Wilts & Berks Canal through the development area will be safeguarded and protected by ensuring that associated development infrastructure does not prejudice delivery of the canal (Policy EN11 part a).</p> <p>From my personal professional experience as Operations Manager with the former British Waterways Board this latter aspect is often difficult to monitor and to manage and can be very resource intensive.</p>		Point noted.
159	J	Laverick	2	<p>It is much to be preferred if canal infrastructure can built as part of a development in just the same way that roads, footpaths and cycleways are treated. Indeed the NEV Masterplan suggests that the canal corridor is eventually intended to provide a key north south footpath and cycleway linking the villages.</p> <p>To imagine that an 'add-on' provision of a canal corridor can be achieved, post development, without massive disruption to the residents of the new homes, to the newly constructed roads, footpaths, services and to the establishing green spaces is at best a little naïve.</p>		Point noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
159	J	Laverick	3	<p>A canal linking the villages within the scheme provides unique benefits on many levels but these benefits will only be secured if a fully integrated canal corridor is added into the Masterplan. This will immediately enhance the green infrastructure network, wildlife habitat and biodiversity, the open space provision, the supplementing of existing footpaths and cycle routes and will add to areas of planting available for community forests. All provisions currently listed as planning obligations within the scheme</p> <p>I suggest that consideration be given for the planning, financing and construction of the canal to be made an obligation on the developers, this will ensure that each of their design teams fully embrace the unique advantages that a water body can bring to their schemes. By creating focal points for village centres, providing community water space for additional sports facilities such as canoe facilities for youngsters. Even more significantly a fully integrated water body can be designed into their sustainable urban drainage schemes and can be taken into account whenever possible to deal with flood prevention and relief issues.</p>		<p>Points noted. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
160	J	Sharpe	1	<p>I feel strongly that the canals section which is identified in the NEV plan should be made a priority for restoration and this should be a responsibility of the developers. I would like to see this part of the obligation.</p> <p>I think that developing the canals section would provide better preservation of wildlife (contributing to the aims of areas such as 'Cotswold Water Parks') not so far away and provide a distinctive character to the proposed new Eastern village area.</p> <p>I think that Swindon deserves a further industrial heritage feature restored and renewed for new generations to enjoy.</p> <p>I am writing to add my voice to the view that the developers should fund the canal restoration.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
161	S	Lockley	1	<p>It is great news that the canal route has been included as a green corridor on the consultation document. This section will link to the existing canal at Wichelstowe and add a further 7 miles of canal in water, with all the benefits that brings including recreational use of the canal and its towpath, improved biodiversity adjacent to the canal and use of the canal for improving flood relief and drainage. Furthermore, other towns have seen property prices rise alongside restored canals and this would surely be the case in the New Eastern Villages too.</p> <p>However, there is an important omission. The consultation document does not include the requirement for the property developers to fund the building of the canal or its infrastructure. I would like to see these requirements included as an enforceable part of the infrastructure development – i.e. that the canal <i>*must*</i> be built as part of any new development. Only by including this requirement can we be sure that the benefits listed above can be delivered in the near future.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
162	Mr	Dobson	1	<p>Please to see that the route of the W&BCT has been protected.</p> <p>Strongly believe that the construction of the canal must be included as part of the infrastructure of the development and that the developers should find at least the major proportion of the construction.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
163	B	Stokes	1	<p>As I understand it, the above plan does not include provision for funding the full restoration of the North Wilts and Berks Canal and its infrastructure.</p> <p>Full restoration of the canal would provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a potential canal cruising route, namely Latton Basin to Lechlade via the Thames and Severn Canal, to Abingdon via the Thames, then to Swindon via the Wilts and Berks and back to Latton Basin via the North Wilts Canal which would attract visiting boaters to the area. - a more attractive, waterside walking/cycling route, far more interesting for the future local population and far more attractive to visitors to the area - an improved bio-diversity by a 'watered' canal - a potential facility for anglers - additional employment opportunities for local people <p>All these could provide revenue, directly and indirectly, to the Council and to local people.</p> <p>In an age when these concepts are</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
				being given serious consideration by other planning authorities, surely Swindon should not be ignoring them.		
164	Mr R	Reed	1	Its very good news that the Council has protected the new route for the Wilts & Berks Canal. As we know, canals bring many benefits to the local community. They provide space for healthy walking and recreational opportunities and interest to inhabitants and visitors a like. They also provide wildlife areas and a countryside feel to the area.		Noted.
164	Mr R	Reed	2	It has been shown that canals enhance property prices. Therefore it would seem appropriate that the developers should contribute significantly to the cost of construction, which should proceed concurrently with house building.		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.
165	Mr R	Clement	1	I strongly support the intended plans for the canal restoration and route through Swindon		Noted.
166	Mr M	Ireland	1	Every chance and opportunity should be taken to further the on going rebuilding of the canal including The Wilts & Berks Canal Trust itself, local landowners, local & County Councils. To see further progress at the New Eastern Villages will no doubt at all offer a wonderful opportunity to give distinct character to the area and improve the value of all property & amenities		Noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
166	Mr M	Ireland	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •It's very good to see that the protected canal route has been included •The construction of the canal must be included as part of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure •The canal should be funded by the developers •The canal offers opportunities for flood relief and land drainage •The canal offers a wonderful opportunity to make a distinctive character for the New Eastern Villages •Working canals in other location have created property uplift, and will do so here as well •A built canal will create both recreational and leisure assets as well as improving people's well-being •A built canal will create wildlife habitat assets and increase biodiversity 		<p>Points noted. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV.</p> <p>However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
167	Mr K	Cranston	1	<p>Although, I live in Stroud and would not be directly affected by the development proposed for NEV, I am keen to see the Thames and Severn (Cotswolds) Canals competed so that they bring greater prosperity to my home town. The inclusion of a commitment to protect part of the line of part of the Wilts and Berks Canal through the NEV is highly commendable. But a requirement for developer funding to restore that section of canal would be even better. Restoration will bring several benefits not only the immediate area of the development (e.g. attractive feature, linear park and nature corridor etc.) it will also bring wider benefits: It would help to increase the impetus to restore the links from Lechlade to Swindon and onwards to two of the nations great Rivers the Thames and Severn. It is well documented that canals restoration bring long term jobs and the use of towpaths have great benefits for leisure and general well being.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
168	Ms R	Johnson	1	<p>I have read your documents and I was relieved to see that you have included the protected canal route in your plans.</p> <p>But even with hundreds of efficient volunteers working every week for free, canal restoration requires funding and I can't see much provision for this in your plans.</p> <p>The work which the canal needs if it is intended to run as a green corridor should be included in the costs. Not just for leisure users but as a contingency escape plan for flood relief and land drainage and even if (hopefully) no floods occur, an active restored canal would still be a wildlife corridor and a healthy recreational magnet for the residents of your new houses.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>
168	Ms R	Johnson	2	<p>For the developers, it would increase the price of housing as a waterside asset so I think it should be included in the development plans as part of the contracts and really should be funded by the developers. If this is not possible, then please do include canal funding in your plans by whatever means possible.</p> <p>So please, do include the restoration costs in your financial assessments. They are so important.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
169	Mrs J	Taylor	1	<p>What a wonderful opportunity to get back some of our heritage.</p> <p>As the building of houses near to water always gain a higher price I feel the funding for the canal should be met by the builder.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>
170	Mr J	Farrow	1	<p>Flooding</p> <p>The Eastern Villages development is largely on a flood plain. There have been several instances around Swindon and elsewhere in recent years where flooding has caused very significant damage. With global warming, increased rainfall is expected thereby increasing flood risk. It is therefore essential that the new development is planned and developed with the flood risks addressed.</p> <p>A canal provides a ready mechanism of reducing flood risk and I note that in the obligations document in 4.19 shared infrastructure there is reference to an indicative canal route in appendix A and there is reference to the route being safeguarded in section d of Appendix B.</p> <p>However, in my view the canal should form an integral part of the development not an after thought. It should be included in the obligations at the outset i.e. in Appendix B section b.</p>		<p>The Council acknowledge that a canal can provide some of the main principles of an overall SuDS scheme to provide drainage and flood risk benefits and it has been recognised in the emerging SuDS Vision SPD that if delivered as part of the development, the canal can be part of the drainage solution for some areas of the development.</p> <p>Therefore, the Council are willing to consider the canal as part of the drainage solution for a development parcel, where it is being proposed by the applicant however, we cannot specify which drainage solutions are used to meet the requirements of an overall SuDS scheme.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
170	Mr J	Farrow	2	Resource for the Community Canals are the most used recreational resource in the country although over 95% of users are walking, fishing, cycling, wild life watching etc. Having the canal for local residents and wider will be a welcome resource encouraging exercise with its associated health benefits and reducing traffic with people commuting by cycle rather than car.		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.
170	Mr J	Farrow	3	Funding There is increased cost for the development by including the canal at this stage. However, there would be significant savings by including the canal as part of the development rather than a later add on. House prices adjacent to canals and waterways gain a considerable up lift in price. Bearing this in mind, I believe the developers should fund the whole canal and the S106 approach should be adopted for this purpose.		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
172	Mr J	Hogwood	1	<p>With reference to the consultation about the New Eastern Villages proposals I am writing to support the safeguarding and incorporation of the route of the Wilts and Berks Canal in the scheme but would suggest that you also make it a condition of Planning Consent that the canal is restored within the boundary of the development as part of the work.</p> <p>This will achieve many benefits for the future residents including recreational and environmental enhancement, improved drainage potential (bearing in mind the likely increase in storm intensity due to climate change) and the additional business opportunities which tourism on the re-opened canal will bring.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
173	Mr I	Sankey	1	<p>It's great to note that the protected route of the Wilts & Berks Canal has been included in the draft plan, but it seems to me to be a missed opportunity to not include the construction of the canal as part of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure, with the construction therefore funded by the developers.</p> <p>Once constructed, the canal will offer a range of benefits, not least in terms of recreation and leisure opportunities. There are also positive impacts on land drainage, creating wildlife habitats and improving biodiversity.</p> <p>Too good an opportunity to miss!</p>		<p>Points noted. The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
174	J	Hanks	1	<p>I am very pleased to learn of the plans to include a rout for part of the Wilts and Berks canal restoration as part of the new Eastern Villages project.</p> <p>I am however disappointed that it is not intended to include funding for the canal in this project,</p> <p>I believe that the Developers should fund the canal project for the following reasons</p> <p>The Canals existence will considerably increase the value of their development.</p> <p>Improve the ambience and character of the development and surroundings.</p> <p>Working canals provide many leisure opportunities increase visitors to the area as well as creating employment in maintenance and leisure industries</p> <p>The canal would also assist with land drainage and flood relief</p> <p>Swindon badly needs improvement and uplift to its general surroundings and a working canal would be a big help in doing this</p> <p>I look forward to hearing that the Canal project has been given the</p>		<p>Points noted. The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
175	Mr J	Gunner	1	<p>As someone who has enjoyed walking canal towpaths in many parts of England and Wales I wish to comment on the Eastern Villages Consultation. The inclusion of a significant length of the Wilts & Berks Canal in the proposed eastern expansion of Swindon shows important foresight as it will no doubt become a great feature of the new eastern villages' infrastructure and will be of enormous benefit to the local community and wildlife too. A living and breathing canal will also bring tourists to the area. Such rapid progress requires funding for the building of the canal and its infrastructure to create such an environment and on other schemes volunteer labour makes a big difference too. Surely this vital asset for the new eastern villages should be funded by the developers as, not only will all the above benefits be brought to the expansion, but the new waterway will be available for flood relief and land drainage too. These opportunities will all be missed unless the developers are required to make provision for the funding of the building of the canal as it will be an integral part of the new development. I hope that in your negotiations and planning you will ensure that the canal is placed at the heart of the development.</p>		<p>Points noted. The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
176	Mr B	Mander	1	<p>We were very pleased to see that the protected line of the Wilts & Berks Canal has been included in the above Consultation. We would hope that the construction of the Canal is included as an essential part of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure and that the canal construction is funded by the developers.</p> <p>The canal offers opportunities for flood relief and land drainage which with the changing weather patterns should be a major consideration.</p> <p>The addition of a vibrant water facility would add a distinctive character to the New Eastern Villages. There are any number of examples of developments around the country which have been able to utilise a refurbished or reborn canal as the centre piece of a new housing area. Invariably the housing units that overlook the canal attract the highest prices.</p> <p>A built and working canal provides recreational and leisure assets for the local community and will also be a haven for wildlife and increase biodiversity.</p>		<p>Points noted. The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
177	Mr A	Dawe	1	I am delighted to note that the consultation document shows the line of the canal as a green canal corridor. The canal offers a great opportunity to make a distinctive character for the New Eastern Villages with both recreational and leisure assets. The construction of the canal should be an enforceable part of the infrastructure development and funded by the developers.		The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.
178	Mr J	Norton	1	Re the proposed construction of the Wilts and Berks canal on the edge of the new development:- The canal will provide a green canal corridor which will greatly enhance the environment of the new villages. Experience elsewhere shows that a functioning canal is a very desirable feature in any development and that property values can be enhanced accordingly. The provision of the canal could unfortunately take many years while funding is sought, and it therefore makes sense to place an obligation upon developers to undertake the building of the canal as part of the development, or at least contribute substantially to it, the cost of such contribution being recovered through increased property values.		The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
179	Mr M	Alston	1	<p>I understand that the planning dept. is consulting on development above, and wanted to write to emphasise the part that renovation of the canal could play in enhancing the amenity for the area. It's great that the protected canal route has been included, and I hope you will require the developers to fund the necessary work to restore it fully.</p> <p>This would be good for the general character and facilities of the area, enhancing property values, attracting recreational leisure use / visitors, and supporting jobs to some extent. It would also be great for wildlife, increasing the range of species in the area, and protecting habitats for the long term.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
180	Mrs C	Gilman	1	<p>I would like to respond to the consultation regarding the canal and its continued restoration. It is very good to see that the protected canal route has been included in the plan; but I really think that the construction of the canal must be a part of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure. The Canal Trust have been working very hard to make the restoration of this route happen with partnerships, and this is an opportunity for flood relief and land drainage and for it to be funded by the developers. As we have seen with Wichelstowe, this will be a wonderful opportunity to make a distinctive character for the Eastern Villages.</p> <p>Working canals in other areas have proved to create a property uplift, and will essentially do the same here. The complete canal will create both recreational and leisure assets as well as improving people's well being.</p> <p>It will be a huge opportunity to create wildlife habitat assets along the length of the canal and increase biodiversity, which is so important in any built up area. The Stroud Ebley Mill area is a big success story - let Swindon be a leader and not a follower, We must grasp this opportunity and embrace the chance</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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				to move the canal along a little nearer to its goal to meet up with the Thames, thus providing a future increase in biodiversity, tourism and enhancing our living environment.		
181	P	Labouchere	1	I see the construction of the canal route through the NEV as a huge asset to the area.		Noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
182	Mr J	Deighton	1	<p>It is very good to see that protected route of the Wilts- Berks Canal has been included.</p> <p>I consider that it is essential that the construction of the canal be included as part of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure and the cost of the canal be funded by the developers. As at Wichelstowe, the canal offers a great opportunity to make a distinctive feature in the New Eastern Villages providing recreational and leisure opportunities for residents. Furthermore, the canal will create a haven for wildlife and increase biodiversity and this will support how the development Environmental Impact assessment plans are prepared, approved and executed.</p> <p>The canal will also provide developers with opportunities for its use for flood drainage and land drainage.</p> <p>In other developments the provision of a canal as part of the infrastructure has led to increased property values.</p> <p>I reiterate that I believe the construction of the canal should be an integral feature of the development.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
183	Mr M	Hitchinson	1	<p>I note from your web site that the Canal route is included in the plans for the Eastern Villages. This is a good first step.</p> <p>For the planned Canal to become a reality, funding will need to be found. It occurs to me that there is are precedents for funding, what will be a great community asset, by the developers.</p> <p>In this modern world where councils spend lot of money trying to promote a fit and healthy life style, the canal and its tow path provide the perfect way to support these initiatives. The Canal will provide a healthy outdoor facility for walking, running, cycling and for the younger generation, a chance to explore and discoverer a great diversity of wild life. This facility will also help to deliver the parts of the national school's curriculum focusing on local history.</p> <p>Property values and businesses benefit from have a facility of this nature in the vicinity. You only have to look at the positive effect on business at Bradford on Avon since the Canal has been restored.</p> <p>Therefore, I hope you can see that there is a good case for making the funding of the canal, by the developers, a condition of planning.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
184	Mr J	Dix	1	<p>I am pleased to see that the protected route for a restored (albeit re-routed) Wilts & Berks Canal has been included within the plan for the proposed New Eastern Villages development at Swindon, which is currently under consideration.</p> <p>I wish to place on record my belief that this extension should be recognised as an integral part of the leisure infrastructure for this development, providing enjoyment for existing and new residents, since the canal restoration would result in a linear park for the community, providing opportunities for walking, running and cycling, participation in a range of water sports, nature conservation, an increase in biodiversity as well as access into a long-distance leisure route.</p> <p>The canal route would also afford flood relief and land drainage opportunities to the mutual benefit of the developer and the canal restorers.</p> <p>Significantly, the presence of the canal would enhance the environment and provide a unique identity for the new development, with the prospect of an enhanced evaluation.</p> <p>In view of the added value that the canal route will bring to the development and the enhancement to the enjoyment and quality of life it will provide for residents, I believe</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p> <p>The Council acknowledge that a canal can provide some of the main principles of an overall SuDS scheme to provide drainage and flood risk benefits and it has been recognised in the emerging SuDS Vision SPD that if delivered as part of the development, the canal can be part of the drainage solution for some areas of the development.</p> <p>Therefore, the Council are willing to consider the canal as part of the drainage solution for a development parcel, where it is being proposed by the applicant however, we cannot specify which drainage solutions are used to meet the requirements of an overall SuDS scheme.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
				<p>that the cost of constructing the canal should fall on the developers.</p> <p>In conclusion, I would be obliged if my observations are incorporated into the observations received on the consultation stage for this important development.</p>		
185	Mr J	Keepin	1	<p>It's good to see that a protected canal route has been included, in such a way that it can be joined up with the sections that have been commissioned recently and with the longer term proposals by the W&BCT. Ideally, the forthcoming work should be funded by the Developers.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
186	Dr C	Barry	1	<p>As a member of the Wilts & Berks Canal Trust, I am pleased to see the Canal's route, already protected in the Local Plan, included as a Green Corridor. However, I have to say this falls extraordinarily short of the potential the Canal has to enhance the environment and, most importantly of all, reduce the flood risk. The proposals are to build on a flood plain - risky! Yes, the developments will be on 'islands', probably literally on occasions. I understand about SUDS - if I'm correct, they mean that the flow of water off the surface of the developed area will be no greater than if it were not there. So far so good - but there seems to be no consideration of the fact that the 'islands' will reduce the area the flood water - which will be no less than before - has to go to. Therefore the peak levels will inevitably be higher - and no-one has produced an estimate of how much higher. Also SUDS need to be maintained - who will do this, and who will pay?</p>		Points noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
186	Dr C	Barry	2	<p>The second problem is that all this unchanged (at best) amount of water still has to get through its only exit point, under the A 420 and railway line. Naturally, I am aware of the Canal Trust's proposals, and I have read its NEV document. To me, the case seems to be unanswerable to build the Canal as planned. Firstly it will hold back significant amounts of flood water because it forms a 'dam' across every water course it crosses. Secondly it proposes a second route for water to get out under the railway line. For these reasons, construction should be largely complete before the main development even starts - not least because its excavations form a very local source for building up the 'islands'. Because of the advantages it brings, it should be funded by the developers and the Council between them.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
187	Mr R	Higgs	1	<p>I write as past Chairman of the Surrey and Hampshire Canal Society which returned the Basingstoke Canal to navigation again, and so am very much aware of the multiple benefits and pleasure that a restored canal can bring to so many people. I am delighted that the proposals for the Eastern Villages Development makes provision for, and gives protection to a green corridor within it, into which a new section of the Wilts and Berks Canal can be constructed.</p> <p>Pleasing of course as it is that the canal route has been protected, the issue of funding to see through the construction and implementation of these far sighted proposals has to be addressed, and the only logical place for this funding to come from must be the developers.</p> <p>Peoples quality of life and well being, their leisure opportunities, and the creation of wildlife habitat are just some of the very positive features to be brought about by these exciting proposals involving the canal.</p> <p>I look forward to hearing of their implementation.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
189	S	Cooper	0	It is very good that a route has been specified for the W&BCT. This should be of great value to the developers, partly because of the value which will be added to the new homes, especially those fronting the canal, and partly drainage and possible flood relief provision.		Noted.
189	S	Cooper	2	I strongly believe that the developers should provide the canal as part of the infrastructure. I suggest that contact is made with the Canal and River Trust and the Inland Waterways Association for help with the design of the canal and towpath which should be a really useful and attractive feature of the developments.		Points noted. The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
190	Mrs K	Shaw	1	<p>I am pleased to see that the Wilts and Berks Canal route has been included as a protected route in your plans for the Eastern Villages development but disappointed that provision has not been made for the construction of the canal to be included in the villages infrastructure, as this is an ideal for the developers to be asked to fund the canal.</p> <p>The construction of the canal offers opportunities for flood relief and land drainage in the area, thereby helping to protect the development (so give the developers' potential customers greater security against future flood risk.</p> <p>The canal also offers a wonderful opportunity to make a distinctive character for the New Eastern Villages, again adding value to the developers' product and making their development more attractive to buyers.</p> <p>As shown with other canal restorations in other locations such as in Stroud, working canals have created property uplift, and will do so here as well - they create both recreational and leisure assets as well as improving people's well-being. In addition a built canal will</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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				<p>create wildlife habitat assets and increase biodiversity.</p> <p>I should be obliged therefore if you would consider amending your plans to include provision for the canal to be constructed in the Eastern Villages development.</p>		
191	Mr M	Stevens	1	<p>I understand that, while the route of the Wilts and Berks Canal is accorded welcome protection in the Consultation Document, this is in the form of a green corridor rather than a built canal.</p> <p>I believe it is by now well established that a canal confers significant benefits, to the environment and public generally but in particular to housing developers, in the form of the higher prices they would undoubtedly charge. It seems likely, too, that in the absence of a built canal, the developers will need to make additional provision for drainage and flood relief. Integration of the canal into such arrangements could therefore partially pay for itself.</p> <p>Would the Council therefore please make it a requirement of the Eastern Villages development that a built canal be provided by the developer at their own cost.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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192	Mr J	Woodrow	1	Your proposal to develop the new Eastern Villages is an exciting one. We are crying out for more housing and the areas you have identified seem entirely suitable.		Point noted.
192	Mr J	Woodrow	2	<p>However, I would like to add my voice to the calls from the Wilts & Berks canal trust for the reinstatement of the canal to be funded by the developers, as part of the costs of construction.</p> <p>Canals and canal walks are hugely popular and the establishment of a working canal (rather than just the allocation of space for) would be a very big selling point for the development.</p> <p>It would of course be a huge boost to the WBCT but equally it provides a TRIPLE win-win-win situation for the Trust (meeting part of its aims), the developers (improving the appeal of the new villages) and of course Swindon BC in promoting health & well being of its newest inhabitants.</p> <p>I hope you will insist on developer</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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193	Mr C	Leadbeater	1	<p>I was delighted to read that the Consultation document has recognised the need, on so many levels, to include and protect the Wilts and Berks canal route within a designated green corridor.</p> <p>But it does bring the funding issue to the fore! Whilst it is commendable that the need for the canal has been recognised and the route included in the consultation process, I believe it is imperative that the construction of the canal and its associated infrastructure must be included as requirement for the Developers to fund.</p> <p>The various house builders who will construct homes and roads will be seeking to make a substantial return on their investment and it is within their gift to invest in green infrastructure. But unless this becomes a condition of the planning consent, it is unlikely to be embraced. It would be a terrible missed opportunity for all parties if that was allowed to happen.</p> <p>The canal itself is a terrific amenity for the new community and for existing communities along its route; it is difficult to see any downside. The amenity and leisure value is well understood, but the biodiversity aspect becomes ever more vital as</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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			<p>green fields will be swallowed for the development(s). The presence of a water course will assist in local drainage and assist in alleviating any flood problems and the canal itself would create a distinctive character, so often found wanting in new developments. Properties close to such an amenity could command a premium at time of initial build and that value uplift would continue for future generations choosing the area as their home. So the funding itself should not need to be a fiscal issue, but the developers need to be mandated to provide this funding as they will benefit from the opportunity to sell more desirable properties.</p> <p>I urge you, as will many others, to fully embrace this opportunity. Recognising the canal corridor is a great start and building it can be achieved if the developers play their part and fund the build as part of an holistic approach to the Eastern Villages development</p>		

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
194	Mr H	Garrod	1	<p>Back in the 1960s, I lived in South Marston and spent some time exploring what was left of the old canal. I have looked at your Eastern Villages website and am glad to see that the protected canal route features in it. The reconstructed canal will be a wonderful addition to the new villages and must be paid for by the developers who will benefit from their construction. Working canals are a great benefit to their communities, offering recreational opportunities, wildlife habitats, biodiversity and flood relief. I have very happy memories of my time in and around Swindon. A fully working canal will bring joy and fulfilment for generations to</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
195	Mr A	Lees-Smith	1	<p>I am a regular waterways user and I was glad to see that the route of the Wilts & Berks canal has been protected but I believe that the proposed development offers opportunity for so much more! And that the construction of the canal should be included as part of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure. The developers will benefit from higher property values with the waterside location and therefore the canal should be funded by the developers. They will receive other benefits as the that the canal offers advantages for flood relief and land drainage that they would have to put in anyway.</p> <p>A canal offers an exceptional opportunity to make a distinctive character for the new Eastern villages where I am sure the future residents will embrace the canal as closely as those who live at Wichelstowe. A built canal that when joined to the National network will create both recreational, leisure, business and employment opportunities as well as improving people's well-being</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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196	Mrs J	Gosnell	1	<p>I am pleased to see the route of the Wilts and Berks canal incorporated into the plans for the eastern expansion. This is a huge development therefore leisure activities are important.</p> <p>As mitigation for digging up all the green countryside the developers must be responsible for design, build and maintenance. They must be prepared to undertake all the work involved and not saddle you, the Local Authority with the work. There is no doubt that other LAs have benefitted greatly from having developed water features such as lakes, canals and rivers. Wichelstowe comes to mind as a</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>
197	Mr G	Spink	1	<p>I would like to register my support for the inclusion of the canal in the above development. I believe it will enhance the living experience of all canal users as well as the local residents, not to mention wildlife!</p>		<p>Support noted.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
198	Mr A	Heath	1	<p>I want to make clear my support for a restored canal to the east of Swindon.</p> <p>Whilst I am pleased to see that the protected canal route has been included, I urge you to see that the construction of the canal must included as part of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure. Also urge you to see that the canal is funded by the developers.</p> <p>I believe a canal to the east of Swindon offers opportunities for flood relief and land drainage, as well as to create a distinctive character for the New Eastern Villages.</p> <p>I would remind you that working canals in other locations have created property uplift, and will do so here as well.</p> <p>Further, a built canal will create both recreational and leisure assets as well as improving people's well-being.</p> <p>Finally, a built canal will create wildlife habitat assets and increase biodiversity</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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199	Mr J	Hemper	1	<p>It is great to see that the protected route of the canal has been included in the plans and it is essential therefore that the construction of the canal should be part of the Eastern Villages infrastructure.</p> <p>It has been proven and seen in many places that canals create fantastic opportunities for leisure, recreation, green travel (such as walking and cycling to work for example) as well as providing a natural habitat for wildlife that continues to develop. The canal will add considerable character and charm to the development in addition to all the other benefits it will bring. The developers will benefit directly from the additional interest the canal will bring to the area as well them having a direct opportunity to command enhanced property values as a result.</p> <p>I appreciate that the route of the canal is protected but I think that the construction of the canal should be an integral part of the development as it would be difficult to go back after an elapsed time period and construct it after the development has been completed. Surely the most sensible thing for SBC to do is to ensure that the construction of the canal is mandatory for the developers and that the costs of</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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				doing so be borne by them as ultimately, they will be the first to benefit.		
200	Mr & Mrs F	Hewer	1	<p>This is ,in my opinion an excellent opportunity to help reinstate the Wilts and Berks Canal with financial help from the developers involved. Not only will this proposed asset enhance the Eastern Villages with regard to the wildlife and flora it will encourage but will also be an advantage in helping to drain water from the surrounding proposed development. As keen boaters ourselves, we are well aware of the financial benefits such a project can bring to the area. Looking further ahead, when this link of the Wilts and Berks canal is completed it will be possible to navigate the waterways from the K&A to the Thames at Abingdon.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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201	Mr and Mrs D	Green	1	<p>We are pleased to hear that the proposals for the " New Eastern Villages" will include a GREEN CANAL CORRIDOR such a positive step as this will benefit the COMMUNITY as a whole by providing excellent recreational facilities. For example, as well as narrow boating and the wild life environment there would be the facility for walking, cycling, jogging, canoeing and a wide beam charity boat for disabled and disadvantaged people.</p> <p>The canal will also make the surrounding area a far more desirable place to live, offering a quality environment for present and future residents. It is not unreasonable to believe the canal would also add EMPLOYMENT opportunities for the area.</p> <p>For the above reasons, which are only some of the benefits to the area, we URGE YOU TO ENSURE THE CANAL CONSTRUCTION IN THE NEW EASTERN VILLAGES IS PART OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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202	Mrs L	Derbyshire	1	<p>I would like to make a few comments in support of the recreation of the Wilts & Berks canal in the eastern villages development. Now that so much more open farmland is to be built on, I think it is very important to include some recreational and leisure facilities in the development.</p> <p>1. Restoring/recreating the canal through this area would provide flood relief as well as land drainage.</p> <p>2. It will create recreational and leisure activities for a wide section of the community.</p> <p>3. It will also open up a haven for wildlife, which will have been decimated by the development of houses and infrastructure.</p> <p>4. I think that the developers should fund these enhancements for the general public</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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203	Mrs & Mrs	Hutchinson	1	<p>As a supporter of the Wilts and Berks Canal Trust I am pleased to see the protected canal route has been included in the plans. I also feel that the actual construction of the canal should be included in the plans and funded by the developers.</p> <p>As well as the amenity value for the local residents, a canal would make a lovely distinctive character to the New Eastern Villages and would increase the values of the properties, as canals have in other locations. A canal would also create wildlife habitat and increase biodiversity and also offer opportunities for flood relief and land drainage.</p> <p>In the longer term, when the Wilts and Berks Canal becomes a through waterway, it will bring a lot of commerce to the area.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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204	Mrs J	Bye	1	<p>I am pleased to see that the protected canal route has been included in the above consultation document. I firmly believe that this canal should be constructed within the New Eastern Villages Infrastructure and funded by the development company. As can be seen from Wichelstowe, where a length of canal was built by the developers, the whole residential housing area has been enhanced leading to increased interest in the Eco structure and wildlife of the surrounding environment. This benefits both the health and happiness of residents and the uplift in property prices boosts the profit margin of the developers making it a financially worthwhile project.</p> <p>There has recently been published a Derby University study reading as follows: A recent analysis of a large-scale nature challenge scientifically shows how important feeling part of nature is to our physical and mental health.</p> <p>Such a wonderful opportunity to include the building of the canal should not be missed. It would enhance the whole area of the NEV plan setting it apart from other sites by creating opportunities for rest and relaxation and leisure activities, walking, boating, watching wildlife, which are rarely possible on such a large scale development. In these</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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				days of decreasing field margins the adjacent plant life of the banks would lead to a beneficial addition for animal and insect habitat and biodiversity. In addition, any necessary land drainage and flood relief plans could be incorporated.		
205	Mr & Mrs D	Birley	1	<p>I am writing to urge that SBC ensures that funding is made available from the start for construction of the canal as an integral part of the Eastern Villages development.</p> <p>Whilst I welcome the fact that there is a designated route for the canal, I think that it is more likely to happen if funding is obtained, so that - as at Wichelstowe - the canal is always seen to be part of the development from the start.</p> <p>A canal should help flood measures and be a great green corridor.</p>		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.

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208	Mrs P	Clover	1	<p>There is a line of the old Wilts and Berks canal running through the proposed area and this gives a wonderful opportunity to add something different to the area, in terms of heritage, recreation and land use. It will increase an area a natural habitat also, with water.</p> <p>I understand that the canal route has been protected but it would make sense to include provision in the Section 62 for funding the route and making it an integral part of the area, adding character and VALUE to properties - we know that water and space around does this - with the added benefit for residents of linked walkways/cycle paths away from busy roads.</p> <p>The established water course will also potentially assist with flood and land drainage - quite a consideration nowadays and can be readily included in plans for the site at this stage of development.</p>		<p>Points noted. The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>
209	Mr B	Pilcher	1	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed New Eastern Villages development. Bearing in mind the increasing need for housing, schooling and employment, the proposed is probably as good as it gets.</p>		Noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
209	Mr B	Pilcher	2	<p>I am pleased to see the canal route protected, but in view of the important social amenity and enhancement of property value, feel the canal should be built and funded by the developers as part of the NEV development.</p> <p>It is worth pointing out the canal has potential flood relief and drainage options in what is a comparatively flat and low lying area, not to mention the obvious wildlife benefits to a green-field development.</p> <p>In my view, the canal should be included and built as part of the NEV infrastructure.</p>		<p>Points noted. The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV.</p> <p>However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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210	Mrs A	Jacobs	1	<p>It is good to notice that the planning of New Eastern Villages in Swindon includes the protected canal route.</p> <p>The construction of the canal route must be part of the New Eastern Villages, the cost of which must be borne by the developers. This is the best opportunity to reinstate the canal.</p> <p>The canal is a good way to manage floods and drainage. A canal is a great recreational asset, enhances the environment through enriching the wildlife and biodiversity. Housing near a canal are attractive and in demand.</p> <p>This is the right moment to pull out all the stops to make the reinstatement of this canal happen.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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211	Mr N	Barber	1	<p>The master plan shows the canal safeguard alignment. But nowhere in the draft SPD is there any mention of funding for the canal, as this will be very much a recreational facility , not only for boating but walking and cycling as well as a green infrastructure. I feel that the funding for building the canal should be included in the development.</p> <p>Other places where canals have been renovated have found an increase in tourism and thus an increase in income for the local community.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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212	Mr A	Trinder	1	<p>I have been impressed with the support given over the past years to the restoration of the Wilts and Berks Canal by Swindon Borough Council.</p> <p>With the increasing public interest in the country's canal network (viz the ongoing canal programmes on both the BBC and commercial TV channels) it has to make sense for the work to continue. Once full restoration has been completed the addition of an extra attraction to the town of Swindon must bring significant benefits.</p> <p>Surely the developers of the forthcoming New Eastern Villages need to be required to fund the canal restoration costs along the indicated green canal corridor? Will this requirement be added to the planning approval requirements?</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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213	Mr G	Osborn-King	1	<p>The canal system around Swindon is a fantastic asset both for the community and the ever increasing popularity for locations to stand out from the crowd and for green spaces to be enjoyed by the ever decreasing units of land afforded each new home.</p> <p>I beg you to make it the developers responsibility to both preserve and maintain the green spaces and the route and environs of the canal system which made Swindon great and not have it wiped out under their watch by some mindless development swashing over it.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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214	Mrs M	Brunger	1	<p>I support the Wilts and Berks Canal Trust in their efforts to include the canal in these plans.</p> <p>The NEV development offers the Town an opportunity to include provision for many aspects of the health and well-being of future residents, members of near-by communities, and the wildlife of the area.</p> <p>It concerns me that the proximity of water courses and the boggy nature of the land make it a potential health hazard to the health of its residents - damp areas have been shown to increase the risks to bronchial health and this will be a very real problem. There are other obvious dangers in building on a potential flood area - and great public and government awareness of the dangers of this practice.</p> <p>The very nature of the area which has several water courses, makes it excellent wildlife habitat, and thus must be extremely sensitively developed to recognise this and to encourage, rather than destroy habitats. People moving there must understand that they will be moving to an area where concerns for wildlife are of paramount concern.</p> <p>The water in the area MUST be</p>		<p>The Council acknowledge that a canal can provide some of the main principles of an overall SuDS scheme to provide drainage and flood risk benefits and it has been recognised in the emerging SuDS Vision SPD that if delivered as part of the development, the canal can be part of the drainage solution for some areas of the development.</p> <p>Therefore the Council is happy to consider the canal as part of the drainage solution for a development parcel, where it is being proposed by the applicant however, we cannot specify which drainage solutions are used to meet the requirements of an overall SuDS scheme.</p>

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				<p>managed sensitively, and to the highest environmental standards.</p> <p>The plans which will I assume incorporate extensive systems of pools and appropriate plantings.</p> <p>I support the Wilts and Berks Canal Trust in their efforts to incorporate a large stretch of canal into the plans. It will be an attractive amenity for the residents and will help with water management in the area.</p>		
216	Mrs M	Maynard	1	<p>My comments are specifically with regard to the current restoration of the Wilts and Berks Canal. It is excellent that the protected canal route has been included in this project. To strengthen this approach, I feel that:</p> <p>The construction of the canal must be included as part of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure.</p> <p>When built, the canal will give a distinctive character and a focal point to the New Eastern Villages. In other area, working canals have added to property value, created both recreational and leisure opportunities and improved wildlife habitats. Restoration of this canal could help flood relief and land drainage. Ideally, the canal should be funded by the developers</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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217	Mr P	Wright	1	I would just like to say that a restored Wilts and Berks canal would greatly enhance this scheme and therefore would hope that the developers would be held responsible to cover the costs of reinstatement/new canal sections on any relevant sections.		The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.
218	Mr A	Hay	1	I am very glad to see that the canal route has been included in the New Eastern Villages proposed plans. The canal and footpath alongside may well play an important role in the wellbeing of the community by providing ready access to nature. But I think it's only fair that the cost of building the canal should be born by the developers as a way for them to contribute back to the community.		The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.

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219	Mrs L	Cobbett	1	<p>As a Swindonian, born in Moredon, I look forward to any extension of waterways / canal within the area of our now much extended town. Bringing back some of what we have lost. Supporting wildlife and creating a beautiful area within our new area, known as East Wichelstow.</p> <p>Therefore I write in support of the building and inclusion of the canal in East Wichelstowe. My view is that it be funded by the developers. The canal will always support biodiversity.</p> <p>As a member of the canal trust I support any feasible extension to the current canal and look forward to seeing the finished product. I often walk the existing canal and look to the planning committee to take on board my comments.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>
220	Mr J	Miles	1	<p>I am writing to you about the consultation on New Eastern Villages, particularly about the construction of the canal through it.</p> <p>Canals greatly improve the environment, for residents and for wildlife. They also increase the value of properties.</p> <p>I urge you to make construction of the canal, funded by the developers, a condition of approval.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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221	Mrs J	Otridge	1	I am delighted to see that the protected canal route has been included in the Eastern Villages Consultation. The construction of the canal must be included as part of this. It offers a wonderful opportunity to make this area a place where people will want to live, giving them a great and unique opportunity for enjoyment and leisure as can be seen where other canals have been renovated or constructed. It will also provide a green space for wildlife, flora and fauna which will be an asset for many years to come. I feel strongly that it should be funded by the developers as it will increase the value of the homes built here and will benefit both the developers and the buyers.		The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.
222	Mr P	Tucker	1	Please include mandatory provisions for construction of the restored Wilts and Berks Canal as part of this plan. This canal is an important amenity for the area.		The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.

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223	Mr D	Blazdell	1	<p>The route of the Wilts and Berks canal has been safeguarded in the plans, which is very good news. It seems to me that this development brings an ideal opportunity to reconstruct this length of canal at the same time. I believe that there is provision in planning matters to require would-be developers to provide the funds for such reconstruction, if not actually carry out the work.</p> <p>Quite apart from the fact that the reinstated canal would provide a ready-made amenity for the new residents, offering them walking and fishing opportunities, but the wildlife would further add to their leisure experience. Equally important would be the contribution the canal would make to drainage and flood relief.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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224	Mr T	Rithey	1	<p>I am writing to ask will you please give consideration to include funding for the Wilts and Berks canal within the development proposal for the New Eastern Villages as it goes through the planning process.</p> <p>My reasons thus:</p> <p>a. the line of the canal requires protecting, future construction costs funded by the developers to be included as part of the New Eastern Village infrastructure.</p> <p>b. the canal offers opportunities for flood relief, land drainage, recreational areas, wildlife habitats and an increase in biodiversity. It would be a shame to lose this chance for hastening the opening of the Wilts and Berks canal.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p> <p>The Council acknowledge that a canal can provide some of the main principles of an overall SuDS scheme to provide drainage and flood risk benefits and it has been recognised in the emerging SuDS Vision SPD that if delivered as part of the development, the canal can be part of the drainage solution for some areas of the development. Therefore the Council is happy to consider the canal as part of the drainage solution for a development parcel, where it is being proposed by the applicant however, we cannot specify which drainage solutions are used to meet the requirements of an overall SuDS scheme.</p>

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225	Mr K	Vickery	1	<p>I am writing to urge you to include the construction of the new section of the Wilts & Berks Canal in the development of this area, to be funded by the developers in the same way that this was included at Wichelstowe.</p> <p>This canal will provide both diverse habitat for wildlife and recreational and leisure facilities for the residents and other local people.</p> <p>A working canal will increase the value of the properties and so increase the value to the developers.</p> <p>Once completed a working canal will add to the flood relief and drainage provisions in the area as well as providing a distinctive feature to the neighbourhood.</p> <p>In addition to walking, cycling and fishing on the canal, boating will be an option that will allow commercial businesses to be set up, providing employment. Especially when this section is linked up to the existing sections at Wichelstowe and Westleaze. It will ultimately become part of a link between the Kennet and Avon canal and the river Thames, bringing boating holidaymakers into the Swindon area.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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226	Mr M	Iles	1	It would be good if you would make full provision for the building of a new stretch of canal just as was the case at Wichelstowe. The various developers could finance this with a tiny fraction of the profit they will earn.		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
227	Mr C	Stirland	1	<p>I was pleased to see that the proposal recognises and includes the Wilts & Berks Canal with your plan and the benefits that it will bring to both local habitants and wildlife. For the new occupants, the canal offers a place of recreation, and facilitates tow path walks, running and cycling along a level off road amenity that people can enjoy so increasing their sense of wellbeing and appreciating more of the local environment in which they live. Here at Devizes the local Town Council has recognised the health benefits that a modern tow path can bring and has invested in and upgraded the tow path through part of Devizes so that Disabled / people with mobility scooters and their carers can also enjoy the benefits of the tow path.</p> <p>Developers will also be able to offer new waterside homes at a premium and for this reason should be encouraged to significantly help finance the revival of the canal along this section. The provision of canal berthing maintenance facilities and water side pub will provide new jobs and additional economic benefit.</p> <p>It has been noted that a canal can provide opportunities to help mitigate flooding in both the immediate and adjacent areas as vast amounts of water can be</p>		<p>Points noted. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
				<p>transported and subsequently dispersed over large areas. Once restored, the canal will provide enhanced biodiversity along its route and protected species such as the great crested newt will have a better place to live.</p>		

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
228	Mr N	Bailey	1	<p>I was delighted to see that the Wilts and Berks Canal will be part of the Eastern Villages development. Clearly the many extra benefits it will offer have been taken on board. Just up the road in Stroud, the re-build of the Thames and Severn Canal is revitalising it's surroundings. The Wilts and Berks Canal will make the Eastern Villages somewhere special to live, too. But, in just the same way that building the canal and lakes here in Wichelstowe FIRST before the houses started to appear, appealed to potential purchasers; so too must the same process be followed for the Eastern Villages.</p> <p>From 40+ years involvement in both canal and heritage railway restoration, I know only too well how vital it is to get the infrastructure complete first. The costs and complexity of trying to insert a canal into an already built environment just don't bear thinking about. An enthusiastic house purchaser who wants to live by a stretch of canal becomes a complainant of noise, mud dust, heavy transport, you name it when, after living in the house for a few years someone appears to build a canal outside his house. Similarly, the developer should be responsible for providing this infrastructure as part of the overall</p>		<p>Points noted. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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			<p>development of roads drains sewers etc. when they have all the appropriate equipment on site and, thus, avoid extra labour, hire and transport costs.</p> <p>As an aside, British Marine, in their 2014 report “ Domestic Boating Tourism Market in Great Britain” found that the UK canal network attracted 967,000 holiday makers who spent £336m that year and a third of all boat related holidays were spent in the South West. That is holiday makers ALONE !!</p>		

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
229	Mr B	Gribble	1	<p>I am pleased that the route of the Wilts & Berks Canal appears on the proposal for the South Marston Village development and yet have found no reference to it in any of the supporting documentation.</p> <p>May I bring it to your attention that the presence of a waterway going through or close to this development would provide a very appealing amenity to these new villages. Many towns have realised that waterways do add to the quality of life and promote a more active and healthy lifestyle as well as encouraging business growth. The Wilts & Berks Canal would provide a linear recreation and wildlife corridor that would be easily accessible to most of the residents to these villages. This canal vicinity would provide suitable locations for the council to meet its green, recreation and forestry requirements.</p> <p>I therefore suggest that the Council do more than acknowledge the existence of the route of the Wilts & Berks Canal but endeavour to incorporate it into their plans and provide funding to ensure that the canal can be delivered on time with the rest of the development.</p> <p>The restoring of the Wilts & Berks canal provides an opportunity that should not be missed, to build an amenity that cannot be achieved by any other means and at a relatively</p>		<p>Point noted. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
				low cost		

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
230	Mr & Mrs A	Pearson	1	<p>We note in the plan the policy is to ensure that "the associated development infrastructure does not prejudice the delivery of the canal" which suggests to us you are planning to let the development go ahead and then the canal to be built afterwards.</p> <p>However, we are hoping that you have now ensured that the developers are funding it and incorporating it as an integral part of the development - the canal will obviously act as vital drainage for the area and of course it will increase the price the developers can charge for the houses, as they will be much more desirable, both aesthetically and for insurance purposes. This has certainly been the case in other locations, like Wichelstowe. The canal will surely also provide a walking (and cycling) corridor for residents, reducing traffic and offering an habitat for wildlife.</p> <p>You also talk about "safeguarding the route" but it is not clear what this means in terms of the amount of land set aside - a canal would require more than just the width of the water, especially at locks and their pounds. As the route has not been surveyed as far as we can see, it is not clear how many or at which</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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				locations locks would be required. This is a cost the developers surely ought to bear.		
231	Mrs D	Francis	1	I would like to add my voice to the growing number of people who wish to bring a canal back through Swindon. I would have preferred the original route along Canal walk but if that is impossible then I will support the alternative route outlined by the Wilts and Berks canal trust. I lived in Reading when the waterways were reinstated through the town so I have seen first hand the benefits.		Point noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
233	Mr P	Scatchard	1	<p>Whilst I'm pleased to see that plans for the new Eastern villages include provision for the further incorporation of a new and restored Wilts & Berks Canal, I am concerned that there is no requirement on the developers to fund such building.</p> <p>Given that the line of a future canal has long been protected, this seems a significant oversight, and I would strongly urge that the duty of canal building is placed firmly as a developer responsibility. It is highly likely that the cost of such provision will be recouped by the developers in terms of increased property value of homes built alongside the canal itself, with a tumble-down value improvement working back from the canal-line itself.</p> <p>As is widely recognised, a new and restored canal has enormous environmental benefit, providing a vital 'green corridor' for wildlife and wildlife propagation, and the introduction into canal-areas of a wider diversity of plant and animal life.</p> <p>In addition to such benefits, canals provide significant recreational benefits to humans too, of course, with access for walkers, cyclists and horse-riders well separated from the dangers, pollution and general</p>		<p>Points noted. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p> <p>The Council acknowledge that a canal can provide some of the main principles of an overall SuDS scheme to provide drainage and flood risk benefits and it has been recognised in the emerging SuDS Vision SPD that if delivered as part of the development, the canal can be part of the drainage solution for some areas of the development.</p> <p>Therefore the Council is happy to consider the canal as part of the drainage solution for a development parcel, where it is being proposed by the applicant however, we cannot specify which drainage solutions are used to meet the requirements of an overall SuDS scheme.</p>

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				<p>detrimental impacts of motorised land-vehicles. Plus aquatic activities in an area general currently badly bereft of such opportunities.</p> <p>There is also considerable potential for flood-relief in a properly considered and built canal.</p> <p>All of this means that the building of this section of the W&B Canal should be an enforceable part of the infrastructure required of developers, and I would strongly urge the Borough to include this in any building consents granted..</p>		
234	Mr R	Hacker	1	<p>In June of 2015 the Wilts and Berks Canal Trust lodged an objection to the outline planning application for the Lotmead development (S/OUT/15/0753) referencing key issues including a lack of evidence that the canal line would be adequately protected in compliance with Local Plan policy EN11 and a real conflict between the proposed revision to the canal line and the developer's proposal for flood storage excavations in the river valley. There has been no progress since then on the specific application. This branch therefore welcomes the supplementary planning guidance in so far as it can assist resolution of the differences and result in a better development.</p>		Point noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
234	Mr R	Hacker	2	It is well known that green spaces which are associated with water bodies are very popular with general public seeking a refreshing and healthy environment. In fact about 95% of people enjoying the canal environment are on the land; walking, cycling or just relaxing.		Points noted.
234	Mr R	Hacker	3	<p>A canal is also an attraction to potential house buyers. Studies carried out in the UK for the Canal and River Trust show that the proximity of a canal can increase the value of a house by 20%.</p> <p>Construction of the canal at the time of building development will make available additional fill material for raising the areas that can be built on and will help solve the drainage and flooding problems, all to the benefit of the developers.</p> <p>In summary, this branch supports the implementation of the design guidance; supports the strengthening of the implementation of policy EN11; supports the case for drainage and flood relief works; and strongly recommends the construction of the canal as a part of the development scheme, funded by the</p>		Points noted. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.

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235	Mr D	Morin	1	<p>In a friendly living environment, we need water, bridges and pathways etc. In some places, they even put viaduct and pretend that there is water under it... We need flora and fauna and this is exactly what you allowed for E. Wichel. The buffer zone between the M4 and the houses, the one side of the canal for flora and fauna and fish in the water too. The other side, a canal walk and around the lakes, even with viewing stands over the water. They are being used by the people, let me tell you... and needed.</p> <p>I fail to see that the same or similar set up would not apply for the rest of the canal going through the "New Eastern Villages" You did well in E. Wichel, why not carry on? This is an investment for the people of Swindon. Of course, the canals of England are a British Heritage and the other side of the coin... an industry. It will bring in revenues for the city and offset the cost from the tax payers, an investment on the long term and the developer should also contribute for the right to make money...</p> <p>I urge you to let the canal through in a most efficient and pleasant way for the people of Swindon. It is simply an investment.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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236	Mr A	Rawlins	1	<p>I am a great fan of the Wilts and Berks Canal, part of which runs just down the road from me, and I very much support the protected canal route in the Eastern Villages plan. Swindon is crying out for more such features and the way in which the canal has enhanced the new Waitrose in Wichelstowe is a great example of why as much support as possible should be given to reconstructing the canal. I would ask you to ensure that the chosen contractor is obligated to fund the canal going through the development. I am sure that they will recoup their investment via an enhanced demand for houses benefitting from the canal.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>
237	Mr D	Weatherley	1	<p>I feel strongly that the developers should finance the restoration of the canal through this area. It would be a great enhancement of the surroundings, to the advantage of future residents and the value of their properties. This has been demonstrated in the Southern development near the M4. It will also contribute to the overall restoration of a historic waterway.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
239	Mr K V	Welch	1	<p>Whilst I appreciate that this is a policy planning document that, once approved, will enable developers to submit proposals for the new eastern villages development I am somewhat concerned that, whilst the document shows the proposed route of a reinstated Wilts & Berks Canal as a green canal corridor, it does not does not include a requirement for developers to make provision within their projected schemes for the funding of the new canal or the associated infrastructure.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
239	Mr K V	Welch	2	<p>Whilst it is good that the route has been protected within the plan it is also important, given the recent climatic changes that have seen mass urban flooding in recent years, that its construction must be included within the infrastructure to provide opportunities for flood relief and land drainage as well as providing a distinct green wild life corridor at the edge of what will be an extension to the existing urban sprawl. It would also provide an outdoor gym, which at these times when obesity is a growing problem, that is becoming an essential requirement for all residential development thereby helping to reduce costs to the NHS as well as uplifting the values of those properties adjacent to it.</p> <p>I would therefore welcome your confirmation, at the appropriate time, that the final plan will include a requirement for each developer to construct the canal as part of their individual projects.</p>		<p>The Council acknowledge that a canal can provide some of the main principles of an overall SuDS scheme to provide drainage and flood risk benefits and it has been recognised in the SuDS Vision SPD that if delivered as part of the development, the canal can be part of the drainage solution for some areas of the development.</p> <p>Therefore the Council is happy to consider the canal as part of the drainage solution for a development parcel, where it is being proposed by the applicant however, we cannot specify which drainage solutions are used to meet the requirements of an overall SuDS scheme.</p> <p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
240	Mr A	Lance	1	<p>I very much welcome the inclusion of the canal line in the consultation document, but note that the document does not include the requirement for the proposed development to make provision for the funding of the building of the canal or its infrastructure. In my view the construction of the canal in New Eastern Villages should be an enforceable part of the infrastructure development, with the canal being built as part of any built development and funded by the developers. I see this as a normal type of "planning gain" required of developers on any major civil infrastructure project. Given the number of houses proposed for the NEV and the profits thereby accruing to the developers, I do not consider this an unreasonable demand.</p> <p>Otherwise I see the existence of the canal as offering opportunities for flood relief and land drainage, as well as an excellent opportunity to make a distinctive character for the NEV. Working canals in other locations have created property uplift and should do so here as well. A built canal will create both recreational and leisure assets as well as improving people's well-being. A built canal will create wildlife habitat assets and increase biodiversity. The canal will also</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p> <p>The Council acknowledge that a canal can provide some of the main principles of an overall SuDS scheme to provide drainage and flood risk benefits and it has been recognised in the emerging SuDS Vision SPD that if delivered as part of the development, the canal can be part of the drainage solution for some areas of the development.</p> <p>Therefore the Council is happy to consider the canal as part of the drainage solution for a development parcel, where it is being proposed by the applicant however, we cannot specify which drainage solutions are used to meet the requirements of an overall SuDS scheme.</p>

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				provide useful additional employment in the service sector once it is a going concern.		
241	Mrs F	Budge	1	<p>I have looked through the documentation for the Swindon New Eastern Villages Development and I am very pleased to see that the protected canal route has been included. The canal will be an attractive feature for the development enhancing the recreational opportunities for the residents and improving the flood defences for the properties. Much of the area is in the flood plain of the River Cole and its tributaries, many of which are prone to flash flooding such as the Wanborough Brook. The canal can be engineered to provide flood storage ponds and balancing capacity to further enhance the area, create wildlife habitats and provide an environmental corridor. All around the country there are examples of canals regenerating areas and creating added values to properties and leisure facilities. Given the enhancements in property prices and other advantages created by the canal I hope the developers will be encouraged by the Council to include the construction of the canal within their plans.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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241	Mrs F	Budge	2	I notice in the south of the development there is a primary school located next to the canal and question the wisdom of this, given that younger children are less aware of the dangers of playing close to water. A small adjustment in the location of the primary school would surely be sensible.		Point noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
242	Mr S	Fisher	1	<p>I make the following comments about the NEV consultation with particular reference to the Wilts & Berks Canal, which is being restored across this site. Much of its original line through the centre of Swindon (although to the north of the village at the time it was built) has been lost under subsequent development. Thus, restoration is following a new line to the southeast of Swindon, developers at Wichelstowe having already funded some 2km which has been built to the south of Swindon. Waitrose have located themselves next to the canal deliberately, canals and quiet boats being popular with the public.</p> <p>When completed, the canal, with the Kennet & Avon Canal and River Thames, will form one of the most popular cruising rings in the country, mostly rural and within easy reach of the capital.</p> <p>The NEV will be a great spread of houses with little character. They will need something like the canal to make them more than just a sprawl, as did Wichelstowe. Apart from Steam, Swindon itself lacks character, which the canal can add. Banbury could be cited as a town with similar problems.</p> <p>The summit for the whole canal, falling to Abingdon, Semington and Cricklade, will be by junction 15 of the M4, next to the NEV. You need</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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				<p>to remove floodwater coming down from the south and we need all the water we can get at this point in order to be environmentally friendly and pump as little as possible. This offers a win-win situation.</p> <p>You should be seen to be supporting very conspicuously this project which is Britain's major canal restoration scheme, being undertaken by volunteers.</p>		
243	Mr J	Bower	1	<p>> I was pleased to see the line of the Wilts and Berks canal included in the development plans but puzzled as to why such an opportunity for the developers to fully reinstate the canal was being missed.</p> <p>> The ecological and leisure benefits of a reinstated canal cannot be over estimated along with the advantages to be gained for flood relief and water management.</p> <p>> A reinstated canal would give a focal point and add character to a huge new development when such things often seem bleak and without heart.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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244	Mr C	Toomey	1	<p>I am pleased to see that plans are in place to retain the route of the canal in this development, and I feel that this approach will be a wonderful addition to the amenities and character of Swindon and the surrounding area. To have a fully functioning waterway that is connected to the canal network going through Swindon will, I believe, make the town more attractive and also create a wonderful magnet for wildlife, adding character and appeal to the area. I believe, however, that the developers should be required to fund, or at least contribute to, the construction of the restored canal, as this will enhance the development and also help to provide essential flood relief and drainage to the area.</p> <p>I do hope that the canal is fully restored through Swindon, as I have seen what a great facility this can be, both aesthetically and in terms of the leisure facilities it can provide and the commercial cash generation potential when I visited Birmingham</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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245	Mrs A	Lees-Smith	1	<p>As a regular waterways user I was glad to see that the canal route has been protected but I believe that the proposed development offers opportunity for so much more! And that the construction of the canal should be included as part of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure. The developers will benefit from higher property values with the waterside location and therefore the canal should be funded by the developers. They will receive other benefits as the that the canal offers advantages for flood relief and land drainage that they would have to put in anyway.</p> <p>Over the bank holiday weekend I have travelled, by boat, through Leamington Spa and Warwick and the development around the waterways is very impressive and provides a pleasant place to live and work and it provides a green corridor, for people and wildlife into these large towns. A canal offers an exceptional opportunity to make a distinctive character for the new Eastern villages where I am sure the future residents will embrace the canal as closely as those who live at Wichelstowe. A built canal that when joined to the National network will create both recreational, leisure, business and employment opportunities as well as improving</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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				people's well-being		
				I hope that the canal construction can be included in the new proposals		
246	Mr P	Evans	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •It's very good to see that the protected canal route has been included •The construction of the canal must be included as part of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure •The canal should be funded by the developers •The canal offers opportunities for flood relief and land drainage •The canal offers a wonderful opportunity to make a distinctive character for the New Eastern Villages •Working canals in other location have created property uplift, and will do so here as well •A built canal will create both recreational and leisure assets as well as improving people's well-being •A built canal will create wildlife habitat assets and increase biodiversity 		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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247	Mr A	Bradbury	1	I think that it is very important that the funding is provided for the building of the Wilts & Berks canal within the New Eastern Village development. This would be a huge benefit towards the aim of restoring the canal and I think it would be a great asset for the community helping to create a unique biodiversity for both wildlife and people,		The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.
248	M	Bray	1	I write in support of the inclusion of the protected canal route in development proposals for the New Eastern Villages. As someone who has worked in this part of Swindon, I know the area well, and am convinced that a working canal would be ideal as part of the recreation and leisure assets fundamental to this type of development. Furthermore, working canals have already been shown to create a property uplift in other locations.		The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.

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249	Dr R	Keith	1	<p>I am very pleased to see that the plans for the New Eastern Villages include the proposed canal route. The local advantages to recreational activities and biodiversity, will also present interesting development opportunities.</p> <p>Shouldn't the cost of constructing this 7 mile length of canal be included as part of the infrastructure required?</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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250	Mr P	Hills	1	<p>It is good to note that the canal line is to be protected.</p> <p>The re-construction of the Wilts & Berks canal will have a profound impact on the whole of the Swindon region. In the same way that restoration of the canal network has had a profound impact in Banbury, Stratford, Reading, Newbury and Bristol to name just a few.</p> <p>It will create a number of new narrow boat cruising rings when in due course the Cotswold canal project comes on line. Tourism will flourish.</p> <p>It will become a wonderful resource for walkers, anglers, cyclists, schools, environmentalists and more.</p> <p>However, the only way the bulk of the canal line can be restored is if local councils mandate that developers budget for the reconstruction as part of their tenders. I urge you to insist on this for the benefit not just of canal lovers but for the whole of the community.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
251	Mr B	Humphries	1	<p>The eastern village development provides SBC with an outstanding opportunity to secure funds from the developers to speed the opening of the restored canal. The many strategic and localised plus points of the restored canal are well known both to the town as a whole, and to the NEV initiative. This one off opportunity needs to be embedded by SBC into the developers planning applications.</p> <p>Please make the most of this at the early stages of the planning process.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>
252	Mr S	Adkins	1	<p>I am pleased to see a provision for a canal, however I see no note stating the developers must pay for it. I believe in doing so it will guarantee its completion. And in tandem it will enhance the development so I'm sure this will deliver greater returns for the developers.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
253	Mr B	Jones	1	<p>As a concerned canal restorer, it has come to my attention that you are not including the canal into costs of the development through which it runs.</p> <p>Although good to see that the canal's line has been protected, it's vital that canal's construction costs be included as part of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure by the developers. This makes economic sense since it is a fact that properties beside canals increase in value by 15-20%, so the increased prices would provide the funding to do this.</p> <p>The canal's restoration will provide all important flood relief and drainage.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
254	Mr L	Walker	1	<p>While I acknowledge that provision has been made for the projected route for the Wilts & Berks Canal - which I welcome - I am surprised and disappointed to note the absence of obligations on the developers to make full provision for the canal as part of the infrastructure.</p> <p>It is clearly more cost-effective and less disruptive for the canal through the area to be constructed at an early stage, and given the enhanced property values arising from proximity to the canal I consider it perfectly sensible for the developers to fund this work.</p> <p>I understand that there will be a need to make provision for land drainage in the area as part of the development, and I am sure that the canal can perform a useful function in attenuating storm water flows. This should be investigated and designed-in to the development at this early stage, to the benefit of the new residents and occupants of the area.</p> <p>The presence of the canal in the area is a great asset to the character of the proposed development - but it needs to be constructed and watered for it to add landscape and economic value. The Masterplan</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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			<p>presents the canal as a strip of water on the map.....but the present documents fail to ensure that channel is formed, and watered.</p> <p>For the avoidance of disruption at a later stage, the obligations on the developers for Road Infrastructure should include for bridges over the projected canal line with adequate headroom for walkers on the towpath and boats on the canal.</p> <p>The NPPF, as I am sure you are aware, reminds Planners of the need for green infrastructure for the positive impact it brings for ecology and for human recreation and well-being. The Canal has the potential to be a very significant and valuable element of the green infrastructure for this development - but it needs to be built as part of the development to deliver that positive impact.</p>		

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
255	Mr L	Finnegan	1	<p>I have toiled nearly every weekend for over 20 years to upkeep the canal in the Chippenham and Foxham areas and have built locks, bridges and spill weirs and I would hate to think that all our efforts would go to waste. The consultation should include the canal for the following reasons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •It's very good that the protected canal route will be included •The construction of the canal must be included as part of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure and be funded by the developers. •The canal will offer opportunities for flood relief, attenuation and land drainage as it does already in the Christian Malford area. •The canal offers a wonderful opportunity to make a distinctive sought-after character for the New Eastern Villages •Working canals in other location have created property uplift, and will do so here as well. •A built canal will create both a recreational and leisure asset. •A built canal will create a wildlife habitat corridor and will increase bio diversity. 		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
256	Mr & Mrs C	Hopkins	1	<p>Although I do not live within the Swindon Town area, we are very close on your eastern boundary and personally do a lot of shopping and entertainment visits to Swindon. I have been an active member of the Kennet and Avon Canal Trust for many years and also a member of the Wilts and Berks Canal Trust for a number of years as we are very keen to see it progressing although I may not be able enough to use it by the time it is completed.</p> <p>That said, we are very supportive of your proposed plans as they seem very well thought out generally and in particular with regard to the construction of a very important piece of the canal.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
257	Mr R	Martin	1	<p>It's very good to see that the protected canal route has been included in your consultation, however I feel that the construction of the canal must be included as part of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure.</p> <p>The canal should be funded by the developers. As there is a perceived desire for a development to include a 'water feature, this would be to their advantage in future sales and the canal offers a wonderful opportunity to make a distinctive character for the New Eastern Villages. Working canals in other location have created property uplift, and will do so here as well</p> <p>From the council's perspective the canal offers opportunities for flood relief and land drainage and environmentally a built canal will create a wildlife habitat asset and increase biodiversity. A built canal will create both recreational and leisure assets as well as improving people's well-being.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
258	Mrs D J	Martin	1	<p>It's very good to see that the protected canal route has been included in your consultation, however I feel that the construction of the canal must be included as part of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure.</p> <p>The canal should be funded by the developers. As there is a perceived desire for a development to include a 'water feature, this would be to their advantage in future sales and the canal offers a wonderful opportunity to make a distinctive character for the New Eastern Villages. Working canals in other location have created property uplift, and will do so here as well</p> <p>From the council's perspective the canal offers opportunities for flood relief and land drainage and environmentally a built canal will create a wildlife habitat asset and increase biodiversity. A built canal will create both recreational and leisure assets as well as improving people's well-being.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
260	Mr & Mrs A	Cox	1	<p>We are very pleased to see that the restored line of the Wilts & Berks Canal is to be included in the new Eastern Villages Development.</p> <p>It will be an important addition to the development in terms of leisure, a green corridor, a wildlife haven and as part of drainage management.</p> <p>As such it needs to be an integral part of the development and not just an add-on to the plans.</p> <p>The growing popularity of canals for both leisure and biodiversity means that it will contribute hugely to the character of the development and the well being of the families living there.</p> <p>Bearing this in mind we hope that funding will be available from the developers so that restoration can go ahead while the rest of the development is being built.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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261	Mr G	Eckersley	1	<p>As a member of the Wilts & Berks Canal Trust I am very pleased to find that you have made provision for the canal to be provided for in the New Eastern Villages Development. I am however very disappointed to find that no provision has been made for the funding of the building of the canal or its infrastructure.</p> <p>This is a unique opportunity to enhance the whole development and I am asking that the construction of the canal and its infrastructure is financed by the developers.</p> <p>There are many advantages for the canal being included:</p> <p>1) it will create a wildlife habitat and increase biodiversity</p> <p>2) it will provide a recreational and leisure asset for the residents</p> <p>3) it will provide an opportunity for flood relief and land drainage</p> <p>4) it will greatly help the WB & CT in their ambition to restore the canal between Semington and Abingdon</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
262	Mr A	Dingle	1	<p>I was particularly pleased to see that the protected canal route for the Wilts & Berks canal had been included and feel very strongly that the construction of the same must be included as part of the infrastructure and that the funding should be included within that development.</p> <p>Having watched similar projects come to fruition over the decades (e.g. The Kennet & Avon canal) the benefits to the community are most transparent; not only does much of the community, of all ages and backgrounds, enjoy the health and well-being benefits of being on or beside the canal, but it also provides the discreet but essential benefits of drainage, flood prevention and countering soil erosion. The canal itself will also produce a boon to the habitat and biodiversity of our wildlife, with minimal impact from chemical fertilizers or pest controls. The whole project also provides employment for a good number of people as well as an educational facility for our children.</p> <p>Well done to Swindon planners for grasping the nettle - you have the communities' thanks and support.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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263	Mr T	Peacock	1	<p>I am delighted to see the course of the Wilts and Berks Canal protected in the Local Plan 2026 Policy NC3. The canal will undoubtedly be an important part of the distinctive character of NEV. It will also clearly contribute to the NEV leisure and recreation facilities, “green infrastructure”, wildlife habitat and biodiversity. I am therefore surprised not to find it mentioned in connection with any of those goals and requirements in the SPD.</p> <p>Furthermore, given the potential for roles in flood mitigation and drainage, a working canal segment should properly be considered part of the infrastructure. Flood mitigation and drainage must be considered as a complete system and developed in an integrated plan.</p> <p>Setting the canal outside the provision for infrastructure actually creates a potential conflict which could prejudice its delivery, contrary to the SPDs stated aims. Therefore, as a significant part of the infrastructure, canal construction should be included in the plan, greatly reducing such potential. Provision for funding must be made, and should fall upon the developers. No doubt developers will object to this, but they should note that a working canal is likely to increase</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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				<p>the desirability of housing and thus the prices.</p> <p>The planned canal segment is a part of so many goals that this in itself justifies its inclusion as an integral part of the plan, rather than as the appended concession it presently appears to be.</p>		
264	Mr R	Hemingway	1	<p>As a member of the Wilts and Berks Canal Trust, I welcome the provision of a protected route for the canal. I would like to make the following points, however:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The construction of the canal must be included as part of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure •The canal should be funded by the developers •The canal offers opportunities for flood relief and land drainage •The canal offers a wonderful opportunity to make a distinctive character for the New Eastern Villages •Working canals in other location have created property uplift, and will do so here as well •A built canal will create both recreational and leisure assets as well as improving people's well-being •A built canal will create wildlife habitat assets and increase biodiversity 		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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265	Mr R	Whitfield	1	<p>I welcome the inclusion of the protected canal route through NEV and wish to add my own comments . Such a canal will greatly benefit land owners , developers, the environment agency, Thames water and the general public. I often travel around the country and see how the provision/ restoration of waterways encourages new wildlife habitats and ecosystems. A canal will aid water management along the flood plain and give a distinctive character to the area with an appropriate uplift to land and property values. Residents will benefit from leisure and recreation opportunities and further improvements to their health with less risk of inundation to their homes in an area known to regularly flood.</p> <p>For these reasons I believe the Canal provision should be included in the infrastructure and funded substantially by the developers.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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267	Mr R	Pawsey	1	<p>Having been working for nearly 30 years to help preserve and restore the route of the Wilts & Berks Canal, it is most encouraging to learn that a protected canal route has now been included in initial plans for the New Eastern Villages. This new section of canal would link with that already established and successful in the Wichelstowe area, and would enhance the facilities in the southern and eastern parts of Swindon as it develops.</p> <p>Having identified and protected a route for the restored canal in the area, it is essential that the actual construction of the new length of canal is provided for financially by its inclusion in the plans for the New Eastern Villages, and that matters are organised so that its construction is funded by any developers as a result of arrangements with them for financing the construction and infrastructure of the Villages themselves.</p> <p>I trust therefore that the current Consultation Document will be modified subsequently to include a requirement for the proposed development to make provision for the funding of the building of the canal and its infrastructure by the developer(s), as regrettably, this is not currently included.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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269	Mr J	Macdonald	1	<p>As a Swindon borough council tax payer I wish to request that a condition of the development of the new eastern villages includes the requirement for canal building and infrastructure through the development land this should link with the canal constructed as part of the Wichelstowe development.</p> <p>The canal would create a leisure opportunity and improve biodiversity with habitats for wildlife.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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270	Mr G	Perry	1	<p>As a member of the Wilts and Berks Canal Trust, I am pleased to see that both the line of the canal through the proposed area of development and access to allow its construction will be protected. I note that this is further acknowledged in the Draft Village Proformas and Infrastructure Requirements document, for the villages of Lower Lotmead and Foxbridge. It has been omitted, however, for the villages of Lotmead Village and Redlands, both of which appear to border the canal. This needs to be addressed.</p> <p>As the canal is capable of assisting in the water management in an area crossed by both the River Cole, a regular source of flood warnings by the Met Office, the Dorcan brook and numerous smaller water courses, it is clear that it should be included as part of the infrastructure of the development. It will also add vital green space and leisure facility to the area.</p> <p>It is also an established fact that the presence of a canal adds to the value of neighbouring properties and, when fully open, can provide income to the local economy both through tourism and by providing employment.</p> <p>Based on the above it seems</p>		<p>Points noted.</p> <p>The Council acknowledge that a canal can provide some of the main principles of an overall SuDS scheme to provide drainage and flood risk benefits and it has been recognised in the emerging SuDS Vision SPD that if delivered as part of the development, the canal can be part of the drainage solution for some areas of the development. Therefore we are happy to consider the canal as part of the drainage solution for a development parcel, where it is being proposed by the applicant however, the Council cannot specify which drainage solutions are used to meet the requirements of an overall SuDS scheme.</p> <p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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				obvious, to me, that the canal should be built as an integral part of the development of the area and as such needs to be funded in whole by the development itself. Such a scheme is currently going through the planning process at Melksham.		
271	L	Etheridge	1	<p>Whilst it is pleasing that the protected canal route has been included I am very disappointed to see that the construction of the canal has not been included nor is it suggested that the canal should be funded by the developers. Given the opportunities for flood relief and land drainage this seems a significant oversight particularly as waterways significantly enhance property values and thus the developers potential profit. Canals provide a very valuable community resource where people can exercise through walking, running and cycling in a safe environment. Equally canals provide wonderful opportunities for wildlife habitats and increased biodiversity. Please do ensure that this opportunity maximizes its potential to enhance the area.</p>		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
272	Mrs H	Garfitt	1	<p>I am writing to express my alarm that your consultation document for the Eastern Villages simply defines and protects the route of the agreed 'replacement Wilts & Berks Canal'. There appears to be no provision for including its construction/existence within the total package, including 'social benefits etc.', that the eventual developers of the Eastern Villages will be required to fund.</p> <p>A canal in the locality provides obvious synergies for land drainage and flood relief (a very hot topic, after the last few months!) in such a large-scale development. To get the maximum benefit, it is surely clear that the canal bed has to be designed and built as an integral part of the total infrastructure of the area.</p> <p>The eventual developers of the area will clearly benefit very substantially from the very 'different' character that the canal will give to the location, allowing a market premium to be charged for many of the properties. Potential residents will surely be attracted to an area with such a picturesque element to it: but not only are canals pretty, they are also invaluable for active and passive recreation/leisure activities of the nearby human population, and for raising the overall range of biodiversity and of habitats for the</p>		<p>Points noted. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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				<p>non-human population.</p> <p>Given the choice, many people would prefer to live in such an interesting area. Surely the developers should be asked to contribute directly to its creation?</p>		

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
273	Mr & Mrs H	Holmes	1	<p>I believe that as part of the Eastern Villages development there is a wonderful opportunity to develop a significant stretch of the canal, thus bringing closer the full restoration of the Wilts & Berks canal. It is pleasing to note that the protected canal route has been included in your plans and therefore needs to be completed and funded as part of the Eastern Villages development plans. I am very keen to see this happen as linking up with other stretches of the canal to exciting places can only be a positive step for the borough of Swindon.</p> <p>Firstly, on a practical level this will provide opportunities for flood relief and land drainage in the area. A fabulous example of this is how the land has been developed is in the East Wichel area. Providing a practical solution to flooding whilst adding to the natural beauty of the area.</p> <p>Secondly, as a part-owner of a canal boat I am fully aware of the increase in tourists this will bring not to mention supporting local business and no doubt creating jobs in the area. It would be both brilliant and brave to support the further restoration of the working canal, putting Swindon on the map, in a positive way, with boating community and tourists alike. Not only adding to the beauty of</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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			<p>Swindon, but also increasing biodiversity and creating a wildlife habitat where animals and insects can flourish.</p> <p>I have only lived here for 2 years this September, moving from Cumbria. Local people seem amazed that I would move from a beautiful corner of country to somewhere like Swindon. My family and I really like this beautiful part of the country too, but Swindon does seem to have a bit a bad reputation, for which there seems little justification. Maybe a new smart canal is just what the town needs, putting us on the map with other smart towns in the area. By allowing us to compete with the likes of Marlborough, Devizes and Bath and attracting new shops to the area people will flock here to spend their money rather than travelling further afield. A little TLC and a bit of a makeover in the form of restoring the canal network might just be the ticket.</p>		

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274	Mr L	Gibney	1	<p>I have briefly studied your plans for the New Eastern Villages and can find no mention that the actual construction of the canal through that area should be undertaken or be funded by the developers as a planning gain which I think should be a requirement.</p> <p>This would ...</p> <p>A. Enhance the recreational amenity infrastructure of the area making it an attractive and better place to live.</p> <p>B. Increase the value of the properties near the canal, particularly when it becomes part of a navigable system.</p> <p>C. Provide for bio diversity and wildlife habitats</p> <p>D. Allow for surface some water drainage from the considerable hard surfaces created by the development.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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275	Mrs J	Pitcher	1	<p>I welcome the statement in the SPD that the route for the Wilts and Berks Canal will be safeguarded and protected from development (PolicyNC3 part d) and that it is ensured that associated development structure does not prejudice the development of the canal, (Policy EN11 part a).</p> <p>I comment that it would be in the developers' interests to fund the restoration of the canal, since an attractive waterway enhances the value of nearby property, and, moreover, has the advantage of fulfilling the planning requirements for land drainage and flood relief.</p> <p>I also remind the Borough Council that it has the duty of enhancing opportunities for healthful outdoor recreation -which a restored canal always does - and promoting wildlife habitats.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>
276	Mr R	Walker	1	<p>I have been a long standing member of the Wilts & Berks Canal Trust, and I am emailing you to ask that some consideration be given to a construction of the canal on this development funded by the developers.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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277	Mrs J	Stratton	1	<p>I am pleased to see that the route of the Canal is included in the master plan and safeguarded and protected from development.</p> <p>I would however ask that the canal should be included as infrastructure of the development. The construction of the canal should be funded as part of the contribution to infrastructure costs by the developers.</p> <p>The map shows a cycle route along the canal, and a surfaced towpath would provide that.</p> <p>Green infrastructure is shown in the plan. Provision of the canal as part of the green space will greatly increase the value of it as a diverse wildlife habitat, and quality leisure provision.</p> <p>As has been shown in other places, proximity of a working canal increases the value of housing. It also provides a focus for economic activity and tourist visits.</p> <p>The restoration of the Canal in Swindon could be part of giving the town a distinctive feature, linked to the town's history and meeting today's needs for improving people's well-being.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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278	Mrs M	Marson	1	<p>The only mention of the Wilts & Berks Canal, is the safeguarding and protection from development of the canal's route. Although the NEV Masterplan states that the line of the canal is protected, there is no mention who or how of how the reconstruction will be funded. There is also no indication given as the timeframe for the reconstruction.</p> <p>By including the a construction of the Wilts & Berks canal within the NEV infrastructure Plan, it will create an opportunity to create a unique character for the New Eastern Villages, that is likely to provide an uplift property prices in the area.</p> <p>I suggest that aligning the timeframe for the construction with that NEV infrastructure Plan. If the developers to fund the construction, this will ensure an integrated plan goes forward that includes the canal to be included in flood relief and land drainage plan and landscaping requirements.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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279	Mrs K	Hatton	1	<p>I write in response to the current consultation. I am pleased to note that the route of the Wilts & Berks Canal is included in the development plan as a green corridor but there doesn't seem to be a requirement for the developers to fund any part of the building of the canal and infrastructure. How can this be? A restored canal winding its way through the development would make such a difference to the character of the area –with huge opportunities for recreation and an uplift for the property values.</p> <p>Many towns are now realizing that “Water Adds Value” and are envious of those that could have a canal on their doorstep. An example is Daventry who are so keen to be on a waterway, they plan to build an arm off the Grand Union Canal to run into the town, in the knowledge it will bring more prosperity into the area. New Eastern Villages is lucky that it is situated on the new main line of the Wilts & Berks Canal – the opportunity to develop this fantastic amenity must not be missed.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
280	Mr A	Crafer	1	<p>The New Eastern Villages Planning Obligation Draft in Appendix B paragraph b quotes local plan Policy NC3 and it refers to Sustainable transport. Since the Local Plan was developed the use of Diesel Engines has been called into question and a Diesel Bus based Rapid Transport may now no longer be regarded as sustainable. To prevent future difficulty passive provision should be made for a station on the Bristol to London mainline. In this context it should be remembered that work is underway to reinstate parts of the East West Junction Railway which will result in a train route being available from Bristol initially to Milton Keynes and ultimately to Cambridge. These trains will be capable of providing the service for this development.</p>		<p>Through the Local Plan evidence development for the NEV, the potential for a new station to serve the development was researched. The result of this assessment was that the proximity between the new station and Swindon Station would be too short and being on the London Mainline would cause too much strategic disruption to timetabling to be considered viable for what would be considered a small service patronage.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
280	Mr A	Crafer	2	<p>Swindon will at some point also have to look at the provision of light rail transport within the Borough. Swindon is unlikely to require the heavy type of trams as used in Manchester etc., rather lighter ones possibly single car, and not necessarily on Standard Gauge Track rather metre gauge or the original Swindon Tram Gauge of 3foot 6inches. This narrower gauge will allow tighter bends. To support this, a potential route should identified through the villages. This should include the link road to Commonhead as that would allow the tram route to link with a tram link to the Great Western Hospital.</p> <p>To achieve the necessary provision of space for any future trams would require that the Developers of the villages lay out the provision of services within the road network such that these services are not under the area where rails would be laid. The overall cost of this provision would have minimal impact on the developers if carried out at this initial stage.</p>		Point noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
280	Mr A	Crafer	3	<p>The New Eastern Villages Planning Obligation Draft in Appendix B paragraph d requires that the proposed route of the Wilts and Berks Canal is protected. This statement is made as a standalone statement, whereas it should have been better incorporated into the previous paragraph. That paragraph c contains to important bullet points that the risk of flooding is minimised, this requirement is further developed within the New Eastern Villages Draft Village Proformas and Infrastructure Requirements, incorporating the Infrastructure Delivery Plan requiring the provision of drainage in some cases off site. The simple solution to deliver this requirement is to require the developers to construct the canal this will then provide a simple means of dealing with surface water storage to the benefit of the environment.</p> <p>Paragraph c also requires that biodiversity, including the River Cole Corridor etc. is enhanced the construction of the canal will by its very nature, increase biodiversity as it creates an improved wildlife habitat.</p> <p>Though this on the face of it will cost the developers more, they will make savings on the surface water</p>		<p>Points noted. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
				<p>drainage particularly as they will have a reduced requirement to provide surface water buffer storage. This could have the potential to release some more land for development. Elsewhere in the Country the value of canal side residential properties has risen. With a functional canal the developers could take the opportunity to build properties on the canal side that reflect this enhanced value selling premium houses at an enhanced price. With the canal side location as well comes the opportunity to build houses of individual design which will enhance the village style development that the Borough is seeking.</p>		

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
281	Mr T	Marson	1	<p>I have seen the above proposal and I would like to comment on the much welcomed inclusion of the canal as a recognised part of the development. I have had a keen interest in inland and inshore waterways for many years and I am proud to be a member of the Wilts and Berks Canal Trust and support their efforts to restore this waterway.</p> <p>In support of the inclusion I would like to say that my experience of canals and inland waterways is that they are very beneficial to the area they pass through. They provide a much needed wildlife corridor and opportunity for bio-diversity at an extremely low rate and maintenance. These benefits feed through to creating an improvement to the area in general, making the region more attractive and increasing value for property owners.</p> <p>As such can I ask that the provision of the canal be included in the development and the developers be required to restore or construct parts of the canal passing through the site. Do not miss this opportunity to enhance and benefit the area for people and wildlife alike.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
283	Mr A	Snowden	1	I would like to make a simple submission advocating that constructive planning and provision for the canal route is included in your plans. The draft documents should be updated to reflect this aspect. Much work has been done to help restore/preserve the canal route and it would be a real lost opportunity if the NEV plans ignored the potential to continue with this work – it provides a wide range of benefits and is the focus of volunteer stakeholders plus of course the recreational, cultural and economic benefits of the improved heritage endeavours.		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.
287	Mr R	Wilson	1	Please consider including canal restoration in your plans. The canal provides a superb slice of nature in suburbia with access for walkers, fishermen, cyclists and boaters, as well as providing a business opportunity!		Points noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
289	Mr R	Williams	1	<p>The inclusion of a section of the Wilts & Berks Canal in the new housing development at Wichelstowe is an excellent example of a wise and far-sighted planning decision to enhance the environment for the residents and provide additional and sustainable wildlife habitats across the counties.</p> <p>As a supporter of the value that waterways bring to the community, I would urge the Council to compel the developers to include another section of the W & B Canal in the latest plans now as leaving it to some future time probably renders it impossible to achieve.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
290	Mr A	Birkett	1	<p>As the original route of the old Wilts and Berks canal through Swindon is unlikely to ever be restored due to it being heavily built on, I am very pleased to see that the alternative canal route is actually demonstrated within the consultation plans and I ask that it is given full support by the Council to not only be protected, but included as part of any planned construction and for it to be funded by the developers, who, after all, will gain from the feature if it is incorporated well within their design, aesthetically and possibly even technically too.</p> <p>Living in Hampshire, the area I am in is under constant bombardment by developers who are currently delivering nothing in return for the surrounding population to its detriment, and the saturation of housing is choking in its design and construction. To achieve the governments promises for better health, places for activity away from traffic pollution is important and clever thoughtful design needed to benefit not just the developer's pockets but those who will actually live there for the long term future. In my experience wherever there is a waterway in the country, be it natural or manmade, it adds greatly to the area, and in this case it should be strongly supported as an</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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				important part of the Swindon North Eastern Villages future plans.		
291	Mrs T	Boswell	1	Am writing to show full support of the work of the wilts and berks trust and feel confident that you would include on your new eastern villages development the funding required for the canal to be included.		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.
292	Mr T	Wilkes	1	<p>While it is good to see that a protected canal route has been proposed it is not clear that the construction will be feasible unless included as part of the infrastructure work. Similar proposals in other parts of the country have failed to make progress where the canal work has not been funded by the developers.</p> <p>There are a huge number of opportunities provided by this proposal - flood relief, land drainage, recreational and leisure, wildlife and biodiversity; quite apart from the character that will be afforded. Where sections of the local canal have been included in the development at Milton Keynes a distinctive environment has been created.</p>		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
293	Mrs K	Dunn	1	<p>Swindon Borough Council must help with the future development of our canal.</p> <p>Not only is it part of our Heritage which should never have been negated but further development of the canal would bring nothing but good to our town.</p> <p>Beauty, wildlife, recreation, land drainage and flood control would all improve and homes close to the canal would be highly desired.</p>		Points noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
294	Mr R	Wiltshire	1	<p>I am responding to your council's invitation to comment on the proposed protected route for the Wilts & Berks Canal. As a Melksham Town Councillor, my council has been considering the opportunities arising from canal restoration for many years, I represent the council on the W&B Partnership along with your council and many others.</p> <p>Melksham is enthusiastically looking forward to the planning approval of the Melksham Link scheme in May. This will provide the canal link Semington to Melksham, Wiltshire Wildlife are fully supportive as the proposals include a new nature reserve with educational facilities. The town will benefit from rejuvenation of the riverside area, it will provide leisure opportunities for walkers, cyclists, our very strong canoe club, and of course canal boats. Developers across the country are aware of the uplift to property values with waterside schemes, locally they are supportive of current proposals.</p> <p>Your council is taking the first step by protecting the canal route, we in Melksham are convinced that all communities along the 55 mile route can benefit, to make this happen you will need to have financial support from adjoining developments where</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
				values will be lifted by the scheme.		
295	Mrs M	Anderson	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •It is great that the protected canal route has been included •The canal will provide recreational and leisure opportunities for the Eastern villages •The canal will be a boost to property prices in the area •Flood relief and drainage will be aided by the construction of the canal •The canal will give the area a distinctive location •Wildlife habitat will be improved and bio-diversity increased by the construction of the canal •The canal construction must be included in the infrastructure of the Eastern Villages •The funding of the canal should be by the developers 		Points noted. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.
296	Mr & Mrs A B	Senior	1	<p>Whilst it's excellent to see that the protected canal route has been included in the consultation, I feel that not only should it be included in the infrastructure but that it should also be funded by the developers as it would provide both recreational and wildlife opportunities. It would of course, also give the New Eastern Villages rather a unique and distinctive character!</p>		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
296	Mr & Mrs A B	Senior	1	Pleased to see a section of canal is included in the plans of this development as the prospect of the restoration of the canal between Semington and Abingdon will add so much to the general amenity provided by Wiltshire.		Point noted.
296	Mr & Mrs A B	Senior	2	We are concerned that it does not include the requirement for the proposed development to make provision for the funding of the building of the canal as an enforceable part of the infrastructure development. This seems to be a serious oversight and we would be grateful for your clarification on this matter.		In accord with Policy NC3 and Policy EN11 of the Local Plan, the canal alignment is shown on the draft illustrative Masterplan for the New Eastern Villages. The alignment will be safeguarded and development should seek to protect the integrity of this alignment and its associated structures. The policy also seeks to ensure that associated infrastructure of development does not prejudice the delivery of the canal.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
298	Mr & Mrs J	Pearse	1	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposal.</p> <p>1. We are very pleased that you have protected the route of the Wilts & Berks canal. This is a wise decision, as we ourselves have seen the economic benefits from restored waterways since the 1960s/70s, when we were both young enough to work physically on the early restoration of the Kennet & Avon Canal, the Stratford Canal, and other waterways in the Midlands and North. We cannot think of any restored waterway that has failed to please the local communities, councils, tourist authorities, and other interested parties.</p> <p>2. Usually, restoration is a partnership of volunteers and members of the local waterway Trust, the local authorities along the route, local landowners, developers, and other funding bodies. This is the case with the Wilts & Berks. With co-operation, they can jointly overcome seemingly impossible challenges.</p> <p>3. The Wilts & Berks also offers opportunities for land drainage and flood-relief, as well as providing healthy recreation, and a “green corridor” for town-dwellers and wildlife.</p> <p>4. The New Eastern Villages are</p>		<p>Points noted. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

likely to be attractive places to live, but they would still be enormously enhanced by the benefits of the restored canal. This will give a distinctive character, and in due course would increase the attractions of the area. Usually, this is reflected in increased property values, demonstrating that the effect is real and not just speculative claims.

5. The Wilts & Berks restoration ticks all the right boxes: sustainability, biodiversity, human health, wildlife habitats, and community happiness. We put our money where our mouth is as donors to the Wilts & Berks Canal Trust on many occasions.

6. Given all the benefits in enhancing the proposed development and its marketability, it is reasonable to expect the developers to make their own contribution to the restoration of this part of the canal. We urge the Council not to miss this opportunity to ensure that funding from developers is part of the scheme.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
299	Mr C	Debell	1	With reference to this New Eastern Villages proposal, the canal should be constructed on the line of the protected route & be funded by the developers. They will benefit from the added value & property desirability that a working canal will produce, by creating leisure & recreation opportunities. Building the canal will promote wildlife & assist in preventing floods. Please include the canal as part of any development that is to be built.		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
300	Mr D	Wilkes	1	<p>It is good to see that the canal is included in the map and mentioned in the documents out for consultation.</p> <p>I notice that there are a couple of deliverables which would benefit from the canal being built:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Water management 2. District heating network. <p>I would like to suggest that these could be linked more clearly. To me they would both benefit from the canal.</p> <p>Firstly the canal would make a valuable contribution to water management infrastructure. Less obvious but no less significant is the opportunity to use the canal as a linear heat source for water-source heat pump system. If not for the district then at least for public buildings. For reference, there is an excellent example of a water-source heat pump system adjacent to the Spine Road Gateway.</p> <p>I would like to see the plan ensure that the building of the canal be funded by section 106 money arising from the developments. It is an established fact that the build environment is enhanced in value by the existence of restored canals.</p>		<p>Points noted. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
				They also provide leisure and recreational value as well as improving overall well being in the area.		
301	Mr P	Gilman	1	I have heard about the outline plan for the Eastern development of Swindon, and, as a canal enthusiast, am delighted to see that allowance has been made for the Wilts & Berks canal in the plan. However, funding for the restoration of the canal is only slowly being achieved, and is dependent on seeking individual contributions from various developers – which hopefully will encourage national funding through the HLF! I would therefore like to see the developers making a contribution to the restoration as part of any planning approval. This will be in their interests as a canal will be an attractive infrastructure feature – Bradford on Avon continues to benefit from the activity around the Kennet and Avon.		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
301	Mr P	Gilman	1	<p>Please include a requirement in this development proposal to make provision for funding the building of the canal or its infrastructure.</p> <p>I have been involved in the restoration of the Thames and Severn Canal (which in the future could be linked to the Wilts and Berks canal) and have had the opportunity to see how much a local community benefits from canal development, not just as a canal but also as a country foot path and a green corridor. It would be a very great pity to miss the opportunity to confer these benefits on the community you are hoping to create.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>
302	Mr J	Nicholas	1	<p>To this end it will be vital that the whole line of the canal be protected from encroachment, and developers should be asked to fund restoration of part of the canal, which should prove to be an attractive feature of the development, bringing a canal link to Abingdon and the River Thames.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
303	Mr S	Panahinejad	1	<p>I am pleased to see that a route for the Wilts & Berks canal has been protected as part of this development. However, I am concerned that there is no provision for funding the actual cost of building the canal.</p> <p>It seems to me that a huge amount of money can be saved by building the canal and associated infrastructure at the same time as the housing developments. The only realistic way to achieve this is by funding it through developer contributions.</p> <p>If the canal has to be built at a later stage, the cost will be higher and there will be additional difficulties relating to plant access to the site and disruption to residents.</p> <p>Opportunities may also be missed to more closely integrate the canal into the development.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
304	Mr J	Elloay	1	<p>Where we live in Stroud there are already huge improvements in the amenities provided by our restored canal even before its proper reopening. We are also aware of the 17% rise in property values here last year which must in part be due to people appreciating the potential improvement to the quality of life that the reopened canal is bringing. But what has happened here has only been possible by the council insisting that development alongside the canal funds the restoration of the relevant part of the canal.</p> <p>I am not a boater of any sort – there are of course plenty of special interests in that area. I am simply a local resident very appreciative of all the benefits, many of them measurable and quantifiable, that the restoration of the canal here has brought. It has been great seeing what has been achieved – and I do hope that you will take the same attitude to development so that ‘our’ canal may be linked with ‘your’ restored canal.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
305	Mr B	Kear	1	<p>I am reassured that the protected canal route has been included. In recent years developers and local authorities have become aware of the real advantages of having a well maintained and well appreciated waterway in their areas, to say nothing of the practical drainage and flood relief benefits, canals, if looked after and maintained bring visitors and employment potential for local people. Money can be brought into a community which would otherwise not be spent. Local people have access to all the benefits which canals bring. A win-win for all.</p> <p>I urge the Authority and Developers to work with the Wilts & Berks to maximize the benefits of this development for everyone.</p>		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.
306	S	Hillary	1	<p>Concerned that the document does not include the requirement for the proposed development to make provision for the funding of the building if the re-routed W&BCT or its infrastructure.</p>		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.
306	S	Hillary	2	<p>The construction of this re-routed W&BCT really must be included as part of the NEV infrastructure and the canal should be funded by the developers.</p>		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
307	Mrs H	Thomas	1	It is good to see that the protected canal rout is agreed already.		Noted.
307	Mrs H	Thomas	2	A planned canal system will also be a big help in drainage and flood protection. Drainage into the canal must be planned as an entire system and not a series of small SuDs schemes by different developers of small areas.		<p>The Council acknowledge that a canal can provide some of the main principles of an overall SuDS scheme to provide drainage and flood risk benefits and it has been recognised in the emerging SuDS Vision SPD that if delivered as part of the development, the canal can be part of the drainage solution for some areas of the development.</p> <p>Therefore the Council is happy to consider the canal as part of the drainage solution for a development parcel, where it is being proposed by the applicant however, we cannot specify which drainage solutions are used to meet the requirements of an overall SuDS scheme.</p>
307	Mrs H	Thomas	3	I would also ask that developers provide a major contribution to excavation of the canals, since their large excavators are essential and yet very costly for W&BCT to hire for excavation work. The material can then be used for landscaping work within the development. A major cost saving for both developers and W&BCT		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>
308	Mr R	Giles	1	There seems to be no allowance for the canal?		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
309	Mrs C	Bent	1	<p>I was very pleased to head that the protected canal route has been included and understand that it important for the construction of the canal to be included as part of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure.</p> <p>Its presence will increase the appeal of the area for current and future generations, enhancing the status of the town - along with providing environmental benefits for all - people & wildlife alike</p> <p>The commercial effect in other locations in the UK where similar approaches have been taken have been positive</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>
310	Mrs D	Crane	1	<p>Please include a requirement in this development proposal to make provision for funding the building of the canal or its infrastructure. I have been involved in the restoration of the Thames and Severn Canal (which in the future could be linked to the Wilts and Berks canal) and have had the opportunity to see how much a local community benefits from canal development, not just as a canal but also as a country foot path and a green corridor. It would be a very great pity to miss the opportunity to confer these benefits on the community you are hoping to create.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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311	Mr D	Eley	1	<p>One particular area where I believe that the proposals do not go far enough is in relation to the “green corridor” that could be created by the new section of canal. Having seen the benefits that such a facility has brought to other areas of the country I am pleased to see that the canal route has been included in the plans. I would urge Swindon Borough Council to go further though and actually include the construction of the canal in this area as one of the planning permission requirements with funding for this to be met by the developers. Building the canal as part of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure will deliver benefits for both residents and the general public through recreational and leisure use as well as delivering an area suitable for wildlife at the edge of the built up area. Furthermore, the canal can be integrated as part of a water management scheme for both land drainage and flood relief.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
312	Mr P	Smirles	1	<p>As a canal enthusiast of over forty years and as a member of the Thames/Severn and the Kennet and Avon Trusts I feel very strongly that the canal should be a very important part of the development.</p> <p>One has seen the wonderful impact of canals on various localities as a linear park for the use of walking, fishing, cycling and of course boating. The benefits of improved wild life is also an important factor. I feel strongly that the developers should pay to make the canal of prime importance.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
313	Mrs J S	Rylatt-Connock	1	<p>As a member of Wilts and Berks Canal trust and an true believer in trying to leave the world in which I live in a place of health, peace and with a wildlife bio diversity that will sustain human existence, I would like to add my support to the trusts proposal to ensure that the construction of the canal as part of the New Eastern Villages takes place as part of the build development. I was pleased that the protected canal route has been included within the proposals. I would like to confirm that I believe the development will be a better place in which to live both for both the health and wealth of the developers and future owners of the properties and businesses. The canal will offer so much for the area in respect of a haven for local wildlife and plant life - as has been shown by recent local canal restoration.</p> <p>It has been proven that homes alongside canals can command better prices and so the developers will benefit from this extra revenue. The inclusion of the restoration of the proposed canal route as part of the infrastructure of the development could be a positivity for the developers in that they will be creating a natural flood relief area for this part of Eastern Swindon which will be needed as the building of the development will be on the</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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				<p>natural flood relief and drainage area of Eastern Swindon. So the inclusion of this within the building requirements will allay the fears of the local residents.</p> <p>The inclusion of the canal within the build, will also give the developers the opportunity to show how they care for the environment that they are building on and in. This, in today's world of environmentalists, will give them a new angle on future developments and ensure that Wildlife, Nature and Human existence live side by side. - Another plus point when they are bidding for future work! - They will have proof of their 'inclusion' policy !</p>		
314	Mrs P	Crabb	1	<p>It would be of enormous benefit if the restoration of the missing section of the Wilts & Berks Canal could be funded within the New Eastern Villages development.</p> <p>Local residents, present and future, would have new amenities beneficial to their health and well-being; and that is just the humans! Wildlife would gain a green canal corridor.</p> <p>Please include the requirement for the new development to make provision for funding of the building</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
315	Mr C	May	1	<p>I am very pleased to see that the route of the W&B canal has been protected in the Local Plan, and hope that the canal will form an integral part of the New Eastern Villages. This should be funded by the developers, as a functioning canal has flood relief and drainage functions as well as recreational uses.</p> <p>The canal will add character and visual appeal to the development, which can only be good for property values in the future, in addition to providing local recreational and leisure facilities.</p> <p>It will also create wildlife habitats and so increase biodiversity in the</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
316	Mr R	Dawson	1	<p>I have read with interest the consultation document that you have published and am pleased to see that the stretch of the Wilts and Berks canal has been included in the plan, forming a substantial part of the Eastern border to the proposed development. Much as I am saddened to see such a large area of virgin farmland being used to expand Swindon further I am encouraged by the inclusion of the canal. However it seems that the developers, whoever they might be, are not being asked to include the funding and building of the canal as a part of their remit.</p> <p>Such a feature would enhance this development in many ways. First it would provide some habitat for the wildlife that will inevitably be disturbed by the building works. It would form a wildlife corridor through the whole area which would benefit a wide range of species including birds, insects, water side animals and aquatic species. The facility would also provide a valuable recreation facility appealing to many interests including walking, running, cycling and water borne activities such as canoeing or rowing. In our modern world which is seeing an obesity crisis and low interest in physical activity this would be a big attraction. In addition it would be a valuable resource to the various</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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				<p>schools that are a part of this plan, providing an outdoor laboratory for the youngsters to use as a part of their education. If all of this was not sufficient I believe it would substantially enhance the value of the properties that are adjacent to it which would benefit not only the future homeowners and the developers, but also, the Borough Council, now and continuing into the future.</p> <p>I would respectfully ask that the funding and construction of this stretch of the canal be included in the infrastructure requirements as an integral part of the development</p>		
316	Mr R	Dawson	2	<p>Whilst on the subject I would also ask that the plans include some countermeasures for the current problems of traffic congestion on the A420. In rush hour the queues of traffic currently stretch from the A419 to way past the Shrivenham turning. Additional roundabouts and more traffic will surely result in further deterioration. Last year I was forced off my bicycle by a juggernaut speeding along this stretch of road. The addition of a cycle track alongside would be of great value to the increasing population of Shrivenham.</p>		<p>SBC are working Oxfordshire County Council in assessing the issues along the A420. Whilst no proposals within Oxfordshire are currently proposed, this assessment may result in a potential revision of the Infrastructure Delivery Plan as allowed for in the Supplementary Planning Document.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
317	Mr & Mrs G	Culverhouse	1	With regard to the above consultation, we would like to add our support to the development of the canal as part of the development of the new Eastern villages; this will be a fantastic opportunity to give character for these villages, meaning added value to the area and more desirable properties, plus increased leisure and recreational opportunities. We feel it is vitally important that this is an integral part of any new development.		Points noted.
318	Mr C	Foster	1	I am a member of the Wilts & Berks Canal Trust, I am wiring to support the proposal that for the protected canal route in the new development, this would not only helps the aims of the Canal Trust but give many benefits to the local and wider community creating a leisure facility for everyone, a distinctive feature for the new development with flood relief & drainage opportunities, it would create a wildlife habitat and enhance the new development. Please register my support for this proposal and that the canal should be funded by the developers.		The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
319	Mr J	Grimshaw	1	Please consider including funding for the restoration of the length of the Wilts & Berks canal in the plan area rather than just a green corridor. Where canal restoration has been carried out as part of a development, the results have always been better for the eventual residents and if the canal is eventually restored throughout it will bring economic benefit to the		Point noted. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
320	Mr A	Williams	1	<p>I was very pleased to learn that the proposed Eastern Villages development will benefit from a stretch of the restored Wilts & Berks Canal, but believe that the costs of this section must be included in the overall budget.</p> <p>The presence of the working canal will greatly enhance the area and provide benefits in the form of flood relief and land drainage, which alone are excellent reasons for its inclusion as a permanent insurance against local flooding.</p> <p>Additionally, the canal will attract wildlife, provide leisure facilities, boost property prices, and may eventually lead to the provision of a Swindon Marina and another feather in Swindon's cap.</p> <p>If the construction of this stretch of the canal is left to the Wilts & Berks Canal Trust (WBCT) alone, it could take many years before these undoubted benefits are eventually realised.</p>		<p>Points noted. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>
321	Mr D	Booth	1	<p>It is gratifying that the document makes reference to the requirement for so many open spaces and leisure facilities in amongst the need for housing, roads and space for businesses.</p>		<p>Noted.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
321	Mr D	Booth	2	<p>It is wonderful to see that a protected route for the Wilts & Berks Canal has been included. However, the Consultation Document does not include a requirement for the planning of the proposed development and its infrastructure to make provision for funding of the building of the canal. I would suggest that the construction of the canal must be included as part of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure and that the cost should be funded by the developers. The canal would create a beautiful, tranquil setting on the edge of a new urban area, providing recreational and leisure opportunities for all, improving the residents' well-being and generating increased bio-diversity and wildlife habitat assets: a win-win situation for people and wildlife.</p> <p>Throughout the document there are references to flood-mitigation - the construction of the canal offers considerable opportunities for flood-relief and-land drainage.</p> <p>In other locations around the country, a working canals has created an uplift in property-values. It will do so here as well – waterside properties are always in demand. Finally, the canal offers a wonderful opportunity to give the New Eastern Villages a distinctive character – something that the document makes</p>		<p>Points noted. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
				<p>frequent reference to and something that would be appreciated by both residents and visitors alike.</p> <p>I encourage you to make construction of the canal a mandatory requirement of the development of the New Eastern Villages.</p>		

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
322	Mr & Mrs C	Poore	1	<p>It is very good to see that the protected canal route has been included in the 'Green Infrastructure, Leisure and Heritage' section of Lower Lotmead and Foxbridge villages, Draft Infrastructure Requirements. (The route for the Wilts & Berks Canal will be safeguarded and protected from development (Policy NC3, part d)). Ensure that associated development infrastructure does not prejudice the delivery of the canal (Policy EN11, part a)).</p> <p>The line of the canal appears on other site plans as well as Lower Lotmead and Foxbridge villages but is not in the Draft Village Proformas and Infrastructure Requirements of the other developments. Nothing is mentioned anywhere about construction and funding of the canal.</p> <p>The canal would benefit the area, providing flood relief and drainage and be a huge asset in terms of creating both recreational and leisure opportunities as well as improving people's well-being, creating wildlife habitat assets and increasing biodiversity.</p> <p>Working canals in other locations have increased desirability and property values, and will do so here as well.</p>		Support noted.

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				Given all these advantages, we feel that the developers should be required to fund and build the canal through the Eastern villages development, as have the Wichelstowe developers.		
324	Mr G	Belcher	1	It is exciting to have an opportunity to propel the Wilts and Berks canal through Swindon. Therefore we trust you the council will ensure that the proposed extension is funded by the appropriate building contractors. Swindon is quite drab without a stretch of water running through it - read Reading for a good example of prioritising great landscaping. It must put a few thousand extra pounds on the value of the houses creating a unique housing environment for Swindon.		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
325	Mr S	Earl	1	<p>I would like to comment on the development of the New Eastern Village infrastructure.</p> <p>Whilst it is promising to see that the protected canal route has been included in the plans, I do feel that consideration should be also be given to the construction of this part of the Wilts & Berks canal.</p> <p>As someone who has worked in industrial development (and also been a muddy canal volunteer in the past), I know that monies will come from the developers to the Council as Section 106 funding for local infrastructure. As the canal is on the site, then surely the canal should be funded by the developers to the advantage of new residents as well as others from the Swindon Borough area.</p> <p>Also, given the extremes of weather we now suffer, any developments affect flooding, and the canal offers ideal and easy opportunities for flood relief and land drainage in the New Eastern Village area.</p> <p>I'm sure, as canals have in other areas of the UK, that the W&B canal will create property uplift, thus giving even more Section 106 monies to pay for its construction as the Council will no doubt want best</p>		<p>Points noted. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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				<p>value from any properties sold in the New Eastern Village area.</p> <p>One final feature of the canal will be its ability to create wildlife habitat assets, increase biodiversity and provide a wildlife channel through the development area.</p>		
326	Mr A	Merryweather	1	<p>Canal restoration in this country has been such a success that every encouragement should be given to fulfilling the vision of a fully working canal between the Kennet and Avon Canal and Cotswold Canals. The Wilts and Berks Canal Trust are working to this end and need your full support in order to fulfil this grand plan.</p> <p>But this is not simply a Romantic notion. The benefits of such a waterway are many, including recreational, biodiversity, assisting with drainage and flood relief, the encouragement of wildlife and general enhancement of the area.</p> <p>I submit that the proposed development needs to include a canal, paid for by the developer, its presence enhancing the area and making properties nearby more attractive.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
327	Mr G	Pattison	1	<p>I was delighted to see that there is provision for the route of the canal in the layout plans as the inclusion of a linear waterway park has the potential to greatly increase recreation opportunities, enhance the overall environment and provide for wildlife. Furthermore it will have a positive effect on the land drainage scheme for the area.</p> <p>However, as experience elsewhere has shown there is a significant gap between the aspirations of the Council and local residents, and the delivery of environmental improvements by Developers unless these are laid down as part of the process of gaining detailed planning consent.</p> <p>I do urge the Council to make the provision of the Canal an integral part of the planning conditions at the outset and not to rely on the 'goodwill' of the developers.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>
328	Mr M	Saker	1	<p>I feel this would provide a fine opportunity to link our past heritage to our future by including the reinstatement of the canal system. The last half century is proof that this is not an idle pipe dream but a worthwhile financial and leisure asset for our children's children. Trusting you will all be able to see the bigger picture for their exciting future.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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329	Mr N	Fairley	1	<p>The inclusion of the protected canal route for the Wilts & Berks Canal in the New Eastern Villages Planning is to be applauded.</p> <p>The canal should be seen as a real asset and be funded by the developers; its construction must be included as integral to the New Eastern Villages infrastructure.</p> <p>The inclusion and construction of the canal has many economic and environmental advantages to the to the area which create a development with character that offers opportunities to improve individual's well being. Positive advantages include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunities for land drainage and flood relief. • A working canal creates recreational and leisure opportunities. • The canal will create new wildlife habitats which will increase biodiversity in the area. • Working canals elsewhere have added value and created property uplift; a sound investment for the future. • Finally, the canal will create an exciting opportunity to develop the New Eastern Villages into a sought after, desirable, area of distinctive character. 		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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330	Mr D	White	1	I would like to add my support to the opening up of the W & B Canal in the New Eastern Villages infrastructure. It should be funded by the developers and once built will greatly improve and enhance the area. Wildlife habitats will be improved as will the recreational and leisure activities. What could be nicer than a walk along the tow path of a lovely stretch of water.		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
331	Mr & Mrs P	Day	1	<p>We note from the map that a projected canal route has been included. We feel that the construction of the canal MUST be included as part of the NEV – and funded by the developers for several reasons:</p> <p>Working canals, as part of England’s Historical Heritage, have been very successfully restored in other areas. These other projects have increased the value of property, created recreational and leisure assets increasing tourism and employment opportunities, and at the same time have increased natural wildlife habitat areas and opportunities for relatively inexpensive flood relief and land drainage.</p> <p>We are retired, and have been canal users for a long time. We have been amazed and delighted at all the redevelopment of formerly derelict and vandalised areas making ‘no-go’ areas into places it is a pleasure to visit, and hope that our opinions might be taken into account during your consultation.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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333	Mr A	Flaherty	1	<p>As a member of the Wilts and Berks Canal Trust, I was delighted to hear that the canal is to be included within the overall development plan. As with many other major developments around the country, developers include facilities that will enhance the project for the residents, local communities and visitors alike.</p> <p>The construction of the canal would bring additional wild life to the area and leisurely walking opportunities for everyone.</p> <p>With heavy digging machinery on site it would be for everyone's benefit if the developer could be persuaded to provide some effort with the construction of the canal.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
334	Mr J	Henn	1	<p>Restoration of the Wilts & Berks Canal and the Cotswold canals will create an unrivalled navigable waterway network in the south of England. It will bring in significant benefit to the economy; provide great leisure and recreational opportunities. It will also create a “green” water based corridor which will create wildlife habitats and increase biodiversity.</p> <p>Swindon is at the centre (hub) of the network and it is vital that the route through and around Swindon is established.</p> <p>The Eastern Villages is an important part of the vision. It’s very good to see that the protected canal route has been included. Already the Wilts & Berks Canal Trust has lodged plans to create a link from the Kennet & Avon Canal to Melksham and hence to the Wilts & Berks Canal north of Melksham. To keep the impetus going, the construction of the canal must be included as part of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure.</p> <p>The restored canal will enhance property values and a wonderful opportunity to make a distinctive character for the New Eastern Villages. Can it be made special so that it is a pleasure to walk, cycle or boat through the villages? It will</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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				<p>create opportunities draining the development and for flood relief.</p> <p>It should be funded by the developers as they will benefit.</p> <p>This seven mile section even before it is linked to Wootton Bassett in the west and Shrivenham in the east will provide both recreational and leisure assets to the people of Swindon as well as creating diverse wildlife habitat.</p>		
335	Mrs O	Motte	1	<p>It is important that the developers pay and include the canal as part of the new development</p> <p>David Cameron said in a famous speech that he wanted to be the greenest country in the world so imagine the benefits the canal would have towards that</p> <p>People well-being, wildlife ,biodiversity protection against flooding</p> <p>Swindon council must work with the people and the developers to achieve that</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
336	Mr A	Odurny	1	<p>I am pleased to note that the proposed route of the Wilts & Berks canal has been safeguarded and protected from development. Appendix B (d).</p> <p>It is however, disappointing that construction of the canal has not been included as part of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure or that the cost of construction is not required to be met by the developers.</p> <p>Construction of the canal would offer opportunities for flood relief and land drainage I this new development and would add a distinctive character to the NEV.</p> <p>In addition to use by boats, an actively used canal provides important recreational and leisure facilities to a wide range of potential users, such as anglers, walkers and cyclists. Canals also have an important role in providing a wildlife habitat and increasing biodiversity.</p> <p>I would urge you to include the canal as an integral part of the infrastructure, with a requirement for developer-funding.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

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337	Mr J	Goring	1	<p>It's great to see that the route for the Wilts & Berks Canal as set out on the Policies Map will be safeguarded and protected from development.</p> <p>The canal will be a wonderful amenity for the people of Swindon and beyond and will also provide valuable local drainage and flood management.</p> <p>For these reasons, I would urge you to include a provision within the plan requiring that the developers of the site pay for the construction of the canal through the area and for any reasonable distance beyond in order to make the construction viable and sustainable.</p>		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.
338	Mr E	Holliday	1	How far have you got with the floor space plans for the 11 GP practice and when do you anticipate the need for the facility to open?		The response from CCG Swindon provides an indicative floorspace requirement. CCG Swindon, based upon a 20,000 population increase at the NEV, this would approximately generate 3,430m2 of additional primary care floor space.
338	Mr E	Holliday	2	Q.2. Would it not be better to route the canal through the development as a green transport / nature corridor and in any event is its instatement a requirement of the developers at any level?		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.

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339	Mr F	Lennon	1	<p>As I live and work in Swindon, I am therefore very keen to see Swindon grow and prosper. Having visited and lived in many towns and cities in my life I feel Swindon lacks a major water feature. I realise that we cannot just build a river or divert one through the town centre but we could reopen the Wilts & Berks Canal.</p> <p>Reading has a waterway running through its centre and it certainly helps to bring in the visitors who in turn of course spend their money in the town.</p> <p>I am well aware that this would be very expensive and therefore would like to see incorporated in the vision for Swindon a phased plan to reopen the canal. I would love to see waterside restaurants, cafés and shops with water taxis and tours, this would certainly help to raise our profile.</p> <p>I would therefore like to see the protected canal route being included in the plan and the construction of the canal must be included as part of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure. I believe the canal should be funded by the developers and the canal offers opportunities for flood relief and land drainage. A built canal will create wildlife habitat</p>		<p>Points noted. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

assets and increase biodiversity.

Think big, think Swindon, step by step add a waterway to be proud of, this could also be used to transport goods thus relieving pressure on our roads and would also be much greener. We could have steamboats travelling along the canal, I am sure the Steamboat Association of Great Britain would love to see its members make use of our canal. Swindon used to be famous for its steam engines why not build on this, your are only limited by your dreams!

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
340	Mr R	Buckingham	1	<p>Having been informed of your plans for the development of the Eastern Village as part of the expansion of Swindon, I would like to say that, although I am not a resident but a fairly frequent visitor to Swindon, I am pleased that along with the proposed development, of the retention of the Wilts & Berks Canal. To make the canal route a through route needs to be included in your plans as I know it is the aim of the Wilts & Berks Canal Trust to have a fully navigable canal throughout its full length.</p> <p>The section through the Eastern Village section could be incorporated into the costs and be constructed at the same time as the housing development. A premium could be charged on those properties that fronted the waterway as a way recouping some of the costs.</p> <p>Planning and construction could also be used, where required as a means of regulating water flow in the form of flood prevention schemes as strategically placed weirs would deal with this problem.</p> <p>The canal towpath would also act as a corridor for walkers, cyclists, dog walkers etc. and for wildlife. Designated area for fishing could also be incorporated with monies collected being used for the canal upkeep.</p>		<p>Points noted. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

A canal side restaurant or public house is incorporated with mooring spaces would add to the theme of leisure and pleasure as these settings would invite people (boaters and 'landlubbers') to enjoy themselves. Sitting outside on a warm summers day next to water is always an attraction, especially if it is by a navigable canal.

Finally, I make these comments because, although I live in Nottingham, the canal that runs through Nottingham has been developed after years of neglect. It has transformed the area that it flows through with Pubs, Bars, a converted warehouse along with prestige living accommodation fronting the canal. It is well used by boaters as well as people traversing the tow path, so much so that it has become a prime site for Canals and River Trust to gain more members for its organisation.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
341	Ms J	Lund	1	<p>Everywhere else in the country where canals have been revived, they have provided the impetus for jobs, leisure, nature and a general improvement of the environment. I live near the Caen Hill locks on the K & A canal and it is a wonderful amenity. There are marinas, cafes, boat mending yards and other forms of employment, not to mention the walkers, cyclists, runners etc. who use it on a daily basis.</p> <p>I also believe that in time canals may be used to help move water round the country to areas of high water usage and low rainfall. They may also play a part in flood alleviation and management.</p> <p>I understand that nowadays builders are asked/required to make quid pro quo contributions to developments and this would absolutely fill the bill.</p>		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.
342	Mr R	Springett	1	We feel that the canal should be fully funded within this project.		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
343	Mr M	Morrison	1	<p>I have just heard that the extension of the canal is to be a part of the Eastern Development.</p> <p>This is an excellent idea and should be made part of ‘infrastructure’ associated with it – paid for by the developer (with, if pressed,. a small contribution from The Council).</p> <p>Clearly it would be a wonderful ‘amenity’ for the new residents – as is the canal in Wichelstowe; and it would make any properties there more ‘attractive’. It would also help the Wilts and Berks Canal Trust in their endeavour to extend the canal to its original ‘destination’.</p>		<p>Support noted. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>
344	Mr D	Reed	1	<p>I just want to make a general observation on the planned development. I believe that every opportunity should be taken to restore such ancient waterways as The Wilts & Berks Canal, and in this case, that the developers of the proposed 'Eastern Villages' should be required to make a major contribution to the restoration in this area.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
345	Mr O	Gardiner	1	<p>re green infrastructure, there appears to be only a 'safeguarded route' for the canal, it is not really an integral part of the development. This should be included as it was in East Wichel, as it provides a green corridor, that benefits wildlife and leisure pursuits.</p> <p>This would give a boost to the house prices adjacent to the canal, which I am sure the developer would appreciate, as well as providing additional flood mitigation in what is a very low lying and boggy area. To this end the developer should be 'encouraged' to incorporate the completed canal as part of the plan, and use a bit more imagination. Rather than just running it down one side of the area, it should be a key part of the green-space infrastructure.</p> <p>So it could run between the villages of Lotmead and Lower Lotmead for instance, which would make a good demarcation line between them.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
346	Tom	Relish	1	<p>From experience of bordering the K&A canal, and being associated in the regeneration of the old Somerset and Dorset Railway into a shared use path, both in Bath, I see a lot of positivity coming out of these for the well being of local people.</p> <p>These routes, both completely desolate at one time, are now a hub of leisure and recreational activity for young families, runners, walkers and local residents. The canal and Two Tunnels path are places where we choose to spend our free time. The positive effect on peoples mental well being and physical health can not be understated, particularly at a time of rising obesity levels.</p> <p>A section of canal is akin to having a park, but a much broader park, connecting nearby and far away places, encouraging spending in nearby villages and towns, as well as promoting environmentally travel on foot and by bike.</p> <p>A new canal section would promote physical activity, the sense of community, and whilst of course there will be a cost to construct this, I believe the value added to the new village will cover the cost. i.e Should the developers fund this project, it will increase the desirability of the</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
				area so as to recoup this cost.		
				I believe the opportunity to build in the canal is not one to be missed and would be an integral part of making the Eastern Villages a happy and desirable place to live.		
347	Mr J	Hanks	1	I wright to you regarding the revamped canal at the Eastern Villages Development I am sure that you are aware of the many benefits that a restored canal will bring to Swindon but as the developers of this project will be the first and main benefactors of this restoration then I feel very strongly that they should make provision to fund this canal project as part and parcel of the development		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.
348	Anon		1	With 8000 new homes is the GWH hospital going to be enlarged ?it cannot cope at this present time without a further 8000 homes been built ,if the developers want to build let them first put new money into a larger hospital, don't let them build until a new hospital is built		Unless directly related to development at the NEV there is no policy basis to secure contributions towards the GWH. Such evidence can inform the Local Plan Review in response to planned development at Swindon post 2026.
348	Anon		2	I hope they will be funding all road improvements and not us residents from our community tax.		The Council will secure funding from the developers and other external bodies towards the delivery of transport infrastructure.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
349	Mr J	Paton	1	<p>I was very pleased to see that the routing of the canal has been included in the consultation documents. This is an indication of the positive light that the restoration is being considered by Swindon Borough Council.</p> <p>I would like to state my suggestion and desire that the construction of this section of the canal be included within the scope of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure and be funded by the developers. In this way it can be developed sympathetically and sequenced with all other development work and done in such a way that cost are kept to a minimum with limited disruption. It would be a unique feature of the developments and would aid in sale of the properties.</p> <p>In general I think the canal offers great opportunities for Wiltshire and particularly Swindon; it will offer a great recreational and leisure opportunities and introduce tourism to the area.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
349	Mr J	Paton	1	<p>I was very pleased to see that the routing of the canal has been included in the consultation documents. This is an indication of the positive light that the restoration is being considered by Swindon Borough Council.</p> <p>I would like to state my suggestion and desire that the construction of this section of the canal be included within the scope of the New Eastern Villages infrastructure and be funded by the developers. In this way it can be developed sympathetically and sequenced with all other development work and done in such a way that cost are kept to a minimum with limited disruption. It would be a unique feature of the developments and would aid in sale of the properties.</p> <p>In general I think the canal offers great opportunities for Wiltshire and particularly Swindon; it will offer a great recreational and leisure opportunities and introduce tourism to the area.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
351	Mr J	Keepin	1	<p>It's good to see that a protected canal route has been included, in such a way that it can be 'joined up' with the sections that have been commissioned recently, and with the longer term proposals by the W&B Canal Trust.</p> <p>Ideally, the forthcoming works should be funded by the Developers, on the basis that the existence of the restored canal will enhance the value of the development. It will provide a useful, and popular, facility for the future residents in the area.</p>		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.
352	Mr M	Buckland	1	<p>I have received the Swindon Eastern Villages Consultation document and note that, as hoped, the new route for the Wilts & Berks Canal has been included as a protected route which is much to be desired.</p> <p>However, at present it seems that it will just be a green strip through and around the Eastern side of the planned development. This seems to be akin to offering someone a bicycle but without any wheels and to miss out on an opportunity to add to the infrastructure which would have a considerable number of benefits:</p> <p>a) Water is inherently attractive to human beings who will use it for mainly leisure purposes be it watching it, walking by it, fishing from it or boating on it.</p>		Point noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
352	Mr M	Buckland	2	b) The canal itself should be built as part of the overall infrastructure of the development. The cost of building a canal is not huge and has been included as part of the features of the Existing Wichelstowe residential development.		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.
352	Mr M	Buckland	3	c) The developers on this very large site should fund the construction of the new canal as has been done on the Wichelstowe site referred to above.		Point noted. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.
352	Mr M	Buckland	4	d) Surface water run-off is becoming an increasing concern where new construction is concerned especially in view of the change to a wetter climate in the UK. Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SUDS) is a partial answer by holding back the immediate volumes of rainfall but that water has to eventually go somewhere. The high point of the canal is Swindon with a gradual fall towards the Thames at Abingdon. There is therefore an opportunity to utilise this feature to assist with land and surface drainage and to alleviate flooding.		Point noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
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352	Mr M	Buckland
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5	<p>e) There is a strong financial incentive for developers to fully fund the canal’s construction. While estimates vary, though there is evidence from the sale price of waterside properties, houses very near water bodies can command a 20% premium on price and those within easy reach may achieve a 10% uplift. Given the size of the overall Eastern Villages development the cost to all developers to fund the canal would be relatively modest.</p>
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Point noted.

352	Mr M	Buckland
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6	<p>f) As stated above water bodies are an attractive focal point for residents and visitors. Many town centres are now centred around a once unknown canal – Reading, Banbury, Birmingham and Stroud are local examples – and this applies no less to urban or rural areas, again I cite Wichelstowe.</p>
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Point noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
352	Mr M	Buckland	7	<p>g) Canals have a far greater usage by non-boaters than boat owners or hirers. These include walkers, dog walkers, parents with children, joggers, cyclists (though a physically separate track should be provided – shared use' is fraught with built-in conflict) fishermen, birdwatchers and other wildlife lovers, photographers and artists. Recreation, both active and passive, is being encouraged by many agencies both governmental and voluntary, canal side facilities can contribute significantly both physically and psychologically. Or to put it more simply – they are pleasant and interesting places to be.</p>		<p>In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>
352	Mr M	Buckland	8	<p>h) Canals, whether new or old, provide a unique wildlife habitat. Their structure, consisting of bands of hedges and trees; a tow/footpath with low vegetation; bankside aquatic vegetation and potential habitat for water voles (protected species); the water body itself for fish and other aquatic species; the opposite bank which is often not accessible by humans and is therefore largely free of disturbance and finally a further band of trees and hedges. All this in a width of 15 to 20 metres with considerable inbuilt biodiversity. Being linear canals play a considerable role in linking existing or newly created wildlife areas.</p>		<p>Point noted.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
352	Mr M	Buckland	9	There is considerable scope for the canal being used as an educational resource - wildlife and ecology, industrial history and geography to name but three. Given that five primary schools and one secondary school are planned to be within a short distance or adjacent to the canal route, full construction of the waterway paid for by the developers is too good an opportunity to miss.		Point noted. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.
353	Mr S	Blades	1	I congratulate you on including the Wilts and Berks canal route in the proposed development. What an inspired green feature this would be, enhancing the living environment of all those in the area. However, if this is not to be a mere pipedream, there must be a binding mechanism in the plan to ensure its construction by the developers as an integral requirement. The new length of canal at Wichelstowe has shown the way forward, and the Council has the opportunity now to ensure the continuation of the canal, and contribute to its ultimate restoration.		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.
353	Mr S	Blades	2	Congratulate you on including the W&BCT in the proposed development. However, there must be a binding mechanism in the plan to ensure its construction by the developers as an integral requirement.		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
355	Mr G	Adamson	1	<p>I have read your Eastern villages consultation documents and I am very pleased to see that the route of the wilts and berks canal has been protected.</p> <p>The canal, if constructed, would provide many assets to the area as a whole. It would create a leisure and recreational habitat, wildlife habitat, could assist in land drainage and be a great asset to the NEVs. All of this would also increase the value of the properties in the local area.</p> <p>Given the above, I strongly agree that the construction of the canal must be included as part of the infrastructure of the development and that the developers should fund at least the majority of the construction.</p>		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.
356	J T	Stockdale	1	<p>I believe that the construction of the canal must be included as part of the NEV infrastructure and funded by the developers, if not possible in full, then at least in part.</p>		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.
356	J T	Stockdale	2	<p>The canal would offer opportunities for flood relief and drainage.</p>		Point noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
358	N	Chalk	1	The one screaming omission is a rail exchange / Park and Ride located on land between Gablecross and second turning for South Marston. A former rail sidings is owned by Network Rail and would be an obvious choice to reduce journeys into Swindon and Swindon station.. With the current upgrade of the Great Western main line now is an ideal time to introduce this additional station that could cover all of East Swindon and out to Shrivenham and Faringdon. 50%		Through the Local Plan evidence development for the NEV, the potential for a new station to serve the development was researched. The result of this assessment was that the proximity between the new station and Swindon Station would be too short and being on the London Mainline would cause too much strategic disruption to timetabling to be considered viable for what would be considered a small service patronage.
359	B	Poulton	1	Urge SBC to include the construction of the canal through the NEV.		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.
359	B	Poulton	2	I strongly believe that S106 funding is the most appropriate and most effective way of paying for its construction.		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.
360	I	Edgar	1	I understand .the Council supports the re-instatement of the W&B canal as part of the development but as yet, has not decided that the cost of the construction works be part of the overall development funded by the developer.		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
360	I	Edgar	2	I believe the canal passing through or adjacent to the housing will be of great benefit to those who will ultimately reside there and that, if the developer does not fund the work, but relies on others to seek funding, will be a missed opportunity.		Point noted. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.
361	D	Trease	1	I welcome the incorporation of the canal route and the safeguarding and protection from development. However, I would ask for the developer to make provision of funding for the canal and its infrastructure as a condition of the NEV development, which could include its use for surface water retention in wet weather.		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.
362	J	Hobday	1	This is a unique opportunity for SBC to ensure that this development provides the maximum variety of leisure activities, environmental benefits and business opportunities to benefit the local community.		Point noted.
362	J	Hobday	2	In this regard it is essential that the developers must include and complete the necessary works to further the restoration of the W&B canal within the overall development area.		In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
363	Rev R W	Rooke	1	It is good to see that SBC has included the protected canal route. This means that construction of the canal needs to be part of any development, and legislation is available to ensure that this can be funded by the developers. I would urge the Council to ensure that a suitable financial obligation is placed upon developers.		The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.
364	G	Hawkes	1	I am pleased to see that some limited provision is being made for the future extension of the W&B canal. However, your documents do not refer to any funding provision for this new canal extension.		The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.
365	R	Darby	1	The lack of a requirement for the development as proposed to make provision for the costs of construction and eventual maintenance of the canal seems to be a serious drawback.		The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
366	H	Pyatt	1	<p>Pleased to see that the protected canal route has been included. The construction of the canal must be included as part of the NEV infrastructure. Working canal add so much to the qualities of the character and interest of the environment and the pleasure of the public.</p> <p>The canal also offers opportunities for flood relief and land drainage.</p>		Points noted.
367	P	Harvey	1	<p>It is vital that the canal is funded by the Developers. The Developers will benefit from the canal and will get better revenue for their property sales.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process.</p>
368	K	Harvey	1	<p>Ask that SBC includes the canal extension as part of the infrastructure of the NEV and is this funded by the Developer. The Trust is endeavouring to restore the whole W&B canal and this funding would enable them to carry on their good work.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
369	T W	Mason	1	It is good to see the agreed canal route is included in the NEV plan but I hope the funding of the canal will be the responsibility of the developers.		The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.
370	Ms S M	Gill	1	I was delighted to note that the protected canal route has been included as a part of the NEV infrastructure. The canal construction should be funded by the developers.		The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.
371	C	Drew	1	I see that the proposed W&B canal mainline has been protected within the development. This is good insofar that it recognises that the canal can be a significant part of the development bringing as it will green space and the opportunity for wildlife to thrive and for those living in the new homes to have a tranquil retreat.		Point noted.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
371	C	Drew	2	There are no employment areas located next to the canal. The canal can offer to industry the same tranquil environment that it can to housing developments giving those employed there a place to go.		Point noted.
371	C	Drew	3	No doubt there will be a large amount of rainwater runoff from such a large development and the canal can offer a means of attenuating this water and channelling it away.		Point noted.
372	N J	Bailey	1	Delighted to see that the W&B canal will be part of the NEV development. The developer should be responsible for providing the infrastructure as part of the overall development.		The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
373	B	Gribble	1	<p>Pleased that the route of the W&B canal appears on the proposal for the South Marston village and yet have found no reference to it in any of the supporting documentation.</p> <p>I suggest that the Council do more than acknowledge the existence of the route of the W&B canal but endeavour to incorporate it into their plans and provide funding to ensure that the canal can be delivered on time with the rest of the development.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>
374	M	Smallwood	1	<p>I consider that you should include in your plan an eastern route for the canal which is gradually being restored.</p>		<p>The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.</p>

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
375	Lord J	Joffe	1	The benefits of a canal to the NEV include the creation of a beautiful and tranquil setting on the edge of the new urban area.		Point noted. The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.
376	Mr G	Scarr	1	I see that the document does not include the canal to be built as part of the enforceable infrastructure development, I object to this. The canal will be of great benefit to the Borough not just financial but environmentally and for leisure. If this were to be built by the developers or as a condition of planning permission I would withdraw this objection.		The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.
377	H	Sharmen	1	Like to express the importance of the consultation to the trust and its goal of restoring the section of canal between Semington and Abingdon. Hope that the Council can persuade the builders of the new stretch to extend the line of the canal alongside it.		The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. In accord with Local Plan policy, development should not compromise the delivery of the canal at the NEV. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.

Rep No	Title and Initial	Surname	Comment No	Justification	Proposed changes	Officer response
378	Mrs J L	Repton	1	The developers of the site should cover the cost of the canal. Furthermore a canal creates a tranquil walk/cycle way, leisure activities and parking for colourful barges.		The Council recognises and welcomes the significant benefits that future delivery of the Wilts & Berks Canal within the NEV would bring for existing and new communities. However, the Council cannot enforce delivery through the planning process. In the short term, the safeguarded route presents a recreational opportunity for walking, cycling and biodiversity gain.