

Examination of the Harborough Local Plan 2020-2041

STAGE 2 MATTERS, ISSUES AND QUESTIONS

Statement submitted by North West Leicestershire District Council

Matter 1: Procedural and legal requirements

Issue 3: Strategic Cross-Boundary Engagement

- 1. The Council provides its Duty to Cooperate (Effective Cooperation) Statement of Compliance [SNLP9] and all signed Statements of Common Ground [SCGNLP1-26 and HDC 4B, C, D, 9 and 15]. It considers together those demonstrate that the Council has collaborated effectively and constructively with neighbouring authorities and prescribed bodies on strategic cross-boundary matters throughout the Plan's preparation. Does this provide the necessary clear evidence of effective and ongoing joint working, in relation to matters including housing, transport, education provision and warehousing?**

Yes. There is a long track record of effective joint working by all authorities on cross boundary strategic matters across Leicester and Leicestershire. This includes meeting identified local housing needs and strategic B8 employment land. All authorities have continuously engaged with each other on these strategic matters collectively and through the preparation of individual Local Plans across the area.

With regards to housing, North West Leicestershire District Council submitted representations at Regulation 19 which queried Harborough's housing requirement post 2036. These representations have now been superseded by the Leicester and Leicestershire Statement of Common Ground relating to Housing Distribution (December 2025) (SCG-NLP 18) where "the authorities agree that the NPPF 2023 and L&L Statement of Common Ground relating to Housing and Employment Land Needs (June 2022) [SCG-NLP 3] apply to local plans that reached examination or Regulation 19 on or before 12 March 2025" (paragraph 4.4).

The Leicester & Leicestershire authorities have also collaborated on the preparation of strategic warehousing evidence and have agreed a Statement of Common Ground on the matter (SCG-NLP 23) which explains, amongst other things, how future needs will be addressed.