

COUNCIL – 6 SEPTEMBER 2022

QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

QUESTION FROM ANNE STAFFORD TO COUNCILLOR R ASHMAN

“If the housing need for Leicester City is to reflect, or ensure, Leicester City’s increased prosperity, how is this objective achieved if housing is given to other authorities for whom taking it represents a diminishing of its very essence?”

RESPONSE FROM COUNCILLOR R ASHMAN TO ANNE STAFFORD

“Leicester City Council through its Local Plan is seeking to ensure that as much of its needs can be accommodated within its boundaries. However, government policy has significantly increased the amount of housing that the City needs to provide. This, coupled with the fact that the city boundary is already very tight, means that in accordance with other government policies 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.

The failure to agree a redistribution represents a significant risk to the Council's local plan which in turn would leave the district vulnerable to unwanted planning applications.”