



**CONSULTATION DRAFT BLUNSDON - EAST
NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (BENP)
2019**

APPENDIX F

Evidence Base 2019

Appendix F – BENP Evidence Base

The following documents have been utilised and referred to in producing the Blunsdon East Neighbourhood Plan. Many of the documents referred to are available to download and, wherever possible, the relevant link is included. In some cases, the Swindon Borough Council website has been updated and the documents referred to within the BENP are no longer available. The remainder are available as part of the submission documentation. Where an appendix is referred to this relates to an appendix appearing at the end of this Evidence Base

Neighbourhood Plan Overview

- Neighbourhood Planning Toolkit - <https://locality.org.uk/>
- Neighbourhood Planning Road Map Locality - <https://locality.org.uk/>
- Guide to Neighbourhood Planning CPRE - <https://www.cpre.org.uk/resources/housing-and-planning/planning/item/2689-how-to-shape-where-you-live-a-guide-to-neighbourhood-planning>
- Neighbourhood Plan Application Blunsdon PC - [Appendix 2](#)
- Area Designation Map - [Appendix 2](#)
- SBC Neighbourhood Plan Decision - [Appendix 2](#)
- Highworth Neighbourhood Plan - http://www.highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk/uploads/Highworth_Pre-Submission_NP_v2_reduced_May16.pdf
- [Cricklade Neighbourhood Plan](http://crickladenp.org.uk/) - <http://crickladenp.org.uk/>
- [Purton Neighbourhood Plan](https://www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/Neighbourhood-Plan.aspx) - <https://www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/Neighbourhood-Plan.aspx>
- [South Marston Neighbourhood Plan](https://southmarston.org.uk/development/neighbourhood-plan/the-plan/) - <https://southmarston.org.uk/development/neighbourhood-plan/the-plan/>

Blunsdon East Overview

- Census data – [Appendix 1](#)
- Location Map – [Appendix 2](#)

National policies

- Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012 - www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/637/contents/made
- National Planning Policy Framework - https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/6077/2116950.pdf

Local Policies

- Swindon Adopted Local Plan 2026 - https://www.swindon.gov.uk/downloads/download/361/swindon_borough_local_plan_2026
- Swindon Adopted Local Plan 2011 – https://www.swindon.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/394/a_local_plan_covering_swindon_borough_to_2011.pdf
- Swindon & Wiltshire Strategic Housing Market Assessment - https://www.swindon.gov.uk/info/20113/local_plan_and_planning_policy/647/monitoring_and_evidence_base/4
- Swindon & Wiltshire Functional Economic Market Area Assessment - https://www.swindon.gov.uk/info/20113/local_plan_and_planning_policy/647/monitoring_and_evidence_base/4
- Swindon Draft Local Plan 2026/ Swindon Draft Local Plan Examination documents - https://www.swindon.gov.uk/downloads/download/361/swindon_borough_local_plan_2026
- Blunsdon Conservation Area Appraisals - https://www.swindon.gov.uk/info/20059/land_and_premises/373/find_out_about_conservation_areas
 - Broad Blunsdon
 - Lower Blunsdon
- [Swindon Borough Council 5 year housing land supply referred to in planning appeal - https://www.swindon.gov.uk/info/20059/land_and_premises/373/find_out_about_conservation_areas](https://www.swindon.gov.uk/info/20059/land_and_premises/373/find_out_about_conservation_areas)
- [Swindon Borough Council 5 year housing land supply referred to in planning appeal - https://www.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/ViewCase.aspx?Caseid=3192234&CoID=0](https://www.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/ViewCase.aspx?Caseid=3192234&CoID=0)

Consultation and Engagement -

Full details are set out in Statement of Consultation in Appendix G to the BENP - https://www.blunsdon.info/?page_id=38

- *Village Magazine Articles* - <http://www.blunsdonparishcouncil.co.uk/news.php#news>

Housing and Built Environment

- SHLAA Report 2013 | Swindon Borough Council – The BENP, in particular Call for Sites, was based on the SBC 2013 SHLAA, however, this report has been deleted by SBC and replaced by the SHELAA 2019 version which was completed after the BENP plan was presented under Regulation 14.
- Swindon Borough Council SHELAA sites - https://www.swindon.gov.uk/info/20113/local_plan_and_planning_policy/647/monitoring_and_evidence_base/5
- Swindon borough core strategy rural issues paper - https://www.swindon.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/1642/ed_3-03_-_local_plan_core_documents_library.pdf
- Swindon Small Scale Urban Extensions Study January 2008 - https://www.swindon.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/1643/ed_3-03a_core_documents_library_09_6_13.pdf
- Swindon Small Scale Urban Extensions Evidence Review Paper - <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/the-swindon-small-scale-urban-extensions-evidence-review-paper>
- ONS Housing projections by region Table 406 - <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-household-projections>
- Economic Strategy for Swindon 2013 - https://www.swindon.gov.uk/downloads/file/438/economic_strategy_for_swindon_2013
- AECOM Blunsdon East Neighbourhood Plan Site Assessment Report https://www.blunsdon.info/?page_id=852

- - <https://www.swindonsna.co.uk/Files/Files/Strategic-Housing-Market-Asessment.pdf>
- Swindon Borough Council Statement of Position Housing Supply Matters - <https://unidoc.wiltshire.gov.uk/UniDoc/Document/File/MTMvMDQ2NzYvRlVMLDU1NDQ0OA==>
- Housing Delivery Test Pilot Project Emerging Findings - <https://www.local.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/Housing%20Delivery%20Test%20Pilot%20Project%20-%20David%20Dewart.pdf>
- Swindon Borough Local Plan Review - 2nd Regulation 18 Consultation (Preferred & Emerging Options) - <https://www.chiseldon-pc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Supplement-Swindon-Borough-Local-Plan-Review-2nd-Regulation-18-Consultation-Preferred-Emerging.pdf>

Environment and Green Spaces

- [Midvale Ridge Landscape Character assessment](http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/5431100?category=587130) - <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/5431100?category=587130>
- Swindon BC Non Coalescence Policy (Policy NC5 and Appendix 6) – https://www.swindon.gov.uk/info/20113/local_plan_and_planning_policy/635/swindon_borough_local_plan_2026/1
- [Environment Agency Flood Map](https://flood-map-for-planning.service.gov.uk/confirm-location?easting=413876&northing=190871&placeOrPostcode=Blunsdon) - <https://flood-map-for-planning.service.gov.uk/confirm-location?easting=413876&northing=190871&placeOrPostcode=Blunsdon>
- [Great Western Community Forestt](http://www.oncf.org.uk/tucd37.htm) - <http://www.oncf.org.uk/tucd37.htm>
- Conservation Area appraisals for Broad Blunsdon and Lower Blunsdon - https://www.swindon.gov.uk/info/20059/land_and_premises/373/find_out_about_conservation_areas

Transport

- [Swindon BC Local Transport Policy](https://www.swindon.gov.uk/info/20136/transport_strategy/908/transport_policy) - https://www.swindon.gov.uk/info/20136/transport_strategy/908/transport_policy
- Swindon BC Transport Assessment for Kingsdown - <https://pa1.swindon.gov.uk/publicaccess/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=OYQJQNPT04V00>
- [Planning Application Transport Assessments for:](#)
 - Tadpole Farm
 - Abbey Stadium
 - Abbey Farm
 - Ermin Street

Viewed via SBC Planning Department <https://pa1.swindon.gov.uk/publicaccess/>

- Public Rights of Way - https://www.swindon.gov.uk/info/20031/roads_parking_and_transport/570/public_rights_of_way
- [Swindon Infrastructure Delivery Plan - https://www.swindon.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/1607/ed_2-03 - idp_pre-submission_draft_dec.pdf](https://www.swindon.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/1607/ed_2-03_-_idp_pre-submission_draft_dec.pdf)

Heritage and History

- Local Photos - <https://www.flickrriver.com/photos/swindonlocal/sets/72157622099909203/>
- Community Asset Register - https://www.swindon.gov.uk/downloads/file/3435/assets_of_community_value
- Report on WW2 sites - https://www.academia.edu/18641746/World_War_2_Heavy_Anti-Aircraft_Battery_HER_Report

Kingsdown Urban Extension

- Swindon BC Local Plan NC5 policy – https://www.swindon.gov.uk/downloads/download/361/swindon_borough_local_plan_2026
- Kingsdown Development – Traffic Modelling Report
<https://pa1.swindon.gov.uk/publicaccess/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=OYQJQNPT04V00>
- Highways England comments on traffic issues - https://www.swindon.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/1643/ed_3-03a_core_documents_library_09_6_13.pdf
- Notes from a meeting held at Blunsdon Village Hall 13th February 2013 - <http://netcontent.netintent.co.uk/getfile.php?fid=397>
- Outline Planning application for 1,650 dwellings at Kingsdown NC5 -
<https://pa1.swindon.gov.uk/publicaccess/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=OYQJQNPT04V00&activeTab=summary>

Governance

- Neighbourhood Plan Application Blunsdon PC - https://www.swindon.gov.uk/downloads/file/1785/neighbourhood_area_application_-_blunsdon
- SBC Neighbourhood Plan Decision - https://www.swindon.gov.uk/downloads/file/1784/blunsdon_decision_notice
- BENP Steering Group Minutes of Meetings - https://www.blunsdon.info/?page_id=187
- Blunsdon Parish Council Minutes of Meetings - <http://blunsdonparishcouncil.co.uk/news.php#news>

Appendix 1

Statistics taken from the ONS Data from the 2011 Census for equivalent Area to the Blunsdon East Neighbourhood Plan (BENP) area

The Statistical Tables and Graphs shown below demonstrate the relevant data for the area of the Blunsdon East Neighbourhood Plan (Swindon 008A). These stats were used for information at each Consultation day and were taken into account in the Site Allocation development criteria calculations in Policy 2 of the BENP.

Figs 1 and 2 demonstrate that close to 50% of the residents in the BENP are over 50 and the 20-45 age range is significantly under-represented in the area.

As far as employment is concerned the types of employment in the BENP area are broadly similar to those quoted locally and regionally (Fig 3) with a clear dominance in Clerical/Professional and Construction and Agriculture. However Figure 9 shows that more than 3 times the Swindon average work from home in the BENP area.

Figure 9 also shows that the predominance in the BENP area and locally in Swindon is to travel to work by car and this poses significant problems for residents within the BENP area, getting to work and joining the major road networks where they work further afield from the BENP area

The family structure (Fig 5) shows that 90% of household are family households but there is a predominance of 'empty nest' (50%) households with older parents.

Those households live in mainly detached (65%) or semi-detached (23%) properties (Fig 6). However Fig. 8 shows that the BENP area has a statistically enormous proportion of large and expensive houses compared to Swindon/South West and nationally.

The final stats demonstrated here in figs. 10 and 11 show firstly the lack of density of population in the BENP are and the rural surroundings it suggests. However one can clearly see the disproportionate growth of the Swindon Urban Area over the 10 years between census records and the fact that it was a 'Principle Urban Area' for development between those years.

Figure 1: Comparative Age Structure

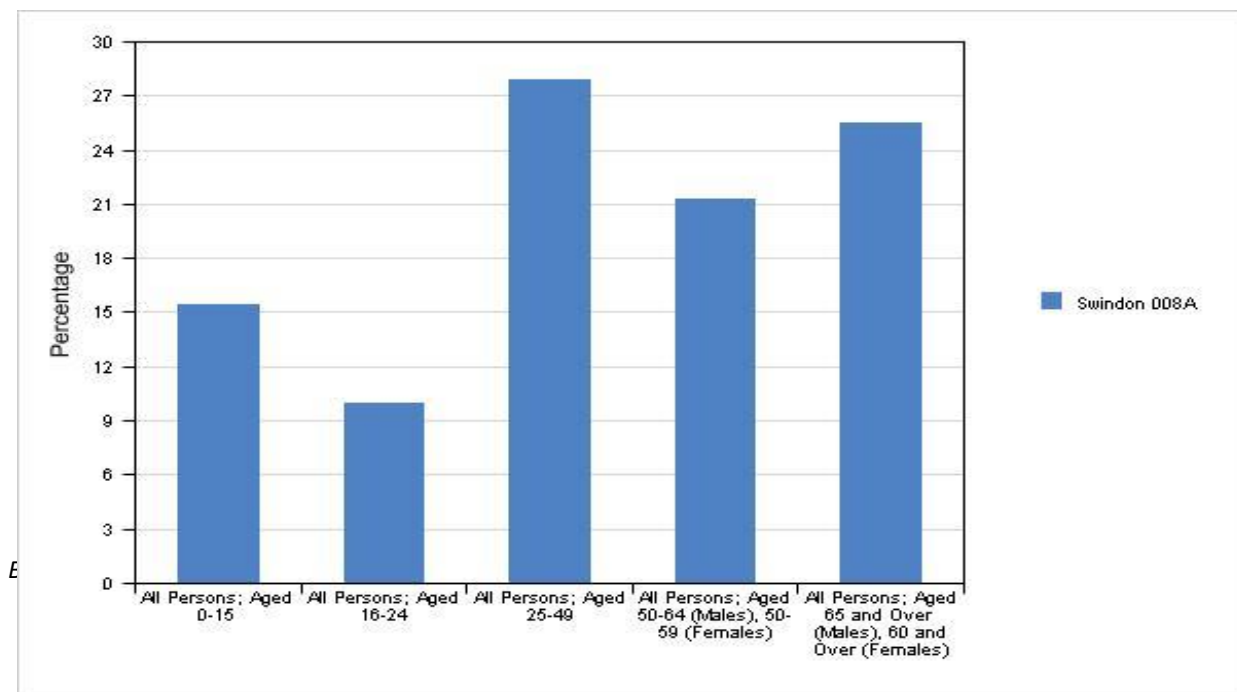


Figure 2: Comparative Age Structure – BENP/Swindon UA/South West/England

Age Structure (KS102EW)					
Mar-11		Swindon (SN26)	Swindon Unitary Auth	South West Region	England Country
All Usual Residents	Count	1716	209156	5288935	53012456
Age 0 to 4	Count	79	14083	296094	3318449
Age 0 to 4	Percentage	4.6	6.7	5.6	6.3
Age 5 to 7	Count	58	7551	166138	1827610
Age 5 to 7	Percentage	3.4	3.6	3.1	3.4
Age 8 to 9	Count	30	4722	106551	1145022
Age 8 to 9	Percentage	1.7	2.3	2	2.2
Age 10 to 14	Count	81	12433	296892	3080929
Age 10 to 14	Percentage	4.7	5.9	5.6	5.8
Age 15	Count	22	2593	64003	650826
Age 15	Percentage	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.2
Age 16 to 17	Count	46	5141	128935	1314124
Age 16 to 17	Percentage	2.7	2.5	2.4	2.5
Age 18 to 19	Count	39	4690	135139	1375315
Age 18 to 19	Percentage	2.3	2.2	2.6	2.6
Age 20 to 24	Count	83	12859	333166	3595321
Age 20 to 24	Percentage	4.8	6.1	6.3	6.8
Age 25 to 29	Count	52	15075	307159	3650881
Age 25 to 29	Percentage	3	7.2	5.8	6.9
Age 30 to 44	Count	273	48338	994693	10944271
Age 30 to 44	Percentage	15.9	23.1	18.8	20.6
Age 45 to 59	Count	451	41827	1063214	10276902
Age 45 to 59	Percentage	26.3	20	20.1	19.4
Age 60 to 64	Count	140	10990	361507	3172277
Age 60 to 64	Percentage	8.2	5.3	6.8	6
Age 65 to 74	Count	199	15160	532902	4552283
Age 65 to 74	Percentage	11.6	7.2	10.1	8.6
Age 75 to 84	Count	103	9899	348759	2928118
Age 75 to 84	Percentage	6	4.7	6.6	5.5
Age 85 to 89	Count	28	2616	99900	776311
Age 85 to 89	Percentage	1.6	1.3	1.9	1.5
Age 90 and Over	Count	32	1179	53883	403817
Age 90 and Over	Percentage	1.9	0.6	1	0.8
Mean Age	Years	44.8	38.1	41.6	39.3
Median Age	Years	48	38	42	39

Figure 3: Percentage of Local Units in each employment size band in your area Swindon 008, compared with Swindon local authority and the South West region, 2011

Demonstrates the broad similarities between the BENP area and locally/regionally.

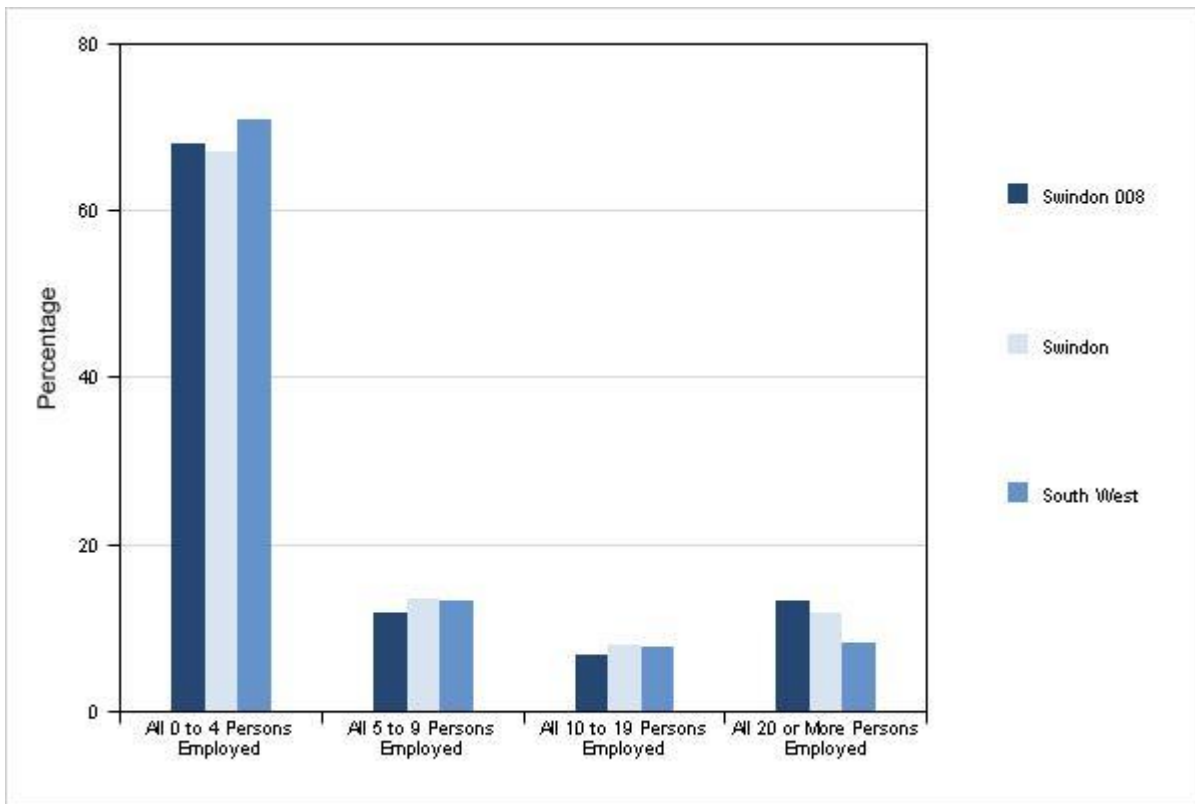


Figure 4: Number of Local Units by Broad Industry in your area Swindon 008, 2011

Demonstrates the dominance of Clerical/Professional and Construction and Agriculture

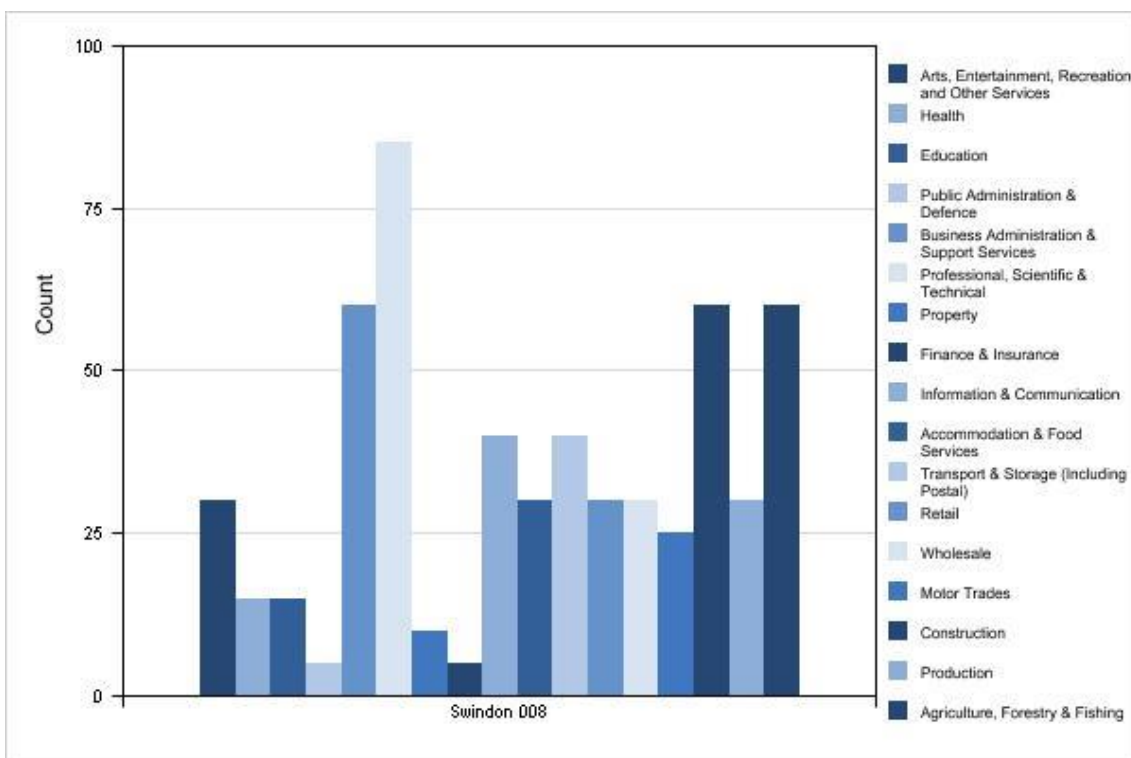


Figure 5: Household composition in your neighbourhood, March 2011

Demonstrates the predominance of older parents with no dependent children

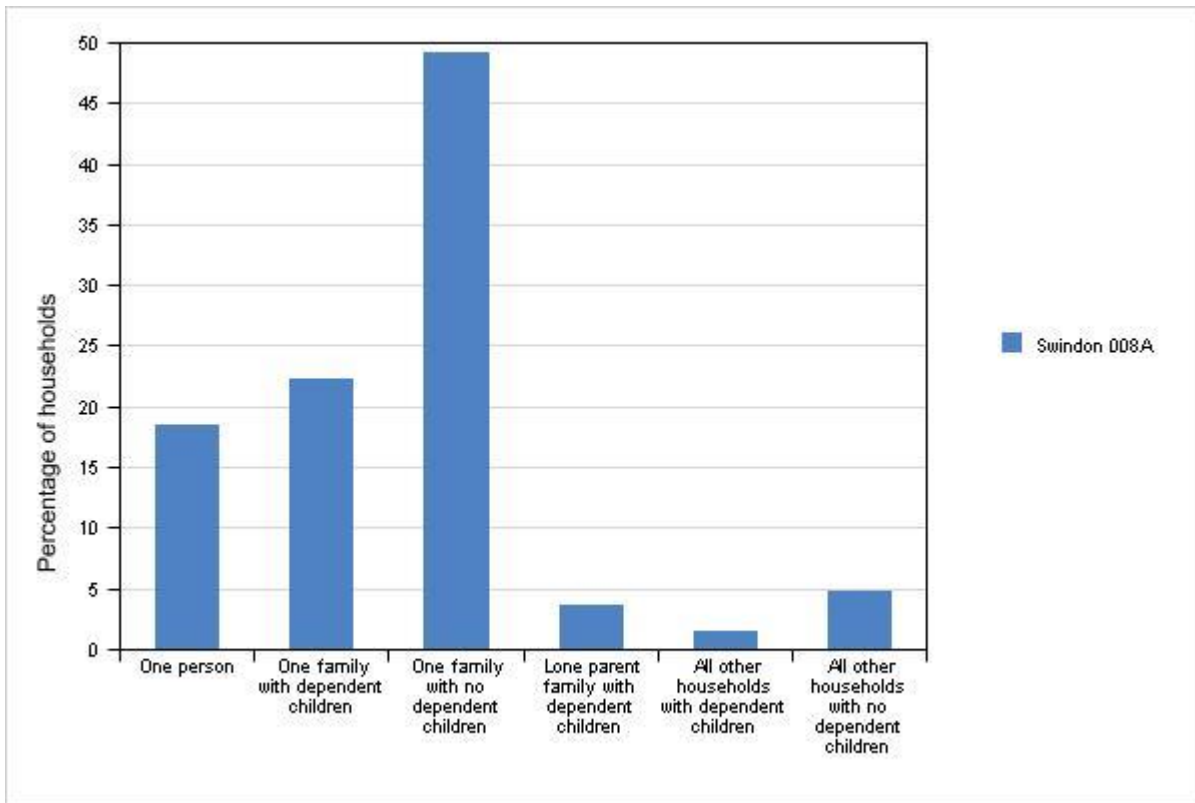


Figure 6: Accommodation type in your neighbourhood, March 2011

Demonstrates the predominance of detached properties.

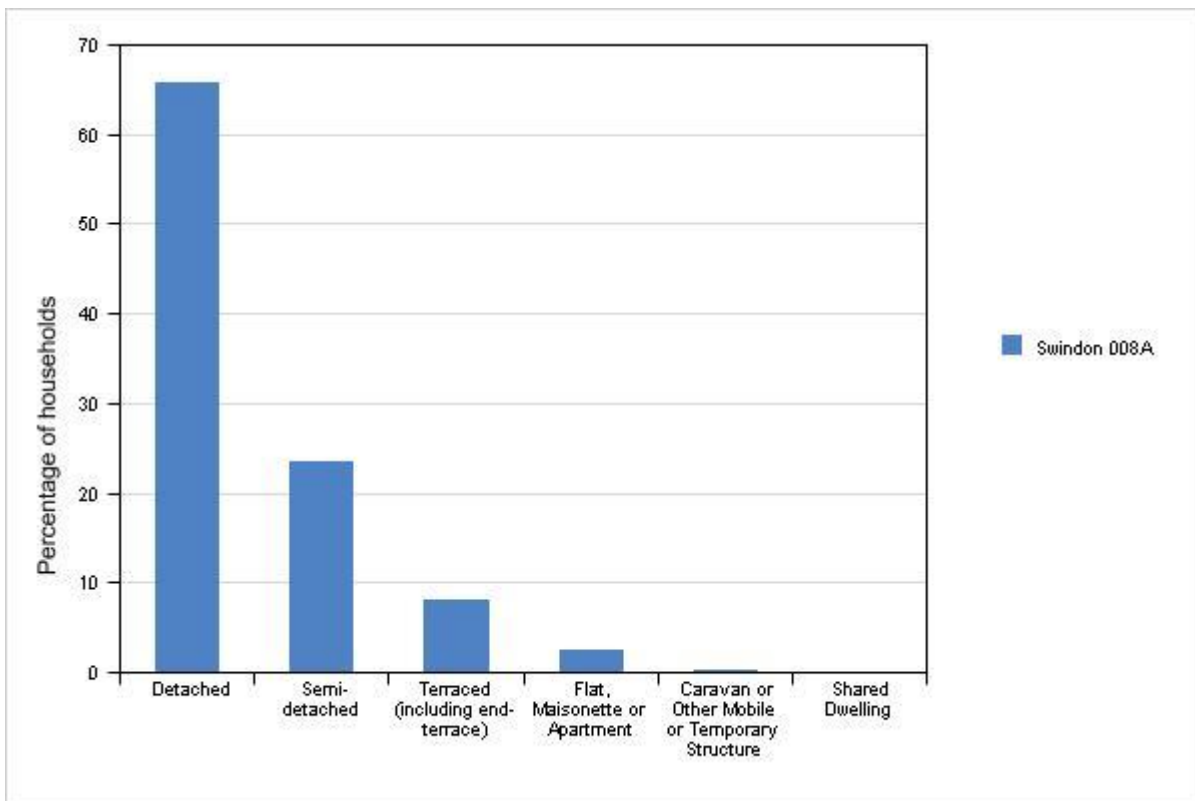


Figure 7: Examines the Stated General Health of the local population.

This shows that there is no real statistical difference between the BENP area and Swindon/regional and national figures

General Health (QS302EW)									
		Swindon 008A		Swindon		South West		England	
		SN26	%	Unitary Authority		Region		Country	
All Usual Residents	Mar-11	1716		209156		5288935		53012456	
Very Good Health	Mar-11	853	49.7	100931	48.3	2478081	46.9	25005712	47.2
Good Health	Mar-11	564	32.9	73591	35.2	1828026	34.6	18141457	34.2
Fair Health	Mar-11	227	13.2	25056	12.0	710356	13.4	6954092	13.1
Bad Health	Mar-11	59	3.4	7556	3.6	212080	4.0	2250446	4.2
Very Bad Health	Mar-11	13	0.8	2022	1.0	60392	1.1	660749	1.2

Fi 8: Shows dwelling stock by Council Tax bands for the BENP area.

This clearly demonstrates the predominance of higher price band dwellings in the equivalent BENP Area; from Band D upwards there is major statistical difference.

D = 37% greater, E = 63% greater, F = 400% greater, G = 467% greater and H = 200% greater.

Dwelling Stock by Council Tax Band	Swindon 008A		Swindon	South West	England
		SN26	Unitary Authority	Region	Country
Total Number of Dwellings	Mar-11	681	90041	2389246	22947500
Council Tax Band A	Mar-11	10.72	15.51	17.58	24.84
Council Tax Band B	Mar-11	2.2	29.03	24.45	19.58
Council Tax Band C	Mar-11	12.19	25.22	23.01	21.76
Council Tax Band D	Mar-11	21.73	16.79	15.78	15.31
Council Tax Band E	Mar-11	18.36	8.73	10.51	9.44
Council Tax Band F	Mar-11	20.26	3.29	5.33	4.99
Council Tax Band G	Mar-11	14.39	1.37	3.05	3.51
Council Tax Band H	Mar-11	0.15	0.07	0.3	0.57
Vacant Dwellings and Second Homes	Mar-08	5.4	4.7

Figure 9: Methods of travel to work.

This demonstrates the dependence on the family car for the journey to work for both Swindon and the BENP area and that more than 3 times as many Blunston residents as Swindon residents work from home.

Method of Travel to Work (QS701EW)			Swindon 008/ SN26	Swindon Unitary Auth	South West Region	England Country
All Usual Residents Aged 16 to 74	Count	Mar-11	1283	154080	3856715	38881374
Work Mainly at or From Home	Count	Mar-11	96	4353	177999	1349568
Underground, Metro, Light Rail, Tram	Count	Mar-11	1	86	3086	1027625
Train	Count	Mar-11	12	1452	38898	1343684
Bus, Minibus or Coach	Count	Mar-11	16	9356	119878	1886539
Taxi	Count	Mar-11	0	507	7493	131465
Motorcycle, Scooter or Moped	Count	Mar-11	13	1177	28461	206550
Driving a Car or Van	Count	Mar-11	644	69539	1596171	14345882
Passenger in a Car or Van	Count	Mar-11	33	6747	132014	1264553
Bicycle	Count	Mar-11	17	4667	90285	742675
On Foot	Count	Mar-11	42	11063	348463	2701453
Other Method of Travel to Work	Count	Mar-11	5	552	17636	162727
Not in Employment	Count	Mar-11	404	44581	1296331	13718653
	Source					
	National Statistics					

Figure 10: Population Density - persons per hectare.

This clearly demonstrates the unoccupied space around the residents of the BENP area.

Population Density (QS102EW)			Swindon (Swindon Super Out Unitary Au	South We Region	England Country		
All Usual Residents	Count	Persons	Mar-11	1716	209156	5288935	53012456
Area (Hectares)	Hectares	Areas	Mar-11	1505	23010	2383736	13027843
Density (Number of Persons per Hectare)	Rate	Persons	Mar-11	1.1	9.1	2.2	4.1
Population Density, 2011 (QS102EW), Mar1	LastUpdat	30-Jan-13					
Population Density, 2011 (QS102EW), Mar1	Source	Office for National Statistics					
	National Statistics						

Figure 11: Population Density Figures – ONS from 2011 Census for Equivalent Area for BENP

This demonstrates a massive increase in people per hectare between Census stats from 2001 to 2011 for Swindon UA where the rest of the country remained fairly stable.

Usual Resident Population (KS01)													
2001 vs 2011		Swindon SN26			Swindon			South West			England		
		2001	2011		2001	2011		2001	2011		2001	2011	
All people	Count	1674	1716	103%	180051	209156	116%	4928434	5288935	107%	49138831	53012456	108%
Males	Count	847	830	98%	89560	104618	117%	2396415	2590608	108%	23922144	26069148	109%
Males	%	50.6%	48.4%		49.7%	50.0%		48.6%	49.0%		48.7%	49.2%	
Females	Count	827	886	107%	90491	104538	116%	2532019	2698327	107%	25216687	26943308	107%
Females	%	49.4%	51.6%		50.3%	50.0%		51.4%	51.0%		51.3%	50.8%	
Lives in a Household	Count	1628	1671	103%	178649	207858	116%	4812072	5175084	108%	48248150	52059931	108%
Lives in a Household	%	97.3%	97.4%		99.2%	99.4%		97.6%	97.8%		98.2%	98.2%	
Communal establishments	Count	46	45	98%	1402	1298	93%	116362	113851	98%	890681	952525	107%
Communal establishments	%	2.7%	2.6%		0.8%	0.6%		2.4%	2.2%		1.8%	1.8%	
Area (hectares)	Count	1505	1505		23010	23010		2383673	2383736		13027872	13027843	
Density (number of people per hectare)	Rate	1.1	1.1	100%	7.8	9.1	116%	2.1	2.2	106%	3.8	4.1	109%

Appendix 2

SWINDON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Regulation 7 - Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012

Decision Notice: Designation of a Neighbourhood Area

Blunsdon St Andrew – East Neighbourhood Area

Swindon Borough Council (“the Council”) in exercise of its power under section 61G of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) has made a decision to designate Blunsdon St Andrew – East Neighbourhood Area as a neighbourhood area.

The Council, following a consultation that was held from 30th May 2013 to 11th July 2013, pursuant to Regulation 6 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, is satisfied that the area is appropriate to be designated as a neighbourhood area.

1. The Name of the Neighbourhood Area: Blunsdon St Andrew – East Neighbourhood Area
2. Map which identifies the Neighbourhood Area: The area illustrated by a red boundary (see below)
3. Name of the relevant body who applied for the designation: Blunsdon St Andrew Parish Council

Map of the Designated Blunsdon St Andrew – East Neighbourhood Area



Map not to Scale

R. Bell

Head of Planning, Service
Delivery Swindon Borough
Council

Civic Offices
Beckhampto
n Street
Swindon,
SN1 2JH

Dated: Monday 5th August 2013

Kingsdown Reference

Carbis House
Lower Blunsdon
Swindon
SN26 7BJ
13th May 2014

Dear Mr Kemp,

Swindon Local Plan Examination Issue 11D: New Communities – Kingsdown

At the afternoon session of the Examination Hearings on Thursday 8th May, the Planning Inspector directed that the Scoping Study should be placed in the Examination Library and that he would allow until close of play on Tuesday 13th May for written comments. My comments are as follows:

a) The agents for the developers, DPDS, contend both orally at the hearing and in the last paragraph of their letter to you dated 9th May 2014 reference MTS/ms/11050 that the Scoping Study was part of a consultation exercise in November 2009 and has been in the public domain since then. My understanding is that in 2009 the document was requested to be kept confidential, and that consequently the Parish Council did not in fact have sight of it. I believe the Chairman of the Parish Council did provide limited comments at the time, but had to reserve the Parish Council's position until such time as the document could be made public. Is it the case that the document has only just come into the public domain?

b) The agents for the developers, DPDS, contend that the document always included "Phase 2". This seems not to be consistent with the facts:

- Paragraph 3.3.1 notes *"the potential impacts of a future larger scheme are beyond the scope of the EIA and ES for the Kingsdown Village application"*, and consequently it is clear that Phase 2 was never part of the Scoping Study.
- Paragraph 3.1.2 notes that the site is bounded in the north by Kingsdown Lane, again clearing indicating that Phase 2 is not included in the Scoping Study.

- Appendix D includes the Master Plan Boundary for Kingsdown Village in red. This is entirely south of Kingsdown Lane and does not include any part of Phase 2.

The attempts by the agents for the developers to deem that Phase 2 has always been part of the scheme, and that they have been in the public domain since 2009, are obviously flawed.

c) The Appendix D Master Plan does show:

- That the intention is for Kingsdown Lane to be improved for cycle and pedestrian traffic only
- That access to the site is by a road bridge over the A419, and by a pedestrian/cycle bridge over the A419.

The comments from SBC traffic expert from CH2M Hill at the hearing were that “the road bridge over the A419 would be required before any houses were built”. Should NC5 be accepted in spite of the lack of consultation and the weight of local opposition, it would be sensible to incorporate these points formally into the Local Plan.

I trust that the Planning Inspector will consider these points when reaching his conclusions.

Yours sincerely,

Martin Jones.

Chair Blunsdon East Neighbourhood Plan