

Re: Part OS Parcel 8149 Adj Lords Lane AND SE of Hawkwell Farm Lords Lane Bicester (Hawkwell Village)

This site is part of the North West Bicester 1 allocation and proposes a mixed-use development including 3100 homes. The proposal description also refers to employment areas and a mixed-use local centre for some 9,000 sqm.

Currently there is no reference to an Employment, Skills and Training Plan (ESTP) in draft heads of terms or in the agent's planning statement.

We encourage a planning obligation for an ESTP for the reasons stated in the Cherwell District Developer Contribution SPD 2018 appendix 13 and to support the delivery of an economic strategy as stated in Policy Bicester 1 (North West Bicester SPD).

OxLEP supports the continued development and implementation of Community Employment Plans (otherwise known as ESTPs) across Oxfordshire to address the declining numbers of construction apprenticeships which are critical for increasing skills and labour in the industry. Community Employment Plans can also add social value in local communities through engagement with education providers, increasing opportunities for the local economy and skills development, and engaging with those furthest from the labour market. Details about Community Employment Plans can be found in the OxLEP CEP Evidence Paper which was endorsed by the Oxfordshire Growth Board in July 2017.