

Mrs M Fitzgerald  
Clerk to Aspley Guise Parish Council  
10 Bedford Road  
Aspley Guise  
MK17 8DJ

**Sam Crooks**  
**Leader**  
**Milton Keynes Council**

20 May 2010

Our Ref:

Your Ref:

Reply To:

Direct Line: (01908) 252442

[sam.crooks@milton-keynes.gov.uk](mailto:sam.crooks@milton-keynes.gov.uk)

Dear Mrs Fitzgerald

**Letter from Cllr Ian Pickering on Behalf of Parishes Liaison Group - MKC Core Strategy and Development Framework for SE SDA**

I have now had the opportunity to consult with officers on the matters you raised in your letter of the 28<sup>th</sup> April.

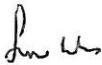
As you are aware, both Milton Keynes Council and Central Bedfordshire Council have agreed, subject to conditions, to the preparation of a joint Development Framework for the South East Strategic Development Area. In addition, both Councils need to be in joint agreement with all the necessary arrangements for the preparation of the Development Framework (including the Consultant Brief that is being drafted to guide the preparation of the Development Framework), a process by its very nature that is time consuming and requires careful consideration and coordination. Subject to the resolution of any outstanding requirements, including some of the issues set out in your letter, both Councils wish to proceed with the preparation of the joint Development Framework as quickly as practicably possible.

I can confirm that continuous public engagement and consultation (which will include consultation at Parish level) will be an integral part of the preparation of the Development Framework for the South East Strategic Development Area. This engagement will be ongoing from the outset and throughout the process in an open and transparent way rather than just seeking your views on draft documents when they are published. The Consultant Brief will make very clear the need for consultation and public engagement.

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Where relevant and where appropriate, the more detailed comments contained in your letter will be taken into consideration in the preparation of the joint Development Framework. The preparation of the joint Development Framework will, however, be undertaken by both Councils under jointly agreed terms and conditions to meet the objectives of both Councils. I hope, however, that the contents of this letter reassures you that both Councils are fully committed to engaging with all interested parties as the policy framework for this very significant development area is being prepared.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sam Crooks', written in a cursive style.

**Sam Crooks**  
**Leader of the Council**