

MILTON MALSOR PARISH COUNCIL

www.miltonmalsorparishcouncil.org.uk

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27th March 2019

The Planning Inspectorate
Bristol
BS1 6PN

Dear Sirs

Northampton Gateway – Inquiry Re: Cumulative Impact

Milton Malsor Parish Council writes with regard to the Inquiry held at the Hilton Hotel on the 14th March 2019 in respect of the Issue Specific Hearing (ISH) on Cumulative Impact Assessment. The Parish Council had understood the Planning Inspectorate would judge both SRFI's separately and on their own merits. This did not seem to be the case at the hearing when barristers representing Roxhill Developments and Ashfield Land/Gazely took over the proceedings, sparring and trying to discredit each other.

Milton Malsor Parish Council fails to see how a cumulative assessment can be carried out fairly when Rail Central now want to delay their application, as it is apparent that their traffic modelling is badly flawed and needs to be amended. To preclude interested parties from consultation is also totally unacceptable.

Members of the Parish Council were shocked to hear Network Rail state that no definite planning has been done for the Rail Connectivity, because they had not been commissioned or paid to do so by either of the applicants. Both sites are supposed to be National Infrastructure to take traffic off the roads and onto Rail, what is in fact emerging is that both applications want little rail access. Should either or both developments be approved then the area will be blighted by even more, purely, road served warehousing bypassing Local Planning Authorities who do not support these proposed Rail Freight Terminals.

Milton Malsor Parish Council would like to remind the Planning Inspectorate that DIRFT (Daventry International Rail Freight Terminal) is a short distance away at Junction 18 of the M1 Motorway, and that DIRFT uses the same Northampton Loop Line for its rail connectivity.

Northampton is a growing area, building many new homes, this in turn will put pressure on Network Rail as more passenger train paths will be needed.

Yours sincerely,


Clerk to Milton Malsor Parish Council
On behalf of Members of the Council