

Planning Policy Team  
Brentwood Borough Council  
Town Hall  
**BRENTWOOD**  
Essex  
CM15 8AY

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> February 2015  
Our Reference: SAR/PP/DC/PF  
Your Reference: LDP/SGO/2

By e-mail  
[planning.policy@brentwood.gov.uk](mailto:planning.policy@brentwood.gov.uk)

Dear Sir/Madam,

**BRENTWOOD BOROUGH COUNCIL  
GROWTH OPTIONS CONSULTATION  
DUNTON GARDEN SUBURB CONSULTATION**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these two consultations. I have now considered both these matters and have conferred with the Leader and Deputy Leader of Castle Point Borough Council in formulating a response. I should therefore be grateful if you would accept this letter as the formal response from Castle Point Borough Council.

Castle Point Borough Council has considered the options set out in the Growth Options paper that has been prepared to accompany this consultation. That paper makes it clear that whilst consideration has been given to a variety of options for accommodating growth within your Borough, Brentwood Borough Council prefers the option of concentrating growth around the A127, in particular around the settlement of West Horndon. The options paper shows a considerable swathe of land around West Horndon identified for the potential provision of housing, in addition to the Dunton Garden Suburb proposal subject to separate consultation.

The options paper indicates that the preference for development around the A127 is predicated on the assumption that there is more scope to reduce congestion, and thereby accommodate growth, on the A127 compared to the A12.

Whilst it is not for Castle Point Borough Council to make any judgement on your Council's view of where its growth should be located, it would however wish to offer and express an opinion, which has proved difficult since there appears to be no evidence of discussion which may have taken place with the Essex CC Highways Department in regard to transport capacity modelling for the A127. At present Castle Point, Rochford, Basildon and Southend-on-Sea Councils are working with Essex CC on this strategic route.

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Although at present Castle Point Borough Council has no cross boundary matters of concern with Brentwood, the future devolution debate may well make this particular transport cross boundary issue a matter of great importance to both our councils.

Castle Point Borough Council would therefore suggest that evidence be taken from Essex CC Highways to justify the concept underpinning the A127 as being able to support significant growth options.

I hope that you will be able to take these comments into account.

