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| Ashfield District Council  Forward Planning  Urban Road  Kirkby-in-Ashfield  Nottingham  NG17 8DA | **Our ref:** LT/2006/000229/CS-09/EW1-L01  **Your ref:**  **Date:**  10 December 2024 |

Dear Miny Schofield,

**Ashfield Local Plan Examination - Inspector's Matters, Issues and Questions - Matter 8**

Thank you for giving the Environment Agency the opportunity to comment on the above mentioned documents. We have previously addressed on Matters 1, 2 & 3. In this response we will address Matter 8, a subsequent response will address Matter 10, and we have no comments to make towards Matters 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11 or 12.

**Matter 8 – Design, developer contributions and other place-making policies**

The Environment Agency (EA) have no substantial comment to make on this matter other than, in relation to point 8.5.

*8.5 - Has Policy SD8 been shaped by engagement with all stakeholders, including infrastructure providers and statutory consultees in identifying sources of water contamination and remediation caused by the site or its previous use?*

In relation to this question, we would like to raise our comments previously made towards policy SD8 in the regulation 19 consultation (these comments refer to our previous response), they are copied below:

"**Policy SD8: Contaminated Land and Unstable Land**

**Previous comments**

SD8 2c) This section mentions ‘Avoiding the contamination of any watercourse, water body, groundwater or aquifer.’ However, there is no mention of remedying any impacts of contamination caused by the site or previous use. This is mentioned later in the policy but we feel it should be explicitly stated within this section of the policy as well to avoid confusion.

**Updated comments**

We note that the above recommendation has not been incorporated into the policy wording. We maintain that we would recommend this is incorporated into the specific policy wording."

Yours faithfully,

**Mr Joshua Milsom**

**Planning Advisor**

Direct e-mail josh.milsom@environment-agency.gov.uk