

## **COUNCIL – 6 SEPTEMBER 2022**

### **QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION**

#### **QUESTION FROM JENNI BUDD TO COUNCILLOR R ASHMAN**

“Why are we considering building in NWLDC where such development would counteract multiple government policies such as sustainable transport (we have no train station stations and poor bus services), net zero (losing fields will reduce natural carbon sinks), biodiversity, woodland creation, green corridors - all these are undermined by greenfield development whereas Leicester city has ample brownfield sites available?”

#### **REPOSENSE FROM COUNCILLOR R ASHMAN TO JENNI BUDD**

“Leicester City Council through its Local Plan is seeking to secure the redevelopment of brownfield sites across the City, as required by government policy. However, government policy has also significantly increased the amount of housing that the City needs to provide. This requirement is more than can be achieved on the brownfield sites.

Government policies require that all of the Leicestershire authorities have to work together to ensure that all of the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing Market Area housing needs are met.

The distribution proposed in the Statement of Common Ground achieves this. The proposed distribution has regard to a whole range of factors, including not just the functional relationship of each authority area with Leicester City, but also the balance of jobs and homes in each authority area and deliverability of the distribution of development. It is the balance between jobs and homes that has driven the figure for North West Leicestershire rather than the functional relationship with the City. Achieving a better balance between jobs and homes will help to reduce the need to commute which in turn will assist with meeting zero carbon aims. The local plan review will not only need to identify suitable sites, but also the new infrastructure required to support development, such as improved public transport, walking and cycling as well as making provision for enhanced biodiversity.”