

Local Plan 2040  
Duty to Co-operate Statement  
Submission version  
Updated September 2022

DRAFT



*Lichfield*  
district council

## 1. Introduction

1.1 The duty to co-operate is a legal and soundness test that requires cooperation between local planning authorities and other prescribed bodies to maximise the effectiveness of policies for strategic matters in Local Plans. The duty to co-operate was introduced in the Localism Act 2011 and under Section 33A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 all local planning authorities are required to engage constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis when preparing a local plan to maximise the effectiveness of Local Plan preparation in the context of strategic cross boundary matters.

1.2 In addition to the legal requirements set out above, the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) emphasises the importance of joint working and maintain effective co-operation between authorities and other prescribed bodies on cross boundary issues and issues of shared interest. The NPPF provides information at paragraphs 20 – 23 on the matters which strategic policies should make sufficient provision for and these matters may require effective co-operate. These matters include:

- Housing (including affordable housing), employment, retail, leisure and commercial development
- Infrastructure for transport, telecommunications, security, waste management, water supply, wastewater, flood risk and provision of minerals and energy
- Community facilities
- Conservation and enhancement of natural, built and historic environment, including landscapes and green infrastructure and planning measures to address climate change mitigation and adaptation.

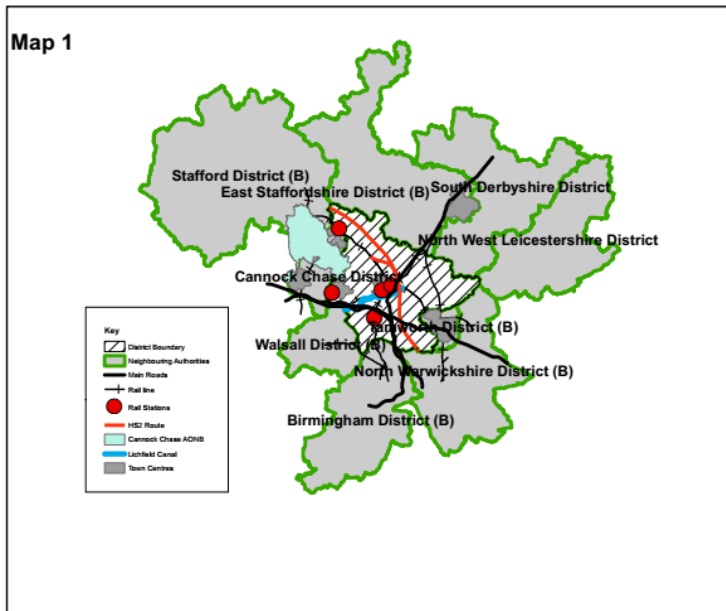
1.3 The NPPF goes on to provide further guidance in relation to the duty to cooperate at paragraphs 24 – 27, including the requirement for policy making authorities to prepare and maintain statements of common ground (SoCG). The purpose of the SoCG are to demonstrate that cross-boundary strategic issues have been jointly addressed and how they will be progressed moving forward by the Local Authority along with neighbouring authorities and the prescribed bodies. Planning practice guidance (PPG) provides further guidance on what is expected within a statement of common ground.

1.4 The Statement of Common Grounds will be prepared in addition to a Duty to Cooperate Statement and contain specific details on cross-boundary strategic matters that have been identified by the Council in association with the prescribed bodies and other relevant organisations.

1.5 This statement provides an overview of how Lichfield District Council has worked actively and on an ongoing basis to fulfil its duty to co-operate throughout the plan making process. This statement should be read in conjunction with the specific Statements of Common Ground.

## 2. Local Context

2.1 Lichfield District is bound by nine local authorities, these include Birmingham, Tamworth, South Staffordshire, East Staffordshire, Stafford, South Derbyshire, North West Leicestershire, Walsall, North Warwickshire and Cannock Chase. The Council falls within the Greater Birmingham and Black Country Housing Market Area (HMA) along with 14 other local authorities. The higher tier authority of Staffordshire County Council is also of relevance.



Map 1 - Location of Lichfield District Council to its neighbouring authorities

### 3. Duty to Co-operate Bodies

3.1 The duty to co-operate applies to all local authorities and county councils in England and a number of specified prescribed bodies. The prescribed bodies for which local planning authorities are to co-operate with are defined in Part 2, Regulation 4 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. In relation to Lichfield District, the following are considered to be neighbouring authorities and prescribed bodies:

#### County Councils

- Staffordshire County Council
- Warwickshire County Council
- Derbyshire County Council
- Leicestershire County Council

#### Unitary authorities

- Birmingham City Council
- Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council

#### Black Country Authorities

- Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
- Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council
- Walsall Council
- City of Wolverhampton Council

District authorities

- Cannock Chase District Council
- Stafford Borough Council
- East Staffordshire Borough Council
- Tamworth Borough Council
- North West Leicestershire District Council
- South Derbyshire Council
- North Warwickshire Borough Council

Prescribed Bodies

- Natural England
- Historic England
- Environment Agency
- Homes and Communities Agency
- Highways England
- Sport England
- Network Rail
- NHS South East Staffordshire and Seisdon Peninsula CCG
- NHS East Staffordshire CCG
- NHS England
- Civil Aviation Authority
- Office of Rail Regulation
- Ministry of Defence
- Integrated Transport Authority – Transport for West Midlands
- HSE

3.2 As set out above, Lichfield District lies within the Greater Birmingham & Black Country Housing Market Area (HMA), and therefore Lichfield District Council work collaboratively with all the authorities who fall within the HMA, including those not listed above who lie beyond the District's shared borders. In addition, although not defined by statute in the same way as the above prescribed bodies, Local Enterprise Partnerships and Local Nature Partnerships are bodies defined in the Regulations as bodies that local authorities have a duty 'to have regard to' in respect of Lichfield District. There are also other public bodies with whom Lichfield District Council needs to cooperate in order to plan for strategic cross-boundary matters. Collectively, in respect of Lichfield District Council these are:

- Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership (GBSLEP)
- South Staffordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (SSLEP)
- Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership
- Cannock Chase SAC Partnership
- AONB Partnership
- River Mease SAC Partnership

3.3 Whilst many of the above bodies are engaged in active, on-going discussions with Lichfield District Council, it is appropriate to contact each of the bodies with whom there is a duty to co-operate at each stage of the local plan preparation and meetings have been held with relevant bodies where necessary.

#### 4. Preparation of the Local Plan Review

4.1 The Lichfield Local Plan Strategy which covers the plan period 2008 – 2029 was adopted in February 2015. The second part of the Local Plan, the Local Plan Allocations was adopted in July 2019. During the Local Plan Allocations examination, the Inspector proposed a main modification to include Policy LPR: Local Plan Review, which commits the Council to carrying out an early of the Local Plan and includes a number of strategic matters which need to be considered with surrounding local authorities through the Duty to Co-operate. These matters are discussed in further detail below include the need for an appropriate contribution towards meeting the housing need arising from the Greater Birmingham and Black Country Housing Market Area (GBBCHMA).

4.2 Lichfield District Council commenced work on its Local Plan 2040 (formally known as the Local Plan Review) with an initial Scope, Issues and Options consultation taking place between April and June 2018. The Council has since consulted on its Preferred Options and Policy Directions in January 2019, Preferred Options in November 2019 and its Regulation 19 Publication Version in August 2021. At each of these stages, letters were sent to duty to co-operate partners seeking their views on the consultation document.

4.3 This duty to co-operate statement is a live document and will continue to be updated to reflect ongoing discussions and joint working as the Local Plan 2040 is progressed and Statements of Common Ground are prepared.

#### 5. Cross- boundary Strategic Matters

5.1 There are a number of key strategic matters which underpin the adopted Local Plan and therefore the review of the Local Plan which require a collaborative cross-boundary approach and partnership working with various local authorities and prescribed bodies. To date, valuable co-operative working and partnership activity has taken place between Lichfield District Council and the duty to co-operate bodies as the review of the Local Plan has progressed over a number of years.

5.2 Table 1 below identifies the cross boundary strategic matters which need to be addressed by the Local Plan 2040. It highlights those specific issues which require on-going active cooperation between Duty to Co-operate partners.

Table 1 - Cross Boundary Strategic Matters

Cross boundary strategic matters identified	Specific cross boundary issues to be addressed through Duty to Cooperate / SoCGs
Housing needs and distribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Overall housing requirement – identifying an appropriate higher target to contribute towards unmet need within the HMA which is deliverable across the district.</li><li>• Ensuring that the scale and distribution of unmet housing need across with the Housing Market Area can be by the</li></ul>

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	<p>authorities met through Duty to Cooperate</p>
Gypsy and traveller needs and provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitating adequate gypsy and traveller pitches and transit sites to address identified needs</li> <li>Lichfield District Council has worked collaboratively with Tamworth and North Warwickshire to identify and accommodate where appropriate gypsy and traveller needs and provision.</li> <li>LDC has worked with neighbouring authorities to establish if any have available sites to meet need that cannot be met due to lack of site availability in LDC.</li> </ul>
Employment land provision and jobs required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Addressing any cross-boundary issues regarding the provision of employment space</li> <li>Facilitating local economic recovery caused by the widespread disruption to the economy as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic.</li> </ul>
Retail, leisure and commercial development	N/A
Provision of transport infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Addressing the delivery of development to ensure there are no detrimental impacts on the local highways network and the strategic road network</li> <li>Working with highways authorities and relevant partners on upgrades and works to major strategic roads intersecting the district, including the A5 and A38</li> <li>Facilitating the delivery of HS2 which crosses the district</li> </ul>
Provision of utilities infrastructure including telecommunications, digital, water and energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working with Severn Trent to overcome the issues relating to the River Mease SAC</li> </ul>
Provision of communities facilities including health and education infrastructure and local facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision of sufficient school place capacity in relation to site allocations to avoid cross boundary impacts</li> <li>Provision of sufficient healthcare facilities to accommodate future growth and changing healthcare priorities and needs</li> </ul>
Conservation and enhancement of natural and historic environment	<p>In relation to the natural environment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring a consistent approach to the conservation and enhancement of Protected Landscapes and their settings within the district</li> <li>Ensuring that the cumulative impact of proposed levels of growth does not</li> </ul>

	<p>result in likely significant effects on the European Sites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• River Mease SAC</li> <li>• Cannock Chase SAC</li> <li>• AONB</li> </ul> <p>Historic Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensuring that the significant of heritage assets and their settings are conserved and enhanced</li> </ul>
Mitigation of and adaption to address climate change and managing flood risk	Mitigating / adapting to the effects of climate change including managing flood risk.

5.3 The list above seeks to outline the key strategic cross boundary issues and whilst themes listed with no identified issues are recognised as cross boundary and strategy, they are unlikely to require active collaboration between the Duty to Cooperate bodies in strategic planning terms.

## 6. Mechanisms for co-operation

6.1 Lichfield District Council is actively involved in a number of cross-boundary relationships that have informed the preparation of the Local Plan 2040. These relationships take different formats, many are formalised, regular meetings where a variety of topics are discussed and some are specifically tailored towards the Local Plan 2040.

6.2 These partnerships are an invaluable mechanism for facilitating duty to co-operate discussions and enable regular direct contact with a range of bodies. A number of these partnerships have actively engaged with the local plan process, and it has been a regular item on the agenda at meetings to discuss emerging evidence and specific issues.

6.3 A log of the meetings that have taken place between the Council and its duty to co-operate partners are attached at **Annex A**.

6.4 In addition, a number of strategies and evidence-based documents that inform the review of the Local Plan and address cross boundary strategic matters were produced by or commissioned by at least one prescribed body for the duty to co-operate. A table of these strategies and studies are listed in **Annex B**.

## 7. Statements of Common Ground

7.1 Following a review of the cross boundary strategic issues and representations received to date in response to the local plan consultations and on-going partnership meetings, Lichfield District Council will produce Statements of Common Ground with the following partners:

- Local authorities within the Greater Birmingham Housing Market Area
- Local authorities within the Black Country Housing Market Area
- Local authorities within the Cannock Chase SAC Partnership
- Natural England
- Historic England

7.2 These Statements of Common Ground will cover cross boundary issues including contribution towards meeting the HMA shortfall, Cannock Chase SAC, HRA, transport as well as other matters.

## 8. Conclusions

8.1 Lichfield District Council has actively engaged with neighbouring authorities, stakeholders and partners throughout the preparation of the Local Plan 2040 and discussed with them all strategic matters.

8.2 This report, along with the Authority Monitoring Report, Consultation Statement and the Statements of Common Ground demonstrate how the council has complied with its duty to co-operate and will be used during Examination in Public to demonstrate how the Local Plan 2040 is based on effective joint working across local authority boundaries.

## 9. Update to Wider Duty to Cooperate Statement in Response to PINS initial letter

Following submission of the Local Plan, the appointed planning inspectors raised a number of queries in relation to the duty to cooperate in their initial letter of the 8<sup>th</sup> August 2022. They requested that the responses be set out in an updated wider Duty to Cooperate Statement. Accordingly, the following narrative sets out the queries raised in relation to the Duty to Cooperate and Lichfield District Council's response of the 20<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

### Inspectors' request

What were the main mechanisms that were used to engage constructively, actively and ongoing basis with the relevant local planning authorities and other prescribed bodies to address the strategic matters during the preparation of the Local Plan?

### Response

The main mechanisms for engagement have been via:

- The Greater Birmingham & Black Country HMA group which meets on a monthly basis regarding housing and employment needs and evidence base collection matters. An annual position statement is prepared and agreed by all authorities whilst work is in progress to prepare a SoCG for the group members. The latest position statement of the HMA group has been submitted to the Examination.
- North Warwickshire BC and Tamworth BC have worked together since an MoU was drawn up for collaborative working for the previous Local Plan iterations. Monthly meetings of Lichfield District Council with North Warwickshire BC and Tamworth BC as a group have therefore been held to cooperate on evidence base collection on cross boundary issues, and to address DTC matters. Joint evidence includes the GTAA study and in respect of Flood risk evidence across LDC & Tamworth. A SoCG with Tamworth BC has officer agreement LDC member delegated sign off and is currently going through political sign off process by Tamworth BC. North Warwickshire has not objected to the Local Plan 2040.
- Monthly meetings of the Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation partnership to agree evidence base collection and to agree on memorandums of understanding / financial agreements / strategies to mitigate any harmful impacts on the Cannock Chase SAC. The Associated MoU and financial agreement has been submitted to the EIP. The partnership includes neighbouring competent authorities (Stafford Borough Council, Cannock Chase Borough Council, South Staffordshire District Council, East Staffordshire District Council,



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Lichfield District Council, and Wolverhampton MBC) and Natural England in an observer / adviser capacity. In addition, Walsall MBC officers have attended the meetings as they fall within 15km of the SAC, the distance at which evidence indicates visitor impacts from new development need to be mitigated, though Walsall MBC have not been signatories to the Cannock Chase SAC partnership. Following recent updating of the evidence base on visitor impacts, Walsall has in September 2022 agreed officially to join the partnership.

- Monthly meetings of the River Mease SAC partnership made up of competent authorities (North West Leicestershire DC, South Derbyshire DC and Lichfield DC, Natural England, Environment Agency and Severn Trent as the regional water authority). Associated ToR and financial contributions documents that have been agreed are submitted to the EIP.
- Bespoke engagement meetings with Natural England to gain agreement via a SoCG most particularly on addressing their representations related to air quality matters.
- Bespoke engagement with Historic England to gain agreement via a SoCG on DtC matters, most particularly related to the impacts of the Strategic allocations on identified Heritage assets. Resourcing issues for HE has resulted in delay of progress in agreement.
- Engagement meetings between LDC, SCC and IM land traffic consultants in relation to mitigation of impacts on junctions affected by the Strategic allocation SHA1 supplemented by additional meetings between LDC and SCC in relation to traffic mitigation matters and education matters.
- Engagement meetings with the separate authorities in the HMA who have raised representations on the Local Plan 2040 and which has led to SsoCG with South Staffordshire, Cannock Chase, Birmingham City, The Black Country plan authorities and Solihull MBC.
- Elected member sign-off of the SsoCG is agreed in respect of Birmingham, Stafford, South Staffordshire. Officer agreement has been reached in respect of Black Country authorities and Tamworth BC is awaiting elected member sign off through the committee process for the Black Country authorities and Tamworth BC.
- Officer agreement has been reached with Cannock Chase BC and is now being proposed for delegated cabinet member sign off.
- Detailed responses from Staffordshire County Council, Solihull MBC and Historic England have not been received. The delays appear to be due in part to resourcing issues in those organisations. The Council will need to seek to actively engage with the three organisations in order to elicit detailed responses, however, its own limited resources due to the need for staff recruitment may also impact on this process in the next 6 to 9 months

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#### Inspectors' request

Have any local planning authorities or other prescribed bodies made representations under Regulation 20, or subsequently in discussions about the Duty and development of Statements of Common Ground, that claim it has not been complied with?

#### Response

No. Matters of soundness have been raised, but no representations have been received in respect of concerns over the duty to cooperate.

#### Inspectors' request

What, if any, outstanding strategic matters are subject to ongoing discussions with any local planning authorities or other prescribed bodies and what is the latest position with regard to those?

#### Response

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Strategic matters remain in relation to the level of unmet need LDC is providing to the Greater Birmingham & Black Country, these are likely to be matters to be discussed at the EIP.

Separately, Tamworth BC raise concerns in relation to the Fazeley allocation in respect of transport issues and social infrastructure provision which are also likely to be matters discussed at the EIP

Natural England raise the concern about impact on to the Cannock Chase SAC from air quality from NoX and Ammonia as it cannot be ruled out due to a lack of evidence. There is agreement through the SoCG that both parties will seek to address these concerns in the run up to the EIP.

Historic England raise concerns, most particularly whether the recommendations of the Heritage Impact Assessments commissioned by the Council will be taken fully on board. Again, there is commitment from both parties to work together on these matters. Historic England have indicated they will provide further comments on the working draft SoCG as soon as possible.

Detail on the solutions to mitigate the impacts of traffic generated from the North of Lichfield SHA1 and Fradley SHA3 allocations established by the Traffic Modelling study work is still to be finalised. SCC highways, and the land promoter for SHA1 and LDC continue to work together to progress this work which when addressed will be indicated in the updated SoCG with Staffordshire County Council. Due to resourcing issues this is now likely to be completed in the next 6 to 9 months

#### Inspectors' request

- a) A number of Statements of Common Ground have been provided in draft or with officer agreement only, while others are awaited. Have signed Statements of Common Ground now been secured between the Council and all relevant parties?

#### Response

Birmingham City Council, Stafford Borough Council and South Staffordshire District Council are now formally agreed.

Tamworth Borough Council and the Black Country authorities (Walsall, Wolverhampton, Dudley and Sandwell) SsoCG are agreed at officer level and have the delegated approval of Lichfield's cabinet member. Tamworth and the Black Country authorities are taking the respective SsoCG through their respective committee processes for final approval.

Cannock Chase Borough Council have now agreed a SoCG at officer level and now just requires delegated sign off by the relevant member.

The SoCG between Lichfield District Council and Natural England is agreed. It is recognised by both parties that a further iteration will be prepared in the run up to the EIP.

Detailed responses from Staffordshire County Council, Solihull MBC and Historic England have not been received. The delays appear to be due in part to resourcing issues in those organisations. The Council will need to seek to actively engage with the three organisations in order to elicit detailed responses, however, its own limited resources due to the need for staff recruitment may also impact on this process.

#### Inspectors' request

e) Are there any significant concerns expressed by interested parties regarding the Duty which remain a matter of dispute?

Response

The level of unmet housing need remains an issue for the Black Country Authorities, South Staffordshire and Solihull with the authorities wanting Lichfield DC to increase the contribution it makes to meeting unmet need from 2,655 (of which 2000 dwellings are committed towards meeting the unmet need of the Black Country) to 4,500 which they consider as a more appropriate figure. Birmingham's position on housing provision is that reserves the right to raise similar points in order to address its own future anticipated unmet needs.

The Black Country authorities have also made representations that Lichfield DC should make a contribution toward meeting some of its unmet employment need.

The Location of housing allocation SHA2, and a mechanism to meet infrastructure requirements within Tamworth if the allocation is to proceed remains an outstanding issue for Tamworth BC.

The traffic modelling report in respect of the implications from the SHA1 North of Lichfield Allocation has been received. However, subsequent work continues on the detail of highway mitigation solutions between the land promoter and Staffordshire County Council.

For Natural England, the absence of road transport modelling and air quality assessment remains a concern in respect of the Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation (SAC). The Cannock Chase SAC partnership and Natural England continue to work together on progressing a way forward to address the concern. In respect of the River Mease, good progress is being made in respect of the 'pump out scheme' which will remove effluent discharging from two of the main treatment works in the catchment (Packington and Measham). This is progressing well and is due to be complete by 2027. In the short term, North West Leicestershire DC has taken the leading role for the catchment and is commissioning a consultant (DTA Ecology) to undertake works to develop a new strategic mitigation scheme.

For Historic England, following review of the Heritage Impact Assessments on the four Strategic SHA allocations accompanying the publication version of the Local Plan 2040, the level of impact and further detail required in respect of proposed solutions remains to be agreed.

Inspectors' request 2

SD1-8a makes repeated reference to the development and agreement of strategies and plans in relation to matters such as the A5, the Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the Cannock Chase and River Mease Special Areas of Conservation (SAC). What progress has been made on these strategies and plans?

Response

The following documents are agreed between the relevant parties, and are to be provided to the Examination as requested.

- A5 Strategy
- Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Business Plan and Annual Update.
- Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation (SAC) MoU & Financial Agreement
- River Mease MoU, Developer Contributions 2\*.

\*NB -- The River Mease partnership has now engaged the consultant DTA who will be looking at the following:

- the two options for addressing nutrient impacts from phosphorous on the SAC from new development (e.g. a Developer Contributions<sup>3</sup> or a nutrient neutrality mitigation strategy, or a blended approach).
- Consideration will be given to implications of each and potential for a blended approach. Matters of implementation, oversight and delivery will be considered. Pros and cons of options will be identified and recommendations will be made;
- The scope, confidence and delivery of mitigation measures which might be relied upon to enable development to come forwards;

Options and recommendations for a mitigation strategy.

It is anticipated that the partnership will be getting the report back from DTA by the end of November covering these matters and which then be used to develop either a Developer Contributions 3 mitigation strategy or a nutrient neutrality mitigation strategy. The precise detail on the timing for the preparation of these strategies remains to be determined.

#### Inspectors' Request

g) SD1-8a refers to various memoranda of understanding and supporting documents with regard to cross-boundary strategic matters. What status do these documents have and should they be provided to the Examination?

#### Response

The documents have been approved by each Council's cabinet and signed by lead members. Financial agreements have been signed & sealed by each authority. In respect of the Cannock Chase SAC, since the Lichfield Local Plan has been submitted, Walsall MBC cabinet at its meeting of the 7<sup>th</sup> September 2022 has agreed to join the partnership and abide by the Memorandum of Understanding and Financial Agreement. The process for the actual documents to be updated to reflect this decision still needs to take place.

#### Inspectors' Request

h) Please address matters a-g as part of a single further Duty to Co-operate statement

#### Response

The wider Duty to Cooperate Statement has been updated accordingly.

## Annex A – Duty to Cooperate Meeting Log as at April 2022

Date	Title/Attendees	Purpose of meeting
10/04/2018	AONB Officer Working group	To develop and agree strategies and plans consistent with AONB designation and to mitigate impact from development.
12/04/2018	Cannock Chase SAC Partnership (CCSAC)	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
16/04/2018	Greater Birmingham Housing Market Area (GBHMA) Meeting	To debate and agree on cross boundary evidence collection and approaches to meeting housing need across the Birmingham & Black Country HMA
03/05/2018	Cannock Chase SAC JSB	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
15/05/2018	Meeting with Stafford BC	Duty to Cooperate general discussion
23/05/2018	AONB Officer Working Group	To develop and agree strategies and plans consistent with AONB designation and to mitigate impact from development.
24/05/2018	Meeting with North West Leicestershire DC	DTC matters and Junction 11 of the A/M42
25/05/2018	Chaseline Workshop	To work with neighbouring authorities to support the long term aspirations for improved use of the Chase Line in the interests of sustainable development
29/05/2018	Sport England	Duty to Cooperate general discussion
30/05/2018	Cannock Chase District Council	General discussion regarding Duty to Cooperate and joint evidence.
06/06/2018	Birmingham City Council	Representation to Lichfield DC Local Plan Review Scope Issues and Options
07/06/2018	Rugeley Power Station Task Force meeting	To deliver coordinated development delivery across local authority boundaries
07/06/2018	CCSAC Partnership	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
12/06/2018	DTC Tamworth, North Warks, LDC	Discussion relating to DTC matters, Infrastructure Study and Statement of Common Ground
15/06/2018	River Mease Programme Board	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
21/06/2018	AONB Joint Committee	To develop and agree strategies and plans consistent with AONB designation and to mitigate impact from development.
29/06/2018	A5 Member Transport Partnership Group	Develop A5 strategy and ensure joined up working by partners to deliver A5 improvements
05/07/2018	CCSAC Partnership	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
11/07/2018	Meeting with Telford Council	Duty to Cooperate general discussion

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12/07/2018	GBHMA Meeting	To debate and agree on cross boundary evidence collection and approaches to meeting housing need across the Birmingham & Black Country HMA
25/07/2018	Meeting with Tamworth BC	Statement of Common Ground
02/08/2018	CCSAC Partnership	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
10/08/2018	AONB Meeting	To develop and agree strategies and plans consistent with AONB designation and to mitigate impact from development.
29/08/2018	Tamworth Borough Council & North Warwickshire Borough Council	Discussion around local plan, Statement of Common Ground, Infrastructure Study, Local Plan evidence base, HEDNA and GTAA.
06/09/2018	CCSAC Partnership	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
08/09/2018	Tamworth BC, North Warwickshire BC	Statement of Common Ground signed in relation to housing and employment growth
20/09/2018	AONB Meeting	To develop and agree strategies and plans consistent with AONB designation and to mitigate impact from development.
22/09/2018	Staffordshire County Council	Education evidence
04/10/2018	CCSAC Partnership & JSB	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
11/10/2018	GBHMA meeting	To debate and agree on cross boundary evidence collection and approaches to meeting housing need across the Birmingham & Black Country HMA
07/11/2018	AONB Officer Working Group	To develop and agree strategies and plans consistent with AONB designation and to mitigate impact from development.
08/11/2018	CCSAC Partnership	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
22/11/2018	Staffordshire County Council	Transport Evidence
23/11/2018	A5 Transport Partnership Group	Develop A5 strategy and ensure joined up working by partners to deliver A5 improvements
23/11/2018	Staffordshire authorities	Ecological Joint approach
27/11/2018	Tamworth BC & North Warwickshire BC	General Duty to Cooperate discussion
03/12/2018	CCSAC Housing Growth Sub Group	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
06/12/2018	AONB Meeting	To develop and agree strategies and plans consistent with AONB designation and to mitigate impact from development.
06/12/2018	GBHMA Meeting	To debate and agree on cross boundary evidence collection and approaches to meeting housing need across the Birmingham & Black Country HMA
13/12/2018	CCSAC Partnership	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities

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10/01/2019	CCSAC Partnership and JSB	Circulation of signed Memorandum of Understanding for method statement
11/01/2019	River Mease Partnership Technical Group	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
25/01/2019	River Mease Partnership Programme Board	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
04/02/2019	BGBBCHMA Working Group	To debate and agree on cross boundary evidence collection and approaches to meeting housing need across the Birmingham & Black Country HMA
19/02/2019	DTC Meeting TBC/NWBC/LDC	Joint evidence base collection work and cross boundary issues discussion
01/03/2019	A5 Officer Group	Develop A5 strategy and ensure joined up working by partners to deliver A5 improvements
07/03/2019	CCSAC Partnership	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
12/03/2019	AONB Meeting Member Meeting	To develop and agree strategies and plans consistent with AONB designation and to mitigate impact from development.
21/03/2019	Tamworth BC & North Warwickshire BC	General Duty to Cooperate discussion
22/03/2019	A5 Transport Partnership Group	Develop A5 strategy and ensure joined up working by partners to deliver A5 improvements
25/03/2019	GBHMA Meeting	To debate and agree on cross boundary evidence collection and approaches to meeting housing need across the Birmingham & Black Country HMA
04/04/2019	CC SAC Partnership + JSB	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
11/04/2019	GBHMA Officer working group	To debate and agree on cross boundary evidence collection and approaches to meeting housing need across the Birmingham & Black Country HMA
12/04/2019	River Mease SAC Partnership Technical Group	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
18/04/2019	River Mease SAC Partnership Programme Board	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
02/05/2019	CCSAC Partnership	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
14/05/2018	AONB Officer Working Group	To develop and agree strategies and plans consistent with AONB designation and to mitigate impact from development
05/06/2019	GBHMA Meeting	To debate and agree on cross boundary evidence collection and approaches to meeting housing need across the Birmingham & Black Country HMA
06/06/2019	Cannock Chase SAC Meeting	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
28/06/2019	A5 Transport Partnership Meeting - Officers	Develop A5 strategy and ensure joined up working by partners to deliver A5 improvements

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12/07/2019	A5 Transport Meeting - Members	Develop A5 strategy and ensure joined up working by partners to deliver A5 improvements
12/07/2019	River Mease Partnership - Technical Group	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
18/07/2019	Cannock Chase DC	General Duty to Cooperate discussion
25/07/2019	Cannock Chase AONB Joint Committee	To develop and agree strategies and plans consistent with AONB designation and to mitigate impact from development
01/08/2019	Cannock Chase SAC Partnership	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
05/09/2019	Cannock Chase SAC Partnership	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
18/09/2019	River Mease Partnership - Programme Group	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
19/09/2019	GBHMA Meeting	To debate and agree on cross boundary evidence collection and approaches to meeting housing need across the Birmingham & Black Country HMA
03/10/2019	Cannock Chase SAC Partnership & JSB	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
04/10/2019	Cannock Chase AONB Annual Conference	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
08/10/2019	Tamworth BC & North Warwickshire BC	General Duty to Cooperate discussion
10/10/2019	River Mease SAC Partnership Technical Group	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
10/10/2019	Rugeley Power Station Task Group	To deliver coordinated development delivery across local authority boundaries
17/10/2019	River Mease SAC Partnership Programme Board	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
22/10/2019	South Staffs DC and Cannock Chase DC	General Duty to Cooperate meeting
24/10/2019	A5 Transport Partnership - Members meeting	Develop A5 strategy and ensure joined up working by partners to deliver A5 improvements
05/11/2019	Greater Birmingham HMA Meeting	To debate and agree on cross boundary evidence collection and approaches to meeting housing need across the Birmingham & Black Country HMA
07/11/2019	Cannock Chase SAC Partnership	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities



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03/12/2019	Tamworth BC & North Warwickshire BC	General Duty to Cooperate discussion
05/12/2019	AONB Joint Committee Meeting	To develop and agree strategies and plans consistent with AONB designation and to mitigate impact from development
11/12/2019	GBHMA meeting	To debate and agree on cross boundary evidence collection and approaches to meeting housing need across the Birmingham & Black Country HMA
12/12/2019	Cannock Chase SAC Partnership	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
10/01/2020	River Mease SAC Partnership Tech Group	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
13/01/2020	South Staffs DC & Cannock Chase DC	General Duty to Cooperate discussion
14/01/2020	Black Country Plan - Duty to Cooperate Meeting	Evidence launch
15/01/2020	Midlands Connect	Consider transport issues across the region and input into strategy development for bidding and planning for infrastructure needs
15/01/2020	River Mease SAC Partnership - Programme Board	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
17/01/2020	A5 Transport Partnership Officer Group	Develop A5 strategy and ensure joined up working by partners to deliver A5 improvements
28/01/2020	Tamworth BC & North Warwickshire BC	General Duty to Cooperate discussion
06/02/2020	Cannock Chase SAC Partnership and JSB	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
12/02/2020	GBHMA	GBBCHMA/WMCA monitoring meeting - discussion over current monitoring data, housing deal, local plan updates
3/03/2020	Cannock Chase AONB officer Group	To develop and agree strategies and plans consistent with AONB designation and to mitigate impact from development
5/03/2020	Cannock Chase SAC Partnership and JSB	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
11/03/2020	Staffordshire Development Officers Group	Meeting of Heads of Local Plan policy across Staffordshire and SCC to discuss and agree cross boundary working approaches to evidence collection, responding to government consultations and other planning issues such as health provision infrastructure etc.
16/03/2020	River Mease partnership	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
24/03/2020	Tamworth BC & North Warwickshire BC	Email update - Evidence base updates - GTAA & Infrastructure study, local plan updates
27/04/2020	GBHMA	GBBCHMA/WMCA monitoring meeting - discussion over current monitoring data, housing deal, local plan updates

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02/06/2020	GBHMA	GBBCHMA/WMCA monitoring meeting - discussion over current monitoring data, housing deal, local plan updates
04/06/2020	Lichfield and Black Country DtC	Informal discussions re need and meeting unmet need re housing & employment.
10/06/2020	River Mease technical group	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
10/06/2020	Staffordshire Development Officers Group	Meeting of Heads of Local Plan policy across Staffordshire and SCC to discuss and agree cross boundary working approaches to evidence collection, responding to government consultations and other planning issues such as health provision infrastructure etc.
16/06/2020	LDC & Birmingham City	Discussion re HMA need and the GB&BCHMA position statement
18/06/2020	Cannock Chase SAC Partnership	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
19/06/2020	River Mease JSB	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
Jun-20	Tamworth BC & North Warwickshire BC	Email update - Evidence Base Updates - GTAA & Green Belt Review, LP updates, Coronavirus impact on LP processes/appeals
01/07/2020	Cannock Chase AONB officer Group	To develop and agree strategies and plans consistent with AONB designation and to mitigate impact from development
3/07/2020	River Mease tech group	Telecon update
14/07/2020	Lichfield and Black Country DtC	Informal discussions re need and meeting unmet need re housing & employment.
16/07/2020	Cannock Chase AONB JSB	To develop and agree strategies and plans consistent with AONB designation and to mitigate impact from development
23/07/2020	Tamworth BC & North Warwickshire BC	Zoom meeting - Evidence Base Updates - GTAA, Green Belt Review & Infrastructure Study, LP updates, Coronavirus impacts on LP processes/appeals
06/08/2020	Cannock Chase SAC Partnership	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
03/09/2020	Lichfield and Black Country DtC	Informal discussions re need and meeting unmet need re housing & employment.
04/09/2020	Black Country Plan - Duty to Cooperate Meeting	General Duty to Cooperate discussion
9/09/2020	Staffordshire Development Officers Group	Meeting of Heads of Local Plan policy across Staffordshire and SCC to discuss and agree cross boundary working approaches to evidence collection, responding to government consultations and other planning issues such as health provision infrastructure etc
10/09/2020	Cannock Chase SAC Partnership	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
14/09/2020	GBHMA	Discussion re Standard Method for LHN

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16/09/2020	Tamworth BC & North Warwickshire BC	Zoom meeting - Evidence Base Updates- GTAA, Green Belt Review & Infrastructure Study, LP updates, Coronavirus impacts on LP processes/appeals
8/10/2020	Cannock Chase SAC Partnership	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
8/10/2020	Tamworth BC & North Warwickshire BC	Zoom meeting - Evidence Base Update, LP Updates - LDC made others aware that draft local plan was reported to cabinet, Coronavirus impacts on LP processes/appeals
25/11/20	Cannock Chase AONB working group	To develop and agree strategies and plans consistent with AONB designation and to mitigate impact from development
06/11/2020	Tamworth BC & North Warwickshire BC	Zoom meeting - Evidence Base Updates - SHLAA's, ELAA, SFRA, Staffordshire Climate Change, LP updates, Coronavirus impacts on LP processes/appeals
03/12/2020	GBHMA	GBBCHMA/WMCA monitoring meeting - discussion over current monitoring data, housing deal, local plan updates
08/01/2021	Tamworth BC & North Warwickshire BC	Zoom meeting - Evidence Base Updates - SHLAA's, ELAA, SFRA, Staffordshire Climate Change, LP updates, Coronavirus impacts on LP processes/appeals
14/01/2021	Cannock Chase SAC Partnership	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
02/02/2021	Cannock Chase SAC Partnership visitor sub-group	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
18/02/2021	LDC & Solihull DtC	Focus on SoCG for Solihull
08/03/2021	Tamworth BC & North Warwickshire BC	Zoom meeting - Evidence Base Update, LP Updates - LDC made others aware that draft local plan was reported to cabinet, Coronavirus impacts on LP processes/appeals
08/04/2021	Cannock Chase SAC Partnership	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
14/05/2021	Cannock Chase SAC Partnership	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
08/06/2021	Tamworth BC & North Warwickshire BC	Zoom meeting - Evidence Base Update, LP Updates - NWBC inspectors report expected shortly, Coronavirus impacts on LP processes/appeals
09/06/2021	Black Country Plan - Duty to Cooperate Meeting for whole HMA	General discussion re need
10/06/2021	Cannock Chase SAC Partnership	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
15/06/2021	GBHMA Meeting	Discussion over update to position statement to 2019/20 base date, strategic employment study, approaches to shortfall and implications at forthcoming examinations.
16/06/21	Staffordshire Development Officers Group	Meeting of Heads of Local Plan policy across Staffordshire and SCC to discuss and agree cross boundary working approaches to evidence collection, responding to government consultations and other planning issues such as health provision infrastructure etc.

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05/07/21	River Mease Programme Board	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
08/07/2021	Tamworth BC & North Warwickshire BC	General Duty to Cooperate discussion
12/07/2021	Cannock Chase AONB Joint Committee	To develop and agree strategies and plans consistent with AONB designation and to mitigate impact from development
12/07/2021	Staffordshire County Council	Highways Evidence
14/07/2021	Staffordshire County Council	Education needs
26/07/2021	Tamworth BC & LDC DtC	Presentation to Tamworth BC full Council on reg 19 plan
29/07/2021	LDC & South Staffs DtC	Discussion re LDC reg 19 consultation
04/08/21	Cannock Chase SAC Partnership JSB	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
12/08/21	Cannock Chase SAC Partnership Project Group	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
01/09/21	GBSLEP Planning Sub Group	Introduce LDC Local Plan manager to the group taking over from current attendance by Head of Economic Growth & Development Work through terms of reference and future work to be considered.
08/09/21	Tamworth BC & North Warwickshire BC	General Duty to Cooperate discussion
08/09/21	Staffordshire Development Officers Group	Meeting of Heads of Local Plan policy across Staffordshire and SCC to discuss and agree cross boundary working approaches to evidence collection, responding to government consultations and other planning issues such as health provision infrastructure etc.
09/09/21	Cannock Chase SAC Partnership Project Group	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
15/09/21	Tamworth BC	General Duty to Cooperate discussion
07/10/21	Cannock Chase SAC Partnership Project Group	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities

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08/10/21	Tamworth BC & North Warwickshire BC	General Duty to Cooperate discussion
11/10/21	Staffordshire County Council	Transport evidence
19/10/21	Greater Birmingham and Black Country Housing Market Area monitoring meeting	To debate and agree on cross boundary evidence collection and approaches to meeting housing need across the Birmingham & Black Country HMA
8/11/2021	LDC & Birmingham City	Cross boundary & GB&BC need discussions
9/11/2021	LDC & South Staffs DC	Cross boundary & GB&BC need discussions
10/11/2021	LDC & Cannock DC	Cross boundary & GB&BC need discussions
10/11/2021	LDC & Stafford Borough DC	Cross boundary & GB&BC need discussions
11/11/2021	Cannock Chase SAC Partnership Project Group	To develop and agree strategies and plans to deliver mitigation from development for the SAC area by competent authorities
18/11/2021	Tamworth & LDC	Cross boundary & GB&BC need discussions
18/11/2021	LDC & Natural England	SAC designation and air quality discussions
22/11/2021	Black Country & LDC	Cross boundary & GB&BC need discussions
23/11/2021	Staffordshire CC & LDC	Local Plan discussions

NB - In addition to the above, LDC & Staffordshire CC have held joint meetings with allocated site promoters as and when requested / required.

## Annex B – Jointly Produced Strategies and Evidence

Project / Strategy	Commissioned / Produced by	Purpose
Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment	Lichfield District Council and Tamworth Borough Council commissioned GL Hearn to undertake the study	To identify the size, type and tenure of homes and employment requirements that will be need in the future across the plan period to 2040, and the housing needs of different groups including affordable housing. This is within the context of the minimum number of homes for each authority required under the standard method for calculating local housing need using the methodology set out in the Planning Practice Guidance.
Infrastructure Delivery Plan	Lichfield District Council in cooperation with a range of infrastructure providers	The IDP identifies deficiencies and surpluses of infrastructure and looks at what is require in the future, when it will be required, who is responsible for providing it, how it will be funded and any funding gaps.
Transport Assessment	Lichfield District Council in cooperation with Staffordshire County Council and Highways England	The Transport Assessment provides transport evidence to support of emerging Local Plan.
Joint Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment	Lichfield District Council together with South Staffordshire Councils commissioned JBA to produce the assessment	The SFRA assesses the risk of flooding to the area from all sources, now and in the future, taking account of the impacts of climate change
Cannock Chase SAC	Lichfield District Council form part of the Cannock Chase SAC Partnership who commissioned Footprint Ecology to undertake evidence base reports on visitor impacts	The partnership has a MoU. The report provides the background and evidence base to inform the action needed to mitigate any impacts from visitors from new development.
Birmingham HMA Strategic Growth Options Study	Lichfield District along with other authorities in the Greater Birmingham HMA informed the Strategic Growth Options study undertaken by GL Hearn	The Growth Options Study provided a high level assessment to identify potential growth options for housing development within each authorities in the Birmingham HMA to contribute towards meeting the housing shortfall
A5 partnership	Lichfield District in partnership with 15 other authorities that have the A5 running through supported by Highways England and Midlands Connect.	The partnerships raises awareness of the importance of the increasing economic role of the A5 through the Midlands and collaborates to effectively plan for growth impacts affecting the A5 and to develop a strategy for the A5.

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Chase Line Stakeholder Meetings	Cannock Chase DC, Lichfield DC, South Staffs and Staffordshire County Council alongside other stakeholders such as West Midlands Rail Executive, West Midlands Trains and other community groups	Stakeholder meetings provide updates on issues and improvements relating to the Chase Line Rail service.
Cannock Chase AONB	Lichfield District along with the AONB partnership	The group has a MoU and has a commitment in the adopted and emerging Local Plan to work together on management for the AONB. A number of documents are being co-prepared to assist with land management. The authority also provided support for developing strategies and funding initiatives
River Mease	Lichfield District along with the other members of the River Mease SAC partnership North west Leicestershire, South Derbyshire, Environment Agency, Severn Trent and Natural England	The partnership has a MoU and works collaboratively undertaking survey work to establish river quality, flow and on mitigation solutions via developer contributions.
Climate Change adaption & Mitigation Study	Staffordshire District and City Councils and Staffordshire Country Council	Joint study commissioned on climate change adaption & mitigation to inform Local Plan policies and Strategies.