

# January 2017

# Rushden East SUE

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#### What is Rushden East?

- Location
- Aim
- Developer consortium
- Components of the project
- Issues/challenges
- Governance
- Timescales for delivery

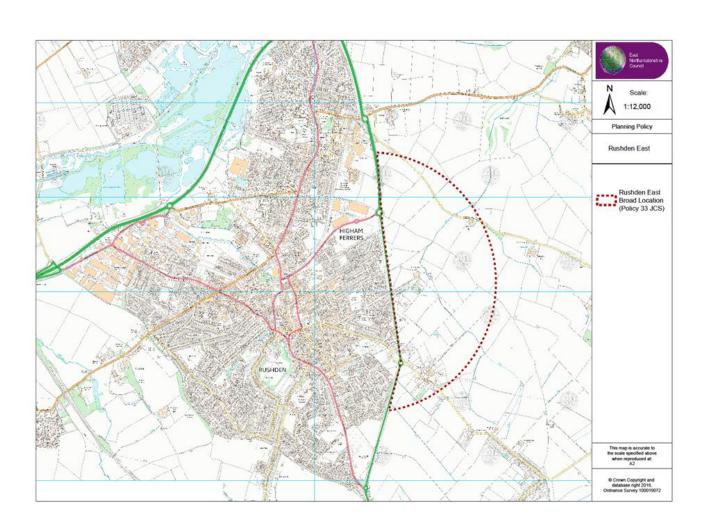
#### East Northamptonshire Council

### Introduction

- Rushden East is a proposed Sustainable Urban Extension identified within the North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy (Policy 33)
- It is located to the east of Rushden and Higham Ferrers – adjacent to the A6 bypass, broadly between John Clarke Way roundabout and the Newton Road roundabout



### Location





### Rushden East will comprise the following:

- 2,500 dwellings
- Employment provision a mix of high quality employment alongside B1, B2, some B8 and managed workspace units
- 2 primary schools and land for a secondary school
- Allotments
- Cemetery provision
- A local centre
- A care home
- Healthcare provision
- Destination open space (country park approx 20 ha)



## Developer consortium

- A Rushden East Masterplan is being prepared to guide and inform the future submission of a planning application.
- The Masterplan is being shaped by East Northamptonshire Council in collaboration with the developer consortium comprising:
  - Taylor Wimpey and Barratts (represented by Bidwells) – who will deliver the housing and related elements
  - Duchy of Lancaster (a major landowner) who will deliver the employment elements



# Components (1)

#### **Key requirements of the Masterplan comprise the following:**

- Employment provision/numbers is as important as housing provision
- The SUE's design should aim to reduce the issue of 'out commuting' to work
- Providing a wide range of employment options/uses including managed workspace units
- Raising the profile of Rushden housing mix to include exec level properties and custom/self build plots
- Good East/West connections between the SUE and Rushden town centre
- Urban design solutions are needed to address a critical highway severance issue i.e. the A6 bypass



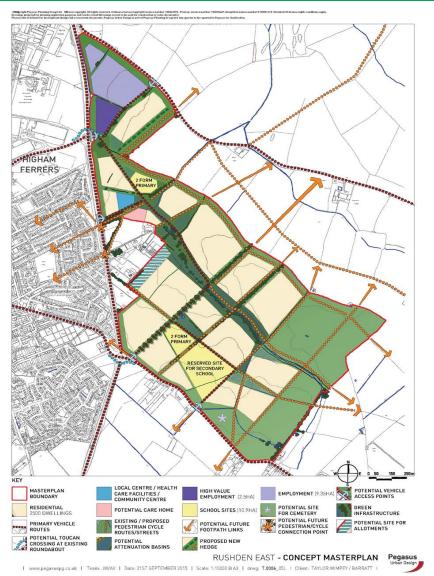
# Components (2)

#### Key requirements of the Masterplan comprise the following:

- The Masterplan should be designed to incorporate the findings and recommendations of the space syntax analysis study/urban structures study – how the SUE links to the immediate area (effective connections)
- It must consider the Nene Valley Gravel Pits (SPA) and include 'destination open space' on site for mitigation purposes
- It must identify the provision of local community facilities to support the SUE
- Identification and location of both Primary schools and land for the secondary school
- A mechanism for securing appropriate developer contributions (S106 etc)



# Draft Developers Concept Masterplan





## Issues/Challenges

As with all major development proposals there are a number of issues/challenges associated with this scheme:

- The A6 bypass (severance) seeking to change the character/secure a speed reduction
- Attaining appropriate east/west connections between the SUE and Rushden town centre
- Land ownership constraints/CPO issues
- Effective consultation/engagement

#### East Northamptonshire Council

### Governance

The Rushden East SUE Project Board was established in 2013 to help drive the Masterplan forward and deliver key corporate objectives. It meets monthly and comprises:

- Members of East Northants Council
- Members of Rushden and Higham Ferrers Town Council
- Member of Northamptonshire County Council
- East Northamptonshire Officers
- ATLAS
- Observers Clerks for Rushden and Higham Ferrers Town Council
- Input from other organisations (depending on agenda items)
   e.g. Environment Agency, Natural England etc





### The Rushden East Project Group

 Comprising Officers of ENC and the developer consortium to meet regularly and discuss technical issues e.g. survey work, SUDs, habitat regulation assessment requirements etc.

### Other examples of Project working:

- ENC liaising/meeting regularly with ATLAS to help facilitate delivery of the Masterplan and seek advice
- Lambert Smith Hampton provides advice to ENC on employment options and potential delivery of managed workspace units
- ENC seeking to work with NCC on a Transport Brief



# Funding/resources

# Resources for the progression and delivery of Rushden East are being considered:

- ENC are looking for the Joint Delivery Unit budget to help assist with resource/funding requirements for the SUE
- Budgetary requirements for Rushden East were reported to East Northants Finance Sub Committee in Jan 2017
- HCA funding bid submitted in Dec 2016 joint bid made by JPU for North Northamptonshire (awaiting outcome!)





### **Current Rushden East delivery timescales:**

- Engagement / Consultation to begin in early 2017
- Finalised Masterplan Spring / Summer 2017
- Submission of an outline planning application Summer / Autumn 2017