

From: DOCO < >

Sent: 06 May 2025 10:12

To: Linda Walker < >

Subject: RE: URGENT Application P/22/1031/2 115 dwellings, Markfield Lane, Newtown Linford (Markfield)

Hi Linda,

Apologies for the delay in getting back to you, I was not on duty at the time of your call. I have reviewed the proposal and would like to offer the following comments and recommendations for your consideration.

From looking at recent crime statistics in the immediate vicinity of the proposed footpath, there are currently no reports of anti-social behaviour or criminal activity directly along the route. The most recent incident near the footpath's exit onto the A50 was a burglary reported in 2017. However, there have been more recent reports of burglary and vehicle-related crime in the surrounding area. With increased use and knowledge of the footpath, this could change, potentially impacting residents, particularly given the absence of lighting and CCTV coverage.

The footpath's proximity to the M1 and other major routes could also present a risk, offering a convenient escape route for individuals seeking to access the site for illegitimate purposes.

I would be interested to understand what benefits the developer anticipates from the inclusion of the pedestrian and cycle path, especially when weighed against the potential risks and ongoing maintenance requirements. As the path leads onto the A50, and most amenities and facilities are located on the opposite side, I believe the nearest pedestrian crossing is near the Field Head roundabout. This would require users to double back to cross safely, which may reduce the path's practicality.

I have also reviewed the letter from the resident at 215 Markfield Lane and I understand their concerns. The narrowness of the lane and lack of lighting could pose safety issues for footpath users, particularly for those walking to the nearby school during peak hours.

The amended master plan shows that the footpath enters the new development in an area with limited natural surveillance due to the positioning of plots. This could be mitigated by installing lighting and CCTV within the site boundary to act as a deterrent, and gable end windows to the properties near to the entrance of the path.

Should the footpath proceed, I would recommend the following crime prevention measures, some which would not require planning permission for:

Crime Prevention Recommendations

- **Natural Surveillance:** Ensure the path is clearly visible from nearby properties and public areas. Regular maintenance—such as trimming foliage and keeping the path clean—will enhance visibility and promote a sense of ownership and care.
- **Community Guardianship:** Increased foot traffic can serve as a natural deterrent to crime and anti-social behaviour.
- **Maintenance:** Install litter bins at both ends of the path and ensure regular cleaning and repairs to maintain a safe and welcoming environment.

- **Signage:** Use clear signage to indicate that the area is monitored and provide information on how to report suspicious activity, either to the police or anonymously via Crimestoppers. Clearly defined entry and exit points can also help guide movement and reduce opportunities for crime.
- **Lighting:** Adequate lighting along the entire path is essential to improve visibility and deter criminal activity.
- **CCTV:** Strategically placed cameras can help monitor the path and discourage anti-social behaviour or criminal activity.

Please call me if you would like to discuss this further.

Kind regards,

Megan Wood

Leicestershire Police