

## GUIDANCE FOR IMPACT STATEMENTS FOR SUBMISSION ON THE SWLP ONLINE FORM

Select points from at least four different sections. Use your own words, as copying and pasting will be detected by AI and could lead to rejection of your comments. Keep your responses business-like and avoid emotive language.

### Traffic Infrastructure

#### Cycle Route

- **Plan:** Upgrade the towpath from Wilmcote to Stratford for a safe cycle route.
- **Concerns:** Safety issues with cyclists, runners, and dog walkers sharing space next to deep water.
- **Implementation:** Widening the path, upgrading the surface, adding lighting, and surveillance.
- **Impact:** Removal of hedgerows, destroying wildlife habitat. No other safe route available.
- **Challenges:** Towpath owned by a third party.
- **Alternatives:** Leamington and Hatton have more suitable routes.

#### Train Service

- **Current State:** Wilmcote has limited hourly services to Birmingham and bi-hourly to Leamington Spa.
- **Development Issues:** Costly to upgrade for disabled access, parking, and improved services.
- **Alternatives:** Leamington and Hatton have mainline stations with frequent services, requiring less investment.

#### Buses

- **Current Service:** X20 runs along A3400, proposed to be redirected through Wilmcote, increasing traffic.
- **Infrastructure Needs:** Construction of curb stones and modern digital bus stops, urbanizing the landscape.
- **Environmental Concerns:** Potential use of diesel vehicles; EV charging stations needed if EVs are introduced.

#### Roads

- **Upgrades Needed:** Dualing and upgrading the A46 and A3400, upgrading roundabouts.
- **Traffic Impact:** Significant increase in traffic, leading to congestion and pollution.
- **Challenges:** High costs and potential land acquisition.

### Loss of Green Belt

- **Purpose:** The Green Belt prevents urban sprawl, merging of towns, and protects the countryside.
- **Impact:** Proposed development in the Green Belt will destroy wildlife habitats and the natural beauty of Wilmcote.

### Employment Opportunities

- **Local Jobs:** Minimal local employment opportunities.
- **Commuting:** Majority of residents will need to commute, making the settlement environmentally unsustainable.
- **Alternatives:** Non-Green Belt sites like Leamington, Hatton, or Long Marston.

### Flood Risk

- **Current Risk:** Wilmcote identified as high-risk for flooding by Stratford District council
- **Impact of Development:** Increased surface water run-off, pressure on drainage systems, and higher insurance costs. Likely damage to settlements downstream of the run offs.
- **Challenges:** High costs of upgrading infrastructure

### Heritage and Conservation Area

- **Impact:** Increased traffic and urban sprawl will harm the historic village centers of Wilmcote and Bearley.
- **Cultural Heritage:** Potential damage to Mary Arden's house, a grade I property and site of global interest due to its connection to William Shakespeare

### Landscape and Habitat Destruction

- **Impact:** Loss of tranquil landscapes and wildlife habitats.
- **Mental Well-being:** Negative effects on residents and visitors due to loss of green spaces.

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**Note:** Comments on infrastructure such as health, education, and police services being overwhelmed are common to all proposed new settlement sites and are not included here.

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