

Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council

Borough Plan Review (2021 - 2039)



Statement of Common Ground between
Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council
and National Highways

January 2024

Contents

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Organisations..... | 3 |
| Introduction..... | 3 |
| Strategic matters | 3 |
| Further joint working | 5 |
| Monitoring..... | 5 |
| Signatories | 5 |
| Appendix A..... | 6 |

Organisations

- Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council (NBBC).
- National Highways (formally Highways England).

Introduction

This Statement of Common Ground identifies areas of agreement between NBBC and National Highways in relation to the Borough Plan Review (2021-2039) and supporting evidence base. This Statement has been prepared to assist the Examination of the Plan and covers the administrative area of NBBC.

The Borough is located between Coventry and Hinckley and benefits from good road links. Nuneaton and Bedworth are both easily accessible from the M6 which gives good access to the M1, M5, M42 and M69. The A5 runs along the northern boundary of the Borough and the A444, A4254 and the B4114 are the major routes within the Borough. The Borough is home to 134,200 people according to the Census 2021. A plan has been provided at Appendix A which outlines the administrative boundary of NBBC alongside the location of sub-regional and adjoining Local Planning Authorities.

NBBC has fully engaged with National Highways on the development of the Council's Local Plan from the outset. In accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, National Highways has been formally consulted at every stage of consultation on the Borough Plan Review together with its accompany Sustainability Appraisal and the Habitat Regulations Assessment. National Highways made representations to the Issues and Options, Preferred Options and Regulation 19 stages of consultation on the Borough Plan Review (representation number 9 in relation to the Regulation 19 consultation). The Duty to Cooperate Compliance Statement outlines in detail the engagement activities and outcomes undertaken during the Plan's preparation.

Strategic matters

That NBBC has worked collaboratively with National Highways to ensure that all strategic issues have been properly considered and where appropriate reflected in the Borough Plan Review and effective and on-going joint working has and will continue to be undertaken.

The impact of the Strategic Housing and Employment allocations, within the Borough Plan Review, on the Strategic Road Network

National Highways notes that a large proportion of the housing supply, outlined the Borough Plan Review, will be delivered through a number of strategic housing allocations (Strategic Policy DS4 – Residential Allocations). The overall quantum of growth to be delivered across all strategic housing allocations is 4,769 dwellings. Due to the scale and location of some of these allocations, in particular SHA1, SHA4 and SHA6, National Highways expects that these sites are likely to impact upon the

capacity of the road network and in turn, may create potential congestion and safety issues.

In terms of employment land, a large proportion of the supply will be delivered through strategic employment allocations (Strategic Policy DS5 – Employment allocations). Four new employment allocations have been introduced in the Borough Plan Review, with two further ones carried over from the Borough Plan (2011-2031). These two sites (carried over) are currently under construction and therefore form part of the pipeline supply. The cumulative total of the remaining strategic allocations equates to over 50ha of land with the majority located close to Junction 3 of the M6, which could add further demand on the performance of the Strategic Road Network in this location.

NBBC recognises and agrees with National Highways' observations and wishes to indicate that the Strategic Transport Assessment, which accompanies the Borough Plan Review, identifies highways mitigation schemes to be delivered over the plan period. These schemes have been included in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan. Three of these schemes will provide mitigation along the Strategic Road Network – A5/Woodford Lane, Redgate Roundabout scheme and the M6 Junction 3 Interim Scheme.

Strategic Transport Assessment and Infrastructure Delivery Plan

National Highways outlines that the timescales for the three schemes that will provide mitigation along the Strategic Road Network, outlined in the Strategic Transport Assessment, are not consistent with the timescales in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan. NBBC agrees with this observation and has amended the Infrastructure Delivery Plan to align across the two documents.

National Highways also welcomes the Borough Plan Review requiring a transport assessment to be carried out in support of any planning application to develop each of the strategic allocations, alongside some of the non-strategic housing allocations. These assessments will be expected to identify measures to deal with anticipated transport impacts from the site, which is a means of safeguarding the efficient operation of the Strategic Road Network. Where impacts are likely at the A5 Longshoot and Dodwells junctions, assessment should be in line with the A5 Longshoot to Dodwells Modelling Protocol.

Any major interventions on the Strategic Road Network are subject to future funding announcements through the Third Road Investment Strategy (RIS3) and beyond.

Evidence Base - Strategic Transport Assessment and Borough Plan Review - Policy wording

National Highways is supportive of the inclusion of a Strategic Transport Assessment, as part of the Borough Plan Review evidence base, assessing the cumulative impact of the strategic allocations and the identification of a number of schemes which aim to provide highway mitigation along the A5 and Junction 3 of the M6.

National Highways also supports the emphasis on encouraging a modal shift as part of future proposals by including provisions which promote more sustainable transport options, in turn potentially reducing trip demand on the Strategic Road Network.

Further joint working



This Statement of Common Ground will be kept up to date through continuous engagement and cooperation between NBBC and National Highways. In particular, additional transport evidence evolving with the Plan, its strategic sites and its delivery, and implications on the Strategic Road Network will continue to be shared with National Highways.

Monitoring

This Statement will be maintained by NBBC and updated as necessary with National Highways.

NBBC will continue to work with National Highways beyond the adoption of the Borough Plan Review for the monitoring and implementation of the Plan.

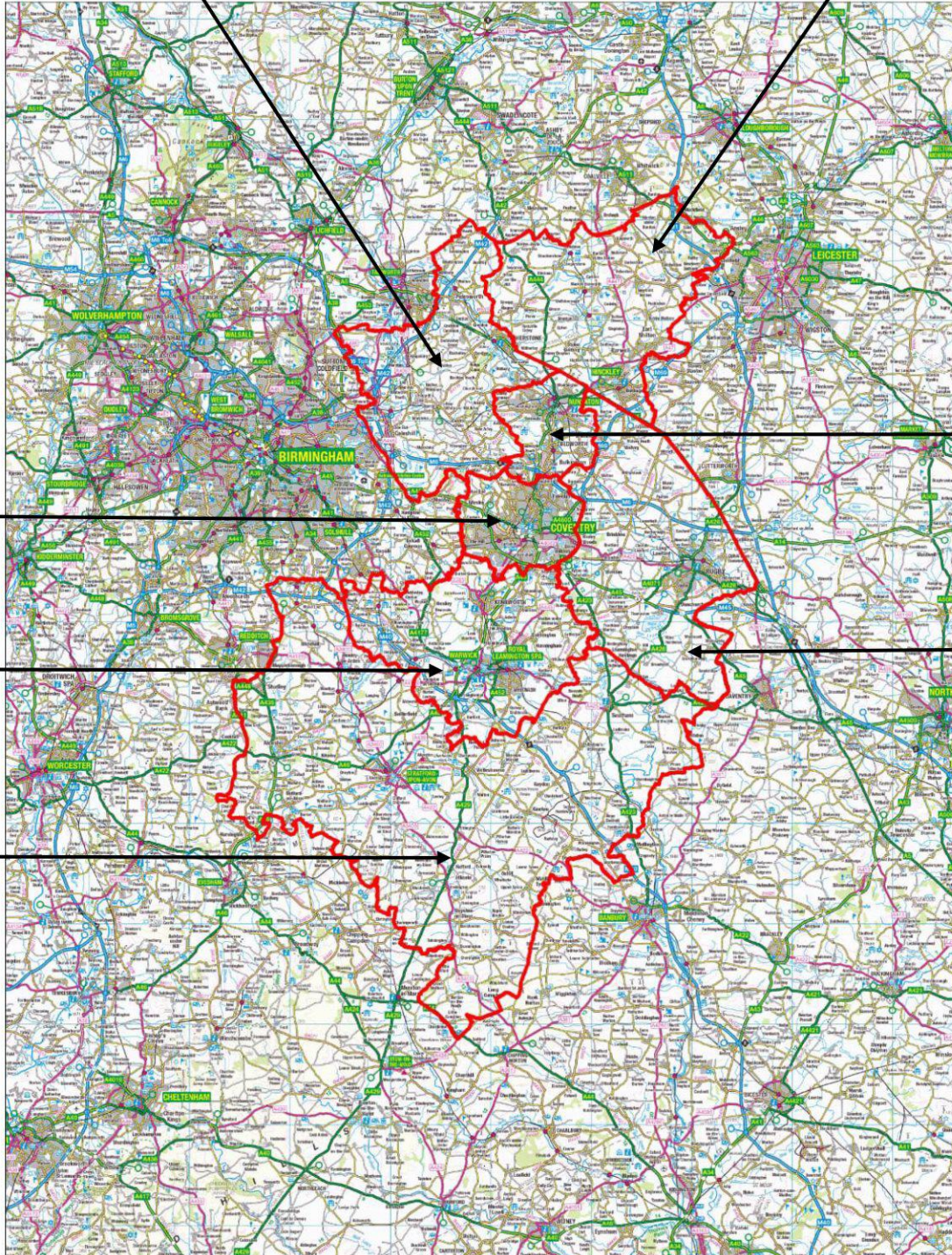
Signatories

| | |
|--|---|
| Signature:  | Signature:  |
| Maria Bailey, Assistant Director for Planning, NBBC | Eri Wong Spatial Planning Manager, National Highways |
| Date: 22/01/24 | Date: 31 Jan 2024 |

Appendix A

North
Warwickshire
Borough

Hinckley and
Bosworth Borough



Coventry
City

Nuneaton
and
Bedworth
Borough

Warwick
District

Rugby
Borough

Stratford-
on-Avon
District

For reference purposes only. No further copies may be made.

(C) Crown copyright. All rights reserved.

