

**Local Plan Advisory Committee –  
18 March 2014**

**Local Plan – National Planning Context**

**Malcolm Sharp**

(Sharp Planning Plus Ltd)

Planning Advisor

# The new statutory planning framework

Spatial Hierarchy	Policy Components	
	Previous	New
national	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning Policy Statements</li> <li>• Minerals Planning Guidance Notes</li> <li>• Government Circulars</li> <li>• Ministerial Statements</li> </ul>	National Planning Policy Framework National Planning Practice Guidance
regional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional Spatial Strategies</li> </ul>	Duty to Co-operate
local	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Development Framework (DPDs SPDs etc)</li> </ul>	Local Plan (Flexible but Govt pref. for one Local Plan)
neighbourhood	None	Neighbourhood Plan Neighbourhood Development Order

# National Planning Policy Framework & Localism Act

- Housing Numbers
  - LPA – must plan to meet objectively assessed need
  - Based on robust evidence
  - Must demonstrate 5 year supply + 5% or 20%
    - available and deliverable i.e. viable
  - Duty to Co-operate (legal and soundness test)
    - Need met across whole strategic housing market area
    - Leicestershire including City.

# Putting Local Plans in Place

- 12 month transition period post NPPF
- 50% + Local Plan since 2008
- Very few post NPPF
- Local Plans must be NPPF compliant
- NWLDC Core Strategy – Inspector
  - Concern numbers less than previous RSS
  - No allocations when less than 5 year supply
  - Duty to Co-operate objections
- Similar stories nationwide

# Absence of 5year supply

- NPPF – applications should normally be approved (presumption in favour of sustainable development)
- Decision making:
  - Development Plan policies not out of date
  - NPPF
  - Any other material planning consideration.

# Independent Review

- So far:
  - Revised project structure and governance
  - Style of a Local Plan including strategy, allocations and policies
  - Viability work
  - Members Advisory Committee
- Working on:
  - Content, evidence base, timescale and programme including consultation
  - Delivery of S E Coalville as S.U.E.

# Current Position

- Joint commissioning of SHM Assessment
  - All Leicestershire Councils
- Joint Members Advisory Group
  - Duty to Co-operate
  - Plan to meet needs across SHM Area
  - Implementation via Local Plans

# Interim Decision making

- Important:
  - Development Plan Policies (where up to date)
  - NPPF
  - Other material Planning considerations
- Prematurity – very rare – not supported
- No different from period while CS being prepared (very little weight as an emerging Plan)
- Recent approvals in Council preferred locations
- Refusal where good planning reasons
- Better once 5 year supply +20% achieved