

# Melton Local Plan Update



## Statement of Compliance with the Duty to Cooperate

January 2025

### 1. Introduction

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- 1.1. The purpose of this Statement of Compliance is to demonstrate how the Council has met the requirements of the Duty to Cooperate in the production of the Melton Local Plan Partial Update. This statement is being issued alongside the Pre-Submission Melton Local Plan Update which is published for its Regulation 19 public consultation.
- 1.2. The Duty to Cooperate was introduced by the Localism Act 2011 and is set out in section 33A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. It places a legal duty on local planning authorities, county councils in England and prescribed public bodies to engage constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis to maximise the effectiveness of local plan preparation in the context of strategic cross boundary matters.
- 1.3. The Duty to Cooperate is not a duty to agree, however planning authorities are expected to make every effort to secure the necessary cooperation in strategic cross boundary matters before they submit their local plans for examination. Demonstrating that the Duty has been complied with is a fundamental first stage of

the examination process, and if a local planning authority cannot demonstrate this then the local plan will not be able to progress through examination (the Inspector would recommend non-adoption).

1.4. [The Town and Country Planning \(Local Planning\) \(England\) Regulations 2012](#) as amended, lists the following prescribed bodies:

- The Environment Agency
- The Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England (known as English Heritage)
- Natural England
- The Mayor of London
- The Civil Aviation Authority
- The Homes and Communities Agency
- Each integrated care board established under Chapter A3 of Part 2 of the National Health Service Act 2006
- NHS England
- The Office of Rail and Road
- Transport for London
- Each Integrated Transport Authority
- Each highway authority within the meaning of section 1 of the Highways Act 1980 (including the Secretary of State, where the Secretary of State is the highways authority)
- The Marine Management Organisation

1.5. Some of them such as the Mayor of London, the Integrated Transport Authority or the Marine Management Organisation are not applicable in the borough of Melton. Some of the remaining prescribed bodies might not be relevant to the preparation of the Local Plan Update.

1.6. The [Statement of Community Involvement 2023](#) identifies the following Duty to Cooperate partners for Melton:

1.7. Local Authorities within the Housing Market Area:

- Blaby District Council
- Charnwood Borough Council
- Harborough District Council
- Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council
- Leicester City Council

- Leicestershire County Council
- North West Leicestershire District Council
- Oadby and Wigston Borough Council

1.8. And the adjoining authorities outside the Housing Market Area:

- Lincolnshire County Council
- Newark and Sherwood District Council
- Nottinghamshire County Council
- Rushcliffe Borough Council
- Rutland County Council
- South Kesteven District Council

1.9. From the prescribed bodies covered in The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, the following are considered relevant to Melton:

- Environment Agency
- English Heritage (now Historic England)
- Natural England
- Homes England
- East Leicestershire & Rutland Clinical Commissioning Group and South Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group (now Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Integrated Care Board and Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board)
- NHS England
- Highways England (now National Highways)
- Sport England
- Office of Rail and Road
- Network Rail

1.10. Local Authorities must have regard to Local Enterprise Partnerships and Local Nature Partnerships activities, so long as these activities are relevant to plan-making. In the absence of a Local Nature Partnership (the Leicester and Leicestershire LNP does not exist anymore), Leicestershire County Council are consulted. The Leicester and Leicestershire Local Enterprise Partnership was consulted at pre-regulation 18 stage, but it needs to be noted that its functions were transferred to the control of Leicester City Council and Leicestershire County Council on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2024, and these were consulted at pre-Regulation 19 stage.

1.11. The National Planning Policy Framework sets out that authorities should prepare Statements of Common Ground, throughout the plan-making process to evidence effective joint working on cross-boundary strategy matters.

## 2. Melton Local Plan Update preparation

2.1. Relevant bodies have been consulted during the preparation of the Local Plan Update. The following formal and informal consultations have been carried out:

Stage	Date	Relevant bodies <sup>1</sup>	Content
Pre-regulation 18 consultation (Local Plan Review)	Jun 2023	EA, NE, HE, ICBs, SE, NH, LLEP, LCC, Neighbouring LAs and County Councils	Informal. Request for general comments. Email sent on 16/05/2023.
Pre-regulation 18 consultation (Local Plan Review)	Jun 2023	LAs within HMA, LCC	Informal. Request for general comments and overview of the conclusions for Policy SS2 before its publication. Email sent on 16/05/2023.
Pre-regulation 18 consultation (Local Plan Review)	Jul 2023	EA, NE, HE, ICBs, SE, NH, LLEP, LCC, Neighbouring LAs and County Councils, LAs within HMA, LCC	Informal. Conclusions of the Melton Local Plan Review shared in advanced. Email sent on 25/07/2023.
Regulation 18 consultation	Nov-Jan 2023-24	Public consultation	Formal. Consultation on the Issues and Options. Started on 06/11/2023 (until 07/01/2024).
Pre-regulation 19 Duty to Cooperate meeting	Oct 2024	EA, NE, HE, ICBs, NHSE, SE, NH, LLEP, LCC, Neighbouring LAs and County Councils, LAs within HMA, LCC	Informal. Duty to Cooperate-specific meeting led by the Council. Consequential and alternative meetings scheduled as needed.
Regulation 19 consultation (current stage)	Jan-Mar 2025	Public consultation	Formal. Consultation on the Pre-Submission Local Plan Update.

<sup>1</sup> Where EA stands for Environment Agency; NE for Natural England, HE for Historic England; ICB for Integrated Care Board; NHSE for National Health Service England; SE for Sport England; NH for National Highways; LLEP for Leicester and Leicestershire Local Enterprise Partnership; LCC for Leicestershire County Council; LA for Local Authority; and HMA for Housing Market Area

- 2.2. The outcomes of the Regulation 18 consultation are covered in the [Statement of Consultation](#). The engagement listed above, and any other informal engagement such as consultation on a specific matter or on a data-gathering exercise, is covered in more detail in [Section 6](#) of this report.
- 2.3. The Regulation 19 consultation will be followed by the Submission of the Local Plan Update to the Secretary of State and Planning Inspectorate, an independent Public Examination and the adoption of the Local Plan Update.

### 3. Pre-regulation 19 Duty to Cooperate meeting

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- 3.1. Duty to Cooperate partners identified in paragraphs 1.6 to 1.9 were invited to a meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October 2024. A total of 25 people attended, including representatives from the Environment Agency, Natural England, both ICBs, NHS England, National Highways, South Kesteven, Rutland, Blaby, Hinckley and Bosworth, Charnwood, North West Leicestershire, Harborough and Leicestershire County Council (planning, highways, Local Nature Recovery Strategy-related and Biodiversity Net Gain-related). Prior to this session, meetings with Homes England and Public Health (Leicestershire County Council) were held separately.
- 3.2. During the session, Melton Borough Council officers gave an overview of the progress made on the Local Plan Review and Update, and highlighted the following Duty to Cooperate-specific matters:
  - Local Plan Period: the Local Plan Update seeks to mirror the adopted Local Plan period to 2036. The reasons behind this choice were explored during the meeting (good plan performance, including the purpose of the stepped trajectory, changes in planning, political uncertainty, financial situation, alignment with other strategies, clarity on unmet needs post-2036 and the immediate need to focus on the Sustainable Neighbourhoods). A trajectory post 2036 was shared to give reassurance of housing delivery after 2036. It is expected for this matter to be covered in more detail in a Topic Paper, then a Statement of Common Ground with districts will be sought prior to examination. During the meeting the intention of starting a new Local Plan after this Update was reiterated to partners, and for this intention to be captured as part of the Plan's trigger policy (Policy SS6). No concerns were raised during the meeting.

- **Sustainable Neighbourhoods:** the issues in relation to viability and deliverability of the Melton South Sustainable Neighbourhood were covered during the meeting. The work to address these issues are through modelling, reaching common ground on viability and producing a masterplan. This is likely to be an iterative process, and it is likely to require further work after Regulation 19. The Council will seek a Statement of Common Ground prior to examination. Additionally, viability agreements (and disagreements) and sport pitches' deliverability may require additional Statements of Common Ground at different stages prior to submission. No concerns were raised during the meeting.
- **Employment Allocations:** there is an increased need of at least 5.26 hectares of industrial and warehousing land. At the time of the presentation, a site selection process was being undertaken and technical consultees, utility providers and landowners were consulted. One of the assessed sites is based north of Normanton which is in proximity to neighbouring authorities. The site selection process is operating on the basis that the employment allocation aspect of the Local Plan Update is unlikely to have cross boundary implications. No concerns were raised during the meeting; however, it was indicated by the Council that if the site north of Normanton is allocated, a Statement of Common Ground could be sought with neighbouring authorities depending on the potential cross boundary implications. In January 2025, the site-selection process recommended the allocation of three sites, but these do not include the site north of Normanton, therefore a Statement of Common Ground is not required.
- **Green Infrastructure:** An overview of the Council's approach to planning for Green Infrastructure was provided, which includes the requirement to plan strategically and across local authority boundaries, as outlined within the National Planning Policy Framework. Updated evidence has been prepared, which takes a collaborative approach with neighbouring authorities, Natural England and other partners and stakeholders utilising Natural England's recommended local authority process journey as set out within their published Green Infrastructure Framework. The updated evidence aligns with the work undertaken as part of the emerging Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland, which seeks to restore and enhance biodiversity at a strategic landscape scale. Public and stakeholder consultation has also been carried out through the evidence gathering process to inform the final study. No concerns were raised during the meeting.

- 3.3. Following the meeting, the presentation was circulated alongside an early draft version of the draft Pre-Submission Local Plan Partial Update document. This version did not include Policies SS4, SS5, IN1, EN7, EN8, EN9 and EN10, policies that were work in progress at that stage. These documents were sent alongside a request for comments, particularly critical comments, in the first weeks of November 2024.
- 3.4. Comments from the Environment Agency, Natural England, Sport England, Historic England, National Highways and Waste and Carbon (Leicestershire County Council) were received. No showstoppers were highlighted by these organisations. Most of the comments were incorporated and all of them addressed during the production of the Pre-Submission Local Plan Update. [Appendix 1](#) provides further details about these comments and the consequential action from the Council.

## 4. Evidence production

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- 4.1. Several evidence studies were produced during the Local Plan Update. These can be seen in the [Local Plan Website](#). During their production, a number of prescribed bodies and other critical stakeholders have been engaged, primarily in consultations during the draft stage.
- 4.2. [Appendix 2](#) summarises the level of engagement and who was consulted in the production of the studies. [Section 6](#) provides more detail where appropriate.
- 4.3. Additionally, other statutory and non-statutory relevant documents such as the [Housing Strategy 2021 – 2026](#), the [Climate Change Strategy 2024 – 2036](#), or the [Statement of Community Involvement 2023](#) have followed their own consultation processes and form the basis for some of the policy directions in the Local Plan Update.

## 5. Strategic Planning in Leicester and Leicestershire

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- 5.1. Local authorities across Leicester and Leicestershire have an extensive record of positive joint working over many years. This collaboration led into the preparation of a non-statutory Strategic Growth Plan (SGP) that was agreed and approved by all Leicester and Leicestershire local authorities and the Leicester and Leicestershire Local Enterprise Partnership in 2018.

- 5.2. The Strategic Growth Plan focused on delivering new housing, supporting the economy, identifying essential infrastructure, and protecting the environment and built heritage. Leicester and Leicestershire local authorities work collaboratively to address these strategic issues and implement the vision of the Strategic Growth Plan.
- 5.3. Joint strategic planning work is overseen by the Members' Advisory Group (MAG). The MAG comprises a councillor from each of the authorities and it meets on a regular basis, currently every two months. Any proposals or recommendations of the MAG pertaining to key strategic planning issues are subject to ratification by individual local authorities. It needs to be noted that from April 2024 most of the Leicester and Leicestershire Local Enterprise Partnership functions (which was represented at MAG) are covered by Leicestershire County Council and Leicester City Council.
- 5.4. MAG is supported by a Strategic Planning Group (SPG) made up of senior officer representatives responsible for overseeing strategic planning in each of the constituent authorities. SPG meets on a regular basis, currently monthly. The SPG is itself supported by further officer groups; including the Planning Officers' Forum (POF), which is a formal meeting of Chief Officers responsible for planning and transport services across Leicester and Leicestershire. The Forum provides professional advice to the SPG and is supported by joint officer level meetings, which includes managers responsible for planning and transportation policy within Leicester and Leicestershire.
- 5.5. The POF is also supported by the Task & Finish Group (T&F) which comprises senior officers that meet every week to work together on the strategic matters including housing, employment, transport and associated evidence studies. The T&F group supports and advises both POF and SPG.
- 5.6. The key strategic matter for Leicester and Leicestershire relates to housing and employment and involves a number of work streams to address the issue of unmet housing and employment arising in Leicester. This has involved collaborative working on the following studies:
  - [Housing and Economic Needs Assessment](#) (HENA) – a study to better understand the need for housing and employment land including the type and mix needed within Leicester and Leicestershire.



- [Sustainability Appraisal \(SA\)](#) – to appraise and inform the distribution options and scenarios considered in the Statement of Common Ground.
- [Strategic Transport Assessment \(STA\)](#) – to develop a series of growth scenarios to understand the impacts of growth on the transport network.
- [Strategic Growth Options and Constraints Mapping \(SGO\)](#) – to assess the potential of strategic sites in Leicestershire and understand the opportunities and constraints at a strategic scale.
- [Warehousing and Logistics in Leicester and Leicestershire: Managing growth and change – assesses the need for Large Warehousing and Logistics 2020 – 2041.](#)

5.7. Following completion of the [Housing and Economic Needs Assessment](#) and the [Sustainability Appraisal](#), Leicestershire local authorities have agreed options for accommodating the unmet need. A [Statement of Common Ground on the apportionment of Leicester’s unmet need](#) was first published in June 2022 and is now agreed by all the relevant local authorities.

5.8. Following this agreement, the [Strategic Growth Options and Constraints Mapping Study](#) and the [Strategic Transport Assessment \(Stage 1\)](#) were published in June 2024. This evidence is intended to support the delivery of the Strategic Growth Plan in the long-term.

5.9. The Strategic Growth Options and Constraints Mapping Study considers locational choices around delivery to 2050 and determines whether they offer suitable and appropriate solutions to deliver sustainable locations for new communities and economic growth. The Strategic Transport Assessment Stage 1 assesses and compares the respective transport implications of four different housing distribution scenarios between 2036 and 2051 to help identify how growth should be distributed across Leicester and Leicestershire in the long term.

## 6. Summary of Cooperation

Body	Strategic matters	Nature of cooperation	Outcomes of cooperation	Relevant documents
<p>Leicestershire County Council</p> <p>Leicester City Council</p> <p>Blaby DC</p> <p>Charnwood BC</p> <p>Harborough DC</p> <p>Hinckley and Bosworth BC</p> <p>North West Leicestershire DC</p> <p>Oadby and Wigston BC</p>	General	<p>Extensive, on-going and regular meetings within the strategic planning governance framework including weekly meetings with all Leicester and Leicestershire authorities since May 2021 in addition to monthly Planning Officer Forum, regular Strategic Planning Group and Member Advisory Group.</p> <p>Leicester City Council declared unmet needs in 2017 and quantified these in the draft local plan consultation in 2020. These figures were reviewed in the <a href="#">2021 Statement of Common Ground</a>.</p>	<p>Leicester and Leicestershire local authorities agreed a process and work programme for testing reasonable alternative options for meeting unmet needs.</p> <p>This led into the production of joint evidence to understand housing and employment needs in the medium term (to 2036) and the long term (to 2051).</p>	<p><a href="#">Housing and Economic Needs Assessment</a></p> <p><a href="#">Sustainability Appraisal</a></p> <p><a href="#">Strategic Growth Options and Constraints Mapping Study</a></p> <p><a href="#">Strategic Transport Assessment (Stage 1)</a></p>
<p>Leicestershire County Council</p> <p>Leicester City Council</p> <p>Blaby DC</p>	Local Plan Update – trigger policy	Melton Borough Council informally shared at Task and Finish a draft version of policy SS6. This was a similar version to the one in the Pre-Submission Plan. This is in	General informal agreement. Minor suggestions in relation to the inclusion of more specific criteria as part of the references to the NPPF criteria. Also, minor	Draft policy SS6

Body	Strategic matters	Nature of cooperation	Outcomes of cooperation	Relevant documents
Charnwood BC Harborough DC Hinckley and Bosworth BC North West Leicestershire DC Oadby and Wigston BC		response to some of the districts' comments, during Regulation 18, in relation to adding reference to collaborative planning and addressing unmet needs in the HMA as part of the trigger policy (SS6).	suggestions about the need for the reference to unmet needs in the Housing Market Area criteria to be more specific. Given that changes to the NPPF are expected and that the specificity of addressing unmet needs also relies on meeting potential transitional arrangements by different districts, it is reasonable to keep the criteria relatively flexible.	
Leicestershire County Council Leicester City Council Blaby DC Charnwood BC Harborough DC Hinckley and Bosworth BC North West Leicestershire DC	Housing and Employment Need	Extensive, on-going and regular meetings within the strategic planning governance framework including weekly meetings with all Leicester and Leicestershire authorities since May 2021 in addition to monthly Planning Officer Forum, regular Strategic Planning Group and Member Advisory Group.  Leicester City Council declared unmet needs in 2017 and quantified these in the	The production of the Housing and Economic Needs Assessment for the Housing Market Area alongside the Sustainability Appraisal to support it led into the production of a Statement of Common Ground on the apportionment of Leicester's unmet needs. The evidence and Statement of Common Ground has informed the Local Plan Review and the production of a trigger policy with more emphasis on collaborative planning to	Ongoing <a href="#">Statement of Common Ground on the apportionment of Leicester's unmet need</a> (June 2022 SoCG)  Policy SS6

Body	Strategic matters	Nature of cooperation	Outcomes of cooperation	Relevant documents
Oadby and Wigston BC		draft local plan consultation in 2020. These figures were reviewed in the <a href="#">2021 Statement of Common Ground</a> .	address unmet needs in the Housing Market Area.	
Leicestershire County Council Leicester City Council Blaby DC Charnwood BC Harborough DC Hinckley and Bosworth BC North West Leicestershire DC Oadby and Wigston BC	Strategic Warehousing Needs	Extensive, on-going and regular meetings within the strategic planning governance framework including weekly meetings with all Leicester and Leicestershire authorities since May 2021 in addition to monthly Planning Officer Forum, regular Strategic Planning Group and Member Advisory Group.	The production of the <a href="#">Warehousing and Logistics in Leicester and Leicestershire</a> report concluded that there is a need for warehouses floorspace in the strategic area. No Area of Opportunity identified in the borough of Melton.	<a href="#">Statement of Common Ground relating to Strategic Warehousing &amp; Logistics Need</a>
Leicestershire County Council Leicester City Council Blaby DC Charnwood BC	Leicester City Local Plan period	Extensive, on-going and regular meetings within the strategic planning governance framework including weekly meetings with all Leicester and Leicestershire authorities since May 2021 in addition to	General agreement to support Leicester City's plan period to 2036 given the multiple changing circumstances in the last few years and the critical role of Leicester City's Local Plan for	Ongoing <a href="#">Statement of Common Ground to support Progression of Local Plans in</a>

<b>Body</b>	<b>Strategic matters</b>	<b>Nature of cooperation</b>	<b>Outcomes of cooperation</b>	<b>Relevant documents</b>
Harborough DC Hinckley and Bosworth BC North West Leicestershire DC Oadby and Wigston BC		monthly Planning Officer Forum, regular Strategic Planning Group and Member Advisory Group.  Addressing the City's submission plan not covering a 15-year period for strategic policies as set out within the National Planning Policy Framework.	other districts in order to provide certainty to their local plans.	<a href="#">Leicester and Leicestershire</a>
Leicestershire County Council, Education	General	Pre-regulation 18.	No response.	N/A
Leicestershire County Council, Education	Melton South Sustainable Neighbourhood	Pre-regulation 19. Meeting between County, developers and Borough Council in order to unlock the viability of the MSSN.	Revised education requirements as incorporated to the policy.	Policy SS4
Leicestershire County Council, Education	General	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting.	No comments.	N/A
Leicestershire County Council, Highways	General	Pre-regulation 18.	No response.	N/A
Leicestershire County Council, Highways	Infrastructure, Accessibility and Parking	Pre-regulation 19. Requested clarification from LCC on parking standards and compliance with NPPF	LCC advised that the updated Leicestershire Highway Design Guide, due to be published for consultation, would overcome	Policy IN2

<b>Body</b>	<b>Strategic matters</b>	<b>Nature of cooperation</b>	<b>Outcomes of cooperation</b>	<b>Relevant documents</b>
		following Reg 18 consultation response.	NPPF compliance issue. The updated guide is referenced within updated policy IN2.	
Leicestershire County Council, Highways	Site Selection	Pre-regulation 19, Site Selection: the Council asked for feedback to help with the assessment of sites.	The scoring of sites reflects this feedback.	Site Selection Report
Leicestershire County Council, Highways	Melton South Sustainable Neighbourhood	Pre-regulation 19. Meeting between County, developers and Borough Council in order to unlock the viability of the MSSN.	Revised plan of work, modelling and requirements as incorporated to the policy.	Policy SS4
Leicestershire County Council, Highways	General	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting.	No comments.	N/A
Leicestershire County Council, Lead Local Flooding Authority	SFRA	Pre-regulation 19, SFRA production. Provision of information and data to inform the SFRA. Requested to review the draft SFRA Level 1 and Level 2.	Feedback to draft reports and conclusions for SFRA Level 1 and Level 2. Improve accuracy and quality of the SFRA. Provision of historic flooding information (database and PFRA, Section 19s, highways), asset register, highways flooding information, and SuDS guidance documents to inform the development of the SFRA. Undertook a formal review of the SFRA at draft stage for Level 1 and Level 2.	SFRA

<b>Body</b>	<b>Strategic matters</b>	<b>Nature of cooperation</b>	<b>Outcomes of cooperation</b>	<b>Relevant documents</b>
Leicestershire County Council, Lead Local Flooding Authority	Site Selection	Pre-regulation 19, Site Selection: the Council asked for feedback to help with the assessment of sites.	The scoring of sites reflects this feedback.	Site Selection Report
Leicestershire County Council, Lead Local Flooding Authority	General	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting.	No comments.	N/A
Leicestershire County Council, Minerals and Waste	Site Selection	Pre-regulation 19, Site Selection: the Council asked for feedback to help with the assessment of sites.	The scoring of sites reflects this feedback.	Site Selection Report
Leicestershire County Council, Minerals and Waste	General. Please see <a href="#">Appendix 1</a> .	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting. Several points raised. Please see <a href="#">Appendix 1</a> .	Please see <a href="#">Appendix 1</a> .	Please see <a href="#">Appendix 1</a> .
Leicestershire County Council, Archaeology	Site Selection	Pre-regulation 19, Site Selection: the Council asked for feedback to help with the assessment of sites.	The scoring of sites reflects this feedback.	Site Selection Report
Leicestershire County Council, Archaeology	General	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting.	No comments.	N/A
Leicestershire County Council, Local Nature	General	Pre-regulation 18.	No response.	N/A

<b>Body</b>	<b>Strategic matters</b>	<b>Nature of cooperation</b>	<b>Outcomes of cooperation</b>	<b>Relevant documents</b>
Recovery Strategy				
Leicestershire County Council, Local Nature Recovery Strategy	Site Selection	Pre-regulation 19, Site Selection: the Council asked for feedback to help with the assessment of sites.	The scoring of sites reflects this feedback.	Site Selection Report
Leicestershire County Council, Local Nature Recovery Strategy	Green Infrastructure	Pre-regulation 19, Green Infrastructure Strategy and Action Plan. Meeting to seek alignment between both and sharing resources.	LCC shared their mapping and GIS layers with the GI consultants. During the meeting it was discussed and agreed ways to align (as much as possible) both pieces of work. The production of the strategy was delayed being able to accommodate this alignment.	Green Infrastructure Strategy and Action Plan
Leicestershire County Council, Local Nature Recovery Strategy	General	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting.	No comments.	N/A
Leicestershire County Council, Biodiversity Net Gain	General	Pre-regulation 18.	No response.	N/A
Leicestershire County Council, Biodiversity Net Gain	General	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting.	No comments.	N/A



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Leicestershire County Council, Ecology	Site Selection	Pre-regulation 19, Site Selection: the Council asked for feedback to help with the assessment of sites.	The scoring of sites reflects this feedback.	Site Selection Report
Leicestershire County Council, Ecology	General	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting.	No comments.	N/A
Leicestershire County Council, Health	General	Pre-regulation 18.	No response.	
Leicestershire County Council, Public Health	General	Pre-regulation 18 and pre-regulation 19. Continuous engagement with Public Health to progress with the Local Plan Health policies and the integration of 'Health' as a core thread within the Local Plan.	Consideration of this feedback in the design policy and consideration for the whole local plan (core threading) supplemented by an in-depth evaluation of Health Impact Assessments in a later stage. Data provision from LCC.	Whole Local Plan (health as core thread)
Leicestershire County Council, Public Health	General	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting. Separate meeting on the 14 <sup>th</sup> October.	Agreement on sharing draft Plan as soon as possible, initial feedback from LCC prior to Reg 19 and strategic HIA after Reg19. Policies shared at various points prior to Reg19.	Whole Local Plan (health as core thread)
Leicestershire County Council, Public Health	Health Impact Assessment	Pre-regulation 19 DtC engagement. Seeking agreement for the approach with the Health Impact Assessment.	Agreed priority of policies to be assessed, circulation of policies from MBC. Public Health checked and confirmed with Leicester City and the TCPA that the 'sample'	Health Impact Assessment (post-Reg19)

Body	Strategic matters	Nature of cooperation	Outcomes of cooperation	Relevant documents
			approach is robust enough for examination.	
Leicestershire County Council, Planning	General	Pre-regulation 18.	No response.	N/A
Leicestershire County Council, Planning	General	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting.  Pre-regulation 19 correspondence (various)	Initially, no comments, but expectation to submit comments once policies SS4, SS5 and IN1 are shared.  Comments on these three policies were addressed and reshared.	Policies IN1, SS4 and SS5
Leicestershire County Council, Commissioning & Quality Team, Adult Social Care	Supported accommodation	Pre-regulation 19. Requested details of supported accommodation need and preferred types of accommodation.	Indicated that the Social Care Investment Programme/ Prospectus 2019-2037 is under review.  Small clusters of houses/bungalows. Self-contained blocks of a small number of flats.	Policy C2
Lincolnshire County Council	General	Pre-regulation 18.	No response.	N/A
Lincolnshire County Council	General	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting.	No response.	N/A
Nottinghamshire County Council	General	Pre-regulation 18.	No response.	N/A

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Nottinghamshire County Council	General	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting.	No response.	N/A
Rutland County Council	General	Pre-regulation 18.	No response.	N/A
Rutland County Council	SFRA	Provision of information and data to inform the Cumulative Impact Assessment (CIA) of the Level 1 SFRA. Consulted with as a neighbouring authority.	Ensure proper consideration of any cross-boundary flooding issues. To improve accuracy and quality of the SFRA. Provision of site allocation shapefiles to inform cross-boundary impacts and cumulative development, and historic flooding incidents to inform the analysis.	SFRA
Rutland County Council	General	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting.	No response.	N/A
Leicester City	Housing and Employment Need	Pre-regulation 18. Request from Leicester City for explicit commentary in relation to joint working and tackling unmet needs from the Housing Market Area.	Pre-regulation 18. Expectation to cover as part of the trigger policy. Explicit wording for policy SS6.	Policy SS6
Leicester City	General	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting.	No capacity to attend, but agreed to have separate meetings if strategic issues needed addressing.	N/A
Blaby District Council	General	Pre-regulation 18.	No response.	N/A

<b>Body</b>	<b>Strategic matters</b>	<b>Nature of cooperation</b>	<b>Outcomes of cooperation</b>	<b>Relevant documents</b>
Blaby District Council	General	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting.	No response.	N/A
Charnwood Borough Council	General	Pre-regulation 18. Following the Council's invite for comments on the Review document, Charnwood asked for clarification on the employment and the housing supply position.	MBC explained the intention to update the employment policies and added some wording to the document. Also, the housing trajectory was updated to cover more details about housing supply. 'No comments' afterwards when the draft Review document was sent.	<a href="#">5YHLS &amp; housing trajectory report (July 2024)</a>
Charnwood Borough Council	SFRA	Provision of information and data to inform the Cumulative Impact Assessment (CIA) of the SFRA. Consulted with as a neighbouring authority.	Ensure proper consideration of any cross-boundary flooding issues. To improve accuracy and quality of the SFRA. Provision of site allocation shapefiles to inform cross-boundary impacts and cumulative development, and historic flooding incidents to inform the analysis.	SFRA
Charnwood Borough Council	General	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting.	No response.	N/A
Harborough District Council	General	Pre-regulation 18.	No response.	
Harborough District Council	SFRA	Provision of information and data to inform the Cumulative Impact Assessment (CIA) of the SFRA. Consulted with as a neighbouring authority.	Ensure proper consideration of any cross-boundary flooding issues. To improve accuracy and quality of the SFRA. Provision of site allocation shapefiles to	SFRA

Body	Strategic matters	Nature of cooperation	Outcomes of cooperation	Relevant documents
			inform cross-boundary impacts and cumulative development, and historic flooding incidents to inform the analysis.	
Harborough District Council	General	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting.	No response.	N/A
Hinckley and Bosworth District Council	General	Pre-regulation 18.	Minor suggestions on the draft Review document sent and accepted by MBC.	<a href="#">Outcomes of the Melton Local Plan 5-year Review</a>
Hinckley and Bosworth District Council	General	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting.	No response.	N/A
North West Leicestershire District Council	General	Pre-regulation 18.	No response.	N/A
North West Leicestershire District Council	General	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting.	No response.	N/A
Oadby and Wigston Borough Council	General	Pre-regulation 18.	No response.	N/A
Oadby and Wigston Borough Council	General	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting.	No response.	N/A
South Kesteven District Council	General	Pre-regulation 18.	'No comments'.	N/A
South Kesteven District Council	SFRA	Provision of information and data to inform the Cumulative	Ensure proper consideration of any cross-boundary flooding	SFRA

<b>Body</b>	<b>Strategic matters</b>	<b>Nature of cooperation</b>	<b>Outcomes of cooperation</b>	<b>Relevant documents</b>
		Impact Assessment (CIA) of the SFRA. Consulted with as a neighbouring authority.	issues. To improve accuracy and quality of the SFRA, Provision of site allocation shapefiles to inform cross-boundary impacts and cumulative development, and historic flooding incidents to inform the analysis.	
South Kesteven District Council	General	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting.	No response.	N/A
Rushcliffe Borough Council	General	Pre-regulation 18.	'No comments'.	N/A
Rushcliffe Borough Council	SFRA	Provision of information and data to inform the Cumulative Impact Assessment (CIA) of the SFRA. Consulted with as a neighbouring authority.	Ensure proper consideration of any cross-boundary flooding issues. To improve accuracy and quality of the SFRA. Provision of site allocation shapefiles to inform cross-boundary impacts and cumulative development, and historic flooding incidents to inform the analysis.	SFRA
Rushcliffe Borough Council	General	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting.	No response.	N/A
Newark and Sherwood District Council	General	Pre-regulation 18.	No response.	N/A
Newark and Sherwood District Council	SFRA	Provision of information and data to inform the Cumulative Impact Assessment (CIA) of	Ensure proper consideration of any cross-boundary flooding issues. To improve accuracy and quality of the SFRA. Provision of	SFRA

<b>Body</b>	<b>Strategic matters</b>	<b>Nature of cooperation</b>	<b>Outcomes of cooperation</b>	<b>Relevant documents</b>
		the SFRA. Consulted with as a neighbouring authority.	site allocation shapefiles to inform cross-boundary impacts and cumulative development, and historic flooding incidents to inform the analysis.	
Newark and Sherwood District Council	General	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting.	No response.	N/A
Environment Agency	General	Pre-regulation 18.	'No comments' on the original email and the draft Review document.	N/A
Environment Agency	SFRA	Provision of information and data to inform the SFRA. Requested to review the draft SFRA Level 1 and Level 2.	Feedback to draft reports and conclusions for SFRA Level 1 and Level 2. Improve accuracy and quality of the SFRA. Provision of hydraulic models and outputs, communities at risk dataset, and schemes – planned/ in delivery, to inform the development of the SFRA.  Undertook a formal review of the SFRA at draft stage for Level 1 and Level 2.	SFRA
Environment Agency	Site Selection	Pre-regulation 19, Site Selection: the Council asked for feedback to help with the assessment of sites.	The scoring of sites reflects this feedback.	Site Selection Report

Body	Strategic matters	Nature of cooperation	Outcomes of cooperation	Relevant documents
Environment Agency	General. Please see <a href="#">Appendix 1</a> .	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting. Several comments raised. Please see <a href="#">Appendix 1</a> .	Please see <a href="#">Appendix 1</a> .	Please see <a href="#">Appendix 1</a> .
Historic England	General	Pre-regulation 18.	'No concerns' about not updating policy EN13 in relation to the draft Review document.	Policy EN13 not updated
Historic England	Site Selection	Pre-regulation 19, Site Selection: the Council asked for feedback to help with the assessment of sites.	The scoring of sites reflects this feedback.	Site Selection Report
Historic England	General. Please see <a href="#">Appendix 1</a> .	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting. Several comments raised. Please see <a href="#">Appendix 1</a> .	Please see <a href="#">Appendix 1</a> .	Please see <a href="#">Appendix 1</a> .
Natural England	General	Pre-regulation 18 (draft review conclusions). Suggestions for policies EN2, EN3, EN8 and D1.	Suggestions to the Review document but in relation to policies. Most of the comments have been incorporated to the policies (e.g., 10% minimum BNG, BNG hierarchy added) and others have been superseded by their regulation 18 consultation response.	Policies EN2, EN3, EN8 and D1
Natural England	SFRA	Provision of information to inform wider environmental opportunities, ongoing/potential NFM, strategic flood risk opportunities, flood alleviation schemes.	Improve accuracy and quality of the SFRA. Responded to acknowledge request however they did not have any information for us to include – they pointed us to the EA for this.	N/A



Body	Strategic matters	Nature of cooperation	Outcomes of cooperation	Relevant documents
Natural England	Site Selection	Pre-regulation 19, Site Selection: the Council asked for feedback to help with the assessment of sites.	The scoring of sites reflects this feedback.	Site Selection Report
Natural England	General. Please see <a href="#">Appendix 1</a> .	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting. Several comments raised. Please see <a href="#">Appendix 1</a> .	Please see <a href="#">Appendix 1</a> .	Please see <a href="#">Appendix 1</a> .
Homes England	General	Pre-regulation 18.	No response.	N/A
Homes England	Space Standards	Pre-regulation 19. Space Standards. Requested details of any Homes England requirements in regard to space standards.	Stated that homes funded through their Affordable Homes Programme to meet the Nationally Described Space Standards.	Policy C3
Homes England	Strategic Sites	Pre-regulation 19. In relation to identifying priority sites. Focused on North and South Sustainable Neighbourhoods.	Confirmed actions: availability of resources from Homes England and further details from Melton BC. Main focus on the South Sustainable Neighbourhood.	N/A
Homes England	General	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting.	No response.	N/A
Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Integrated Care Board	General	Pre-regulation 18 (draft review conclusions). Request from LLRICB for more information about the Policy direction for Health.	Information sent to LLRICB; no further response received.	N/A
Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Integrated Care Board	General	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting.	No response.	N/A

<b>Body</b>	<b>Strategic matters</b>	<b>Nature of cooperation</b>	<b>Outcomes of cooperation</b>	<b>Relevant documents</b>
Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board	General	Pre-regulation 18 (draft review conclusions). Incorrect reference to CCGs.	Amendment to refer to ICBs rather than CCGs.	<a href="#">Outcomes of the Melton Local Plan 5-year Review</a>
Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board	General	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting.	No response.	N/A
National Health Service (NHS)	General	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting.	No response.	N/A
National Highways	General	Pre-regulation 18.	No response.	N/A
National Highways	Site Selection	Pre-regulation 19, Site Selection: the Council asked for feedback to help with the assessment of sites.	The scoring of sites reflects this feedback.	Site Selection Report
National Highways	General. Please see <a href="#">Appendix 1</a> .	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting. Some comments raised. Please see <a href="#">Appendix 1</a> .	Please see <a href="#">Appendix 1</a> .	Please see <a href="#">Appendix 1</a> .
Sport England	General	Pre-regulation 18.	No response.	N/A
Sport England	General. Please see <a href="#">Appendix 1</a> .	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting. Some comments raised. Please see <a href="#">Appendix 1</a> .	Please see <a href="#">Appendix 1</a> .	Please see <a href="#">Appendix 1</a> .
Network Rail	General	Pre-regulation 18.	No response.	N/A
Network Rail	General	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting.	No response.	N/A
Office of Rail and Road	General	Pre-regulation 18.	No response.	N/A
Office of Rail and Road	General	Pre-regulation 19 DtC meeting.	No response.	N/A

<b>Body</b>	<b>Strategic matters</b>	<b>Nature of cooperation</b>	<b>Outcomes of cooperation</b>	<b>Relevant documents</b>
Leicester and Leicestershire Local Enterprise Partnership	General	Pre-regulation 18.	'No comments'.	N/A
Utility providers: Anglian Water, Severn Trent, British Gas, BT Group, Cadent Gas, Drainage Board, Energy Saving Trust, Mobile UK, National Grid, Western Power	Site Selection	Pre-regulation 19, Site Selection: the Council asked for feedback to help with the assessment of sites.	The scoring of sites reflects this feedback.	Site Selection Report
Severn Trent	SFRA	Provision of information and data to inform the SFRA. Consulted with as majority area Local Water Authority/sewer network provider.	Improve accuracy and quality of the SFRA. Provision of historic flooding incidents (from sewers) and information from DWMP to inform the development of the SFRA.	SFRA
Anglian Water	SFRA	Provision of information and data to inform the SFRA. Consulted with as cover part of the area as water/sewerage provider.	Improve accuracy and quality of the SFRA. Provision of historic flooding incidents (from sewers) and information from DWMP to inform the development of the SFRA – no response after various emails from the consultants.	SFRA

<b>Body</b>	<b>Strategic matters</b>	<b>Nature of cooperation</b>	<b>Outcomes of cooperation</b>	<b>Relevant documents</b>
Coal Authority	Site Selection	Pre-regulation 19, Site Selection: the Council asked for feedback to help with the assessment of sites.	The scoring of sites reflects this feedback.	Site Selection Report
MBC Environmental Health	Site Selection	Pre-regulation 19, Site Selection: the Council asked for feedback to help with the assessment of sites.	The scoring of sites reflects this feedback.	Site Selection Report
Health and Safety Executive	Site Selection	Pre-regulation 19, Site Selection: the Council asked for feedback to help with the assessment of sites.	The scoring of sites reflects this feedback.	Site Selection Report
Wildlife Trusts	Site Selection	Pre-regulation 19, Site Selection: the Council asked for feedback to help with the assessment of sites.	The scoring of sites reflects this feedback.	Site Selection Report
Woodland Trust	Site Selection	Pre-regulation 19, Site Selection: the Council asked for feedback to help with the assessment of sites.	The scoring of sites reflects this feedback.	Site Selection Report
Forestry Commission	Site Selection	Pre-regulation 19, Site Selection: the Council asked for feedback to help with the assessment of sites.	The scoring of sites reflects this feedback.	Site Selection Report
Town and Country Planning Association	Health	Pre-regulation 19. MBC seeking policy advice for the inclusion of 'Health' as a core thread within the Local Plan.	Consideration of this feedback for the whole local plan (core threading)	Whole Local Plan (health as core thread)

<b>Body</b>	<b>Strategic matters</b>	<b>Nature of cooperation</b>	<b>Outcomes of cooperation</b>	<b>Relevant documents</b>
Trent Valley IDB	SFRA	Provision of information and data to inform the SFRA. Consulted with as cover part of the study area.	Improve accuracy and quality of the SFRA. Initial data request acknowledged but no data received.	N/A
Canal and River Trust	SFRA	Provision of information and data to inform the SFRA.	Improve accuracy and quality of the SFRA. Provision of historic data from canal breaches and information on completed/ongoing/planned projects to inform the development of the SFRA.	SFRA
Care Quality Commission	Space standards and design of care homes	Pre-regulation 19. Requested details on space standards and design including appropriate size of bedrooms and number of bedrooms in care homes.	The Care Quality Commission do not stipulate room sizes; however, rooms should be suitable for the service provided (Health and Social Care Act 2008, Regulation 15 - Premises and Equipment).	Policy C3

## Appendix 1. Feedback and actions prior to Regulation 19

Body	Section	Comment	Action
National Highways	Policy IN2	As far as minor comments go, policy IN2 point d states “ <i>provide a Transport Assessment for major developments and a Travel Plan for agreement and implementation, where required by Leicestershire County Council;</i> ” we would ask it be updated to state “ <i>provide a Transport Assessment for major developments and a Travel Plan for agreement and implementation, where required by Leicestershire County Council and/or National Highways;</i> ”	Suggested change incorporated within IN2.
National Highways	General / employment allocations	Part 1. I note that the Draft update Local Plan doesn’t include any new allocations and the horizon period is the same as the adopted 2018 Local Plan. In light of this, National Highways does not have any significant comments to make. Should any new sites be allocated in the Plan, we would expect a Strategic Transport Assessment to be part of the evidence base, and for National Highways to have time to review and comment on this document.	<p>‘Part 1’ was followed up for further clarity given that the Local Plan Update allocates Employment Sites.</p> <p>‘Part 2’ is noted as standard advisories related to the development management process. Employment allocations are not adjacent to the Strategic Road Network.</p>

Body	Section	Comment	Action
		<p>Part 2. Thank you for sharing my colleague ***'s previous response. I can confirm as per the response from *** that a Strategic Transport Assessment won't be necessary in this case, given the small overall size of new employment being allocated.</p> <p>In terms of site specific policies, I would just ask that you note the following:</p> <p>Financial Contributions – National Highways no longer accepts financial contributions towards offsite highways mitigation. It should be the expectation that developers are required to deliver any necessary off site highway mitigation on the SRN under Section 278 of the Highways Act 1980.</p> <p>Drainage – for sites adjacent to our network it should be noted that no new connections into our drainage assets will be permitted. This is in accordance with Paragraph 59 of <a href="#">DfT Circular 01/2022: Strategic Road Network &amp; the Delivery of Sustainable Development</a>.</p> <p>Sustainable energy – for any sustainable energy generation proposals such as wind and solar farms</p>	

Body	Section	Comment	Action
		adjacent to the SRN, please note paragraphs 65-70 of our above mentioned policy document.	
Waste and Carbon (LCC)	Vision	The key objectives supporting the vision appear light on references to managing resources responsibly and reducing waste and facilitation waste minimisation – if greater reference could be made to this, it would help holistically strengthen the objectives and compliment the existing references to carbon and protection of the environment.	Additional key objective included within the Local Plan Vision.
Waste and Carbon (LCC)	General	<p>There is potential for increased use of Melton RHWS following the closure of Somerby RHWS in October 2024 and therefore any future housing development may continue to have an increased impact on the Melton RHWS site.</p> <p>LCC does not currently have plans to build further waste infrastructure in the county. It is not possible to know the future impact on capacity at the RHWS sites and considerations of future changes would always need to be taken into account. However, at the appropriate time there would be a subsequent need for LCC and the council to work effectively together to manage the future need for additional waste infrastructure. The council does have a long</p>	Comments noted. LCC Waste and Carbon team will be consulted as appropriate.



Body	Section	Comment	Action
		term ambition to build a new Melton RHWS. This as a stand alone project is not yet fully developed and there are no plans agreed, however as this scheme is developed, it will be assessed against the balance of available resources and included in the Capital Programme as appropriate.	
Waste and Carbon (LCC)	Policy EC5 ix	Under development criteria for main town centre uses- IX: ensure that trees and plants used are resilient to flooding/high temperatures.	No action for Policy EC5. However, the principle of resilient trees/planting is reflected in the supporting text of Policy D1.
Waste and Carbon (LCC)	Policy EC8 e	Demonstrating energy efficient and low carbon development where relevant to the proposal and viable.	Comments noted. No action required.
Waste and Carbon (LCC)	Climate Change (overlap with D1)	This section would benefit from reference to the sustainable use of construction materials i.e. the reuse of aggregates etc in line with a circular economy. Consideration also of distance from which materials are sourced etc would link to delivering of net zero ambitions and a reduction in carbon etc. Additionally, using local labour in Melton's delivery of infrastructure would be an investment in the social value of the area.	Duplicated comment. See below comments for response.

Body	Section	Comment	Action
Waste and Carbon (LCC)	Policy EN2B h	Ensure that trees and plants used are resilient to flooding/high temperatures.	No action for EN2B. However, the principle of resilient trees/planting will be reflected in the supporting text of Policy D1.
Waste and Carbon (LCC)	Policy IN2	Reference EV charging infrastructure.	No action. Reference already included in policy IN2 criteria h) to appropriate and effective vehicle parking and servicing arrangements which support the take-up of electric vehicles in accordance with the Leicestershire Highway Design Guide. It is not necessary to repeat building regulations.
Waste and Carbon (LCC)	Policy D1 (part overlap with CC)	<p>Policy D1 Raising the Standard of Design, suggest adding the following highlighted wording to f)</p> <p>Waste and storage: proposals should provide on-site storage and collection facilities for the sustainable management of recyclable and other waste and should be in locations convenient and accessible for collection and emptying by waste collection vehicles.</p> <p>Suggest the plan references waste prevention, reduction, reuse and recycling where appropriate.</p> <p>This section would benefit from reference to the sustainable use of construction materials i.e. the reuse of aggregates etc in line with a circular</p>	<p>Agree, D1 to read “Waste and storage: proposals should provide on-site storage and collection facilities for the sustainable management of recyclable and other waste <u>and should be in locations convenient and accessible for collection and emptying by waste collection vehicles.</u>”</p> <p>Action: to incorporate waste considerations in Policy EN9. These important issues are recognised by the Council. We were not able to share draft policy wording for Policies EN8 or EN9 at</p>

Body	Section	Comment	Action
		<p>economy. Consideration also of distance from which materials are sourced etc would link to delivering of net zero ambitions and a reduction in carbon etc. Additionally, using local labour in Melton’s delivery of infrastructure would be an investment in the social value of the area.</p> <p>Resilient Design: ensure that trees and plants used are resilient to flooding/high temperatures.</p>	<p>this stage, as we are still waiting for the Council’s Climate Change Study to be finalised, which will draw on local context and best practice to provide locally relevant policy recommendations that can be taken forwards. Part of the study brief is for consideration of policy recommendations, in line with your comments in relation to the circular economy and waste, we expect any policy recommendations for this to be incorporated as they were previously into Policy EN9, which we expect to include requirements for sustainability statements to support development and consider the use of resources.</p> <p>Policy D1 supporting text: rename sub heading to ‘<u>New and Replacement Trees</u>’. Amend para 125 include text ‘Policy D1 sets out that trees should be retained as a priority, but where trees are lost from development that they should be replaced with three new native trees <u>or an</u></p>

Body	Section	Comment	Action
			<u>appropriate species that is resilient to flooding or high temperatures”.</u>
Natural England	Vision	We welcome the updated vision which emphasises the importance of wellbeing together with achieving net zero and adapting to climate change. We also acknowledge the effective use of Biodiversity Net Gain, the provision of Green & Blue Infrastructure and reference to the Nature Recovery Network.	No action.
Natural England	Policy C9	We would like to see reference within this policy of the strong link to GI and open space policies as we set out in our previous response. We advise that emphasis should be included on the benefits that access to nature can bring to both physical and mental health. GI helps to mitigate health risks such as urban heat stress, noise pollution, flooding and poor air quality. The Plan needs to ensure that health and wellbeing outcomes are being maximised for all and address unequal access to natural green space.	The preferred approach of the Plan is a ‘health in all policies’ approach, meaning that the plan as a whole should be considered. The early draft version circulated does not include the supporting text that sets this out clearly. The supporting text will make explicit the role of nature, GBI and the importance of wider plan policies that relate to the environment and design have in delivering health benefits as set out in your comments. Action: ensure supporting text to Policies C9, D1 and relevant EN policies includes explicit and strong reference to benefits

Body	Section	Comment	Action
			that access to nature can bring to both physical and mental health.
Natural England	Policy EC8	We suggest this policy should include the avoidance of additional disturbance on designated nature conservation sites. It could also encourage biodiversity enhancement and access to nature for people to enjoy.	Comments noted. No change as covered in other policies in the plan, such as environmental policies EN2A and EN2B. Comments have been added into the background text.
Natural England	Para 110	Policy 110 seems out of context and requires greater explanation of what statutory biodiversity credits are and how they fit in with Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG).	Sentence incorporated within supporting text.
Natural England	Policy EN2A	<p>Natural England generally welcomes this policy but has the following comments:</p> <p>Please note that “European Sites” are now known as “Habitat Sites”.</p> <p>We are pleased that Local Nature Recovery Strategies have been included under point d2 but advise there should be more explanation regarding LNRS (as suggested in our previous response). Will this be included in the explanatory text?</p> <p>The last paragraph is a bit confusing particularly the wording “<i>taking account of the strength of habitat protection ...</i>”. The policy should make it</p>	<p>“European Sites” changed to “Habitat Sites” within Policy EN2A.</p> <p>Further explanation of LNRS included within supporting text.</p> <p>Suggested changes relating to mitigation hierarchy and compensation incorporated within Policy EN2A.</p>

Body	Section	Comment	Action
		<p>clear that any mitigation and/or compensation requirements for “Habitats Sites”, other statutory designated sites or irreplaceable habitats should be dealt with separately from biodiversity net gain provision. Biodiversity net gain should be additional to any habitat creation/enhancement required to mitigate or compensate for impacts. It may be better to describe the mitigation hierarchy more succinctly “.. <i>If significant harm to biodiversity resulting from development cannot be avoided, adequately mitigated, or, as a last resort, compensated for, then planning permission will be refused.</i>”</p> <p>We presume the context for this policy will be explained in the accompanying text including the government’s commitment to achieve a Nature Recovery Network.</p>	<p>Further context included within supporting text.</p>
<p>Natural England</p>	<p>Policy EN2B</p>	<p>Whilst we welcome this policy it needs to be clearer in its explanation of Biodiversity Net Gain. Within point (a) the Biodiversity Gain Hierarchy is referred to which partly repeats the mitigation hierarchy. It may be simpler to say something like, “<i>Biodiversity net gain should be provided on-site wherever possible. Off-site measures will only be</i></p>	<p>Suggested changes point (a) incorporated within policy EN2B.</p>

Body	Section	Comment	Action
		<p><i>considered where it can be demonstrated that, after following the mitigation hierarchy, all reasonable opportunities to achieve measurable net gains on-site have been exhausted or where greater gains can be delivered off-site where the improvements can be demonstrated to be deliverable and are consistent with the Local Nature Recovery Strategy.”</i></p>	
Natural England	Policy EN3	<p>We welcome this policy and how it strongly features the Green Infrastructure Framework and the GI Planning and Design Guide. We also look forward to seeing the completed Melton GI Strategy and Action Plan.</p> <p>We are also pleased that the GI standards have been included within the policy wording together with the GI principles. We would wish to ensure that the standards set out are deliverable and consistent with the Melton GI Strategy and Action Plan.</p>	No action.
Sport England	Policy SS4	<p>There is a need for these developments to provide new sports facilities and playing fields within the sites which should be informed by the production of a Sports Feasibility Report. This report will establish the level and nature of on-site and off-site</p>	<p>These comments have been addressed in the Supporting Text for the policy and a relevant clause is expected to be included within the policy.</p>

Body	Section	Comment	Action
		<p>provision required for the sites. This report should be informed by the Council’s up-to-date evidence bases such as the PPOSS and the Built Sports Facilities Strategy (IBFS). As the Council’s Strategies are up-to-date then Sport England’s Playing Pitch Calculator and Sport England’s Sports Facility Calculator can be used to calculate the onsite provision and/or offsite contributions required for sport and recreation to meet the demands generated by the additional population which would occupy these proposed sites.</p> <p>The above text will also be relevant for other housing allocations.</p>	
Sport England	Policy D1 (Active Design)	<p>Sport England welcomes the Borough Council’s commitment to encourage development which incorporates active design to achieve healthy communities which includes both the physical health and well-being of residents. The creation of healthy communities both in terms of new development and regeneration/improvement of existing can be developed by creating active environments and using Active Design in development proposals.</p>	<p>Comments have been made on the current Local Plan. The updated policy includes a section on healthy neighborhood design, which reflects active design principles. A reference to ‘strongly encourage’ use of the Active Design Checklist has been included in the supporting text of Policy D1.</p>



Body	Section	Comment	Action
		<p>The document referred to in paragraph 9.2.6 has been updated. Sport England in conjunction with Active Travel England and the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities has produced “Active Design – Creating Active Environments through Planning and Design” (May 2023). The guide features an innovative set of guidelines to get more people moving through suitable design and layout. It includes a series of case studies setting out practical real-life examples of the principles in action to encourage planners, urban designers, developers, and health professionals to create the right environment to help people get more active more often. The Active Design Principles are aimed at contributing towards the Government's desire for the planning system to promote healthy communities through good urban design. The guidance can be viewed on this link:  <a href="https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/design-and-costguidance/active-design">https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/design-and-costguidance/active-design,</a></p>	

Body	Section	Comment	Action
		Draft Policy D1 should include within its criteria the requirement for new development to incorporate active design to create healthy communities.	
Environment Agency	Local Plan Period	We note that if the adoption were to take place in 2025 then the Plan would last 11 years, rather than the NPPF stated 15 years. The Environment Agency appreciates the reasons your Authority has cited for taking this course of action, however we consider it will be for the Inspector to decide whether this decision affects the soundness of the Plan.	No action.
Environment Agency	Climate Change policies	We note and are pleased to see that your Authority recognises the importance of Climate Change mitigation and adaptation in the Borough, and that this is to be embedded as a core thread through the Local Plan (this is evidenced in several of the proposed Policies). However, we do note that <u>Policy EN8 – Climate Change</u> is not yet available to view. We are somewhat disappointed and concerned about this since we are of the understanding that it may not be possible for any proposed changes we may request at the formal Regulation 19 stage will be implemented prior to the Examination. This is also the case, although	We were not able to share draft policy wording for Policies EN8 or EN9 at this stage, as we are still waiting for the Council’s climate change study to be finalised, which will draw on local context and best practice to provide locally relevant policy recommendations. We will take into consideration the recommended documents in drawing up the draft policy.  Action: review recommended documents as part of finalising Policies EN8 and EN9.

Body	Section	Comment	Action
		<p>from the Environment Agency’s remit to a slightly lesser degree, for Policies <a href="#">EN9 – Ensuring Energy Efficient and Low Carbon Development and Policy</a> <a href="#">EN10 – Energy Generation from Renewable and Low Carbon Source</a>.</p> <p>We consider that you may find the attached document ‘Environment Agency Strategic Climate Change Planning Advice Summary Note’ useful in your preparations for the climate change section of your Local Plan. The Environment Agency has also identified a number of good practice climate change policies which other Local Planning Authorities have in their Local Plans. These include: Policy CC1 – Climate Change in the <a href="#">Adopted Salford Local Plan (2023)</a> and Policy CC1 Planning for Climate Change Adaptation in the <a href="#">Adopted Warwick District Council Local Plan (2019)</a>. You may wish to review these as part of your preparation of the wording for your own Policy EN8.</p>	
Environment Agency	Policy EN2A	b) With reference to SSI’s – we advise seeking the views of Natural England on this position.	b) Natural England have been consulted, and no concerns were raised.

Body	Section	Comment	Action
		<p>c) Regarding ancient woodland and veteran trees – we advise seeking the views of the Forestry Commission on this position.</p> <p>d) It is not clear which parameters will be used to determine whether the benefits of a development outweigh the harm which would be caused. This will need be carefully considered and defined to ensure that inappropriate and ecologically unacceptable development is not granted planning permission.</p>	<p>c) The Forestry Commission have not been consulted as part of this DtC mini consultation (as they are not a prescribed DtC body) but will be consulted as part of the formal Regulation 19 Pre-submission consultation stage and they have been consulted as part of the site-selection process.</p> <p>d) LCC’s Ecology team are consulted through the planning application process for all relevant proposals.</p>
Environment Agency	Policy EN11	<p>We consider the following amendments should be made:</p> <p><i>“Measures, including management arrangements, should be effective for the lifetime of the development taking account of the effects of climate change and should <b>must</b> ensure that development does not lead to increased flood risk elsewhere”.</i></p>	Amendments made to the final policy.

Body	Section	Comment	Action
		“...8 metre buffer from <b><i>the top of</i></b> both banks.”	
Environment Agency	Page 74	It is not immediately clear why these topic areas are listed here. The assumption is that they are covered in existing Policy IN3, in which case we have no concerns in this regard.	No action, this section will be updated as part of the final version of the document.
Environment Agency	Page 81	We consider the points under ‘ <u>Resilient Design</u> ’ <i>should</i> cover the points listed in the section that follows.	No immediate action, but agree. Action will be taken when the resilient design supporting text is refined to reflect the Climate Change Study. This will phrase the section with a ‘should’ steer in a similar format to the healthy neighborhood design supporting text.
Historic England	Vision	We are pleased to see protecting and enhancing heritage included within key objective e).	No action.
Historic England	EN13	We note that this policy is not covered under the Local Plan Update, but covered by adopted Policy EN13.	No action.
Historic England	EN9	Adaptation of Existing Buildings and Heritage Assets Sustainable Construction Methods Policy EN9 – Ensuring Energy Efficient and Low Carbon Development - we would be happy to comment on	We were not able to share draft policy wording for Policy EN9 at this stage, as we are still waiting for the Council’s Climate Change Study to be finalised, which will

Body	Section	Comment	Action
		<p>a draft policy when one is available and please note that Historic England has issued a new Advice Note on ‘Adapting Historic Buildings for Energy and Carbon Efficiency’ – HEAN 18, July 2024, which may be of assistance, and can be found at: <a href="https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/adapting-historic-buildings-energy-carbon-efficiency-advice-note-18/heag321-adapting-historic-buildings-energy-carbon-efficiency/">https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/adapting-historic-buildings-energy-carbon-efficiency-advice-note-18/heag321-adapting-historic-buildings-energy-carbon-efficiency/</a></p>	<p>draw on local context and best practice to provide locally relevant policy recommendations. We will take into consideration the recommended document in drawing up the draft policy.</p>
Historic England	EC5	<p>We welcome the requirement that proposals within a Primary or Secondary Shopping Frontage should retain historic shopfront features and that the ‘Development Criteria for Main Town Centre Uses’ includes that they are required to be sympathetic to the impact upon the significance of heritage assets and their settings.</p> <p>However, we note that much of Melton Mowbray town centre is a designated Conservation Area, containing 95 Listed Buildings, and that the Conservation Area itself is included within Historic England’s Heritage at Risk Register, classified as being in a ‘very bad’ condition. There is therefore an opportunity for the Local Plan to assist in</p>	<p>No action required – the supporting text to Policy EC5 has been drafted to reference the ‘at risk’ classification to link this to the wider importance of good design in Melton Mowbray Town Centre.</p>

Body	Section	Comment	Action
		enhancing and better revealing the significance of the Conservation Area through town centre improvements and thus also assist in addressing the heritage at risk.	
Historic England	EC8	Whilst we welcome that protection will be applied to valued attractions such as the Vale of Belvoir, Belvoir Castle and Burrough on the Hill Iron Age Fort, as well as support given for proposals for improvements / restoration to the Grantham Canal or other canal restoration opportunities, we consider that more explicit reference to sustaining and enhancing the significance of the historic environment could be made here.	Comments noted. No change to the policy as this is covered in other policies in the plan, such as Policy EN13. Comments have been added into the background text.
Historic England	EN2B	We suggest that the value of the historic environment should be recognised in contributing to the multi-functionality of BGI via cultural heritage, recreation and tourism through assets such as historic parks, gardens and canals.	Additional principle added to EN3: new or enhanced GBI should 'recognise the value of the historic environment by connecting important heritage assets to nature-rich corridors and contributing to recreation and tourism'.  Evidenced spatial and thematic priorities have also been added to Policy EN3, which includes reference to local heritage and

Body	Section	Comment	Action
			identifying specific historic assets within the evidence study.
Historic England	Employment allocations	As you are aware we have previously commented on the table of 6 potential employment sites you sent to us. I now attach an updated version of the table, with comments added from our Inspector of Historic Buildings and Areas.	Additional comments have been incorporated into the site selection.



## Appendix 2. Engagement matrix for evidence studies

Evidence Study (see key*)	LHNA	ELS	SFRA	SELA	CCS	OSS	GIS	SA	HRA	LGS	GTAA	PPS	ISFS	5YHL	AMR	IFS	SS	MP	WPVA	RN
<b>Engagement type</b>																				
No consultation/ engagement	X				X					X					X					X
Targeted consultation (e.g., residents) <sup>2</sup>		X	X	X		X	X					X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
Part of regulation 18 Consultation								X	X											
<b>Body</b>																				
Leicestershire County Council		X	X	X		X	X				X						X	X	X	
Lincolnshire County Council						X	X												X	
Nottinghamshire County Council						X	X												X	
Rutland County Council		X	X			X	X												X	
Leicester City Council		X				X	X												X	
Blaby District Council		X				X	X												X	
Charnwood Borough Council		X	X			X	X												X	
Harborough District Council		X	X			X	X												X	
Hinckley and Bosworth District Council						X	X												X	
North West Leicestershire District Council		X				X	X												X	
Oadby and Wigston Borough Council						X	X												X	
South Kesteven District Council		X	X			X	X												X	
Newark and Sherwood District Council						X	X												X	
Rushcliffe Borough Council		X	X			X	X												X	
Environment Agency			X	X		X	X										X			
Historic England				X		X	X										X			
Natural England			X	X		X	X										X			
Homes England						X	X												X	
Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Integrated Care B.						X	X													
Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board																				
National Health Service (NHS)						X	X													
National Highways						X	X										X			
Sport England						X	X					X	X							
Network Rail						X	X													
Office of Rail and Road						X	X													
Leicester and Leicestershire Local Enterprise Partnership		X																		
Utility providers			X			X	X										X			
Coal Authority						X	X										X			
Wildlife Trusts						X	X										X			
Woodland Trust						X	X										X			
Forestry Commission						X	X										X			
Melton Borough Council (internal)			X				X										X			
Town and Country Planning Association																				
Trent Valley IDB			X																	
Canal and River Trust			X			X	X													
Care Quality Commission																				

<sup>2</sup> This covers parties that are not specified below: Businesses and developers for the ELS; developers (panel) for the SELA; Residents and Parish Councils for the OSS and GIS; National Governance Bodies for the PPS and ISFS; Promoters for the 5YHL and SS; and developers and Housing Associations for the WPVA

<b>Key</b>	<b>Evidence Study</b>
LHNA	Local Housing Needs Assessment
ELS	Employment Land Study
SFRA	Strategic Flood Risk Assessment
SELA	Strategic Economic Land Availability Assessment
CCS	Climate Change Study
OSS	Open Spaces Strategy
GIS	Green Infrastructure Strategy
SA	Sustainability Appraisal
HRA	Habitats Regulation Assessment
LGSA	Local Green Spaces Assessment
GTAA	Gypsies and Travellers Study
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
ISFS	Indoor Sport Facilities Strategy
5YHL	5-Year Housing Land Supply
AMR	Authority Monitoring Reports
IFS	Infrastructure Funding Statement
SS	Site Selection
MP	Masterplan
WPVA	Whole Plan Viability Assessment
RN	Retail Note