

Melton Local Plan Partial Update

Statement of Common Ground between Melton Borough Council and **North West Leicestershire District Council**

1. This Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) sets out areas of agreement and/or disagreement between Melton Borough Council, the plan-making authority, and North West Leicestershire District Council.
2. With this SoCG, Melton Borough Council seeks to demonstrate the cooperation between both local authorities ahead of the examination of the Melton Local Plan Partial Update. More specifically, Melton Borough Council seeks to:
 - a. Confirm the consensus for the Melton Local Plan Partial Update period to mirror the period in the adopted Local Plan: to 2036.
 - b. Confirm Melton Borough Council's commitment to start a new Local Plan immediately after the adoption of the Local Plan Partial Update.

Plan Period

It is common ground that:

3. As indicated in the [Duty to Cooperate Compliance Statement](#) (section 2) North West Leicestershire District Council was consulted in May and July 2023 in relation to the conclusions of the statutory Local Plan Review.
4. North West Leicestershire District Council has been kept informed about the scope of the Melton Local Plan Update, the Local Plan period and any other relevant ongoing update through existing forums such as the Planning Officers Forum (POF).
5. As indicated in the [Duty to Cooperate Compliance Statement](#) (section 3.1), a formal Duty to Cooperate meeting with several parties was held on the 22nd of October 2024 where the matter was covered, parties were invited to comment and no concern was raised at this point.

Considering the above, North West Leicestershire District Council agrees with the Melton Borough Council Local Plan Partial Update period to 2036.

New Local Plan

It is common ground that:

6. Melton Borough Council has indicated throughout the Local Plan Review and Local Plan process that a new Local Plan will be started immediately after the adoption of the Local Plan Partial Update.
 - a. [Local Development Scheme](#) (September 2023, superseded), paragraph 7.2 referred to as 'further local plan update'
 - b. Duty to Cooperate meeting (October 2024)
 - c. [Duty to Cooperate Compliance Statement](#) (January 2025), section 3.2
 - d. [Pre-Submission Local Plan Update](#) (January 2025), Policy SS6
 - e. [Local Development Scheme](#) (February 2025), paragraphs 3.9 and 7.2
7. Melton Borough Council will start a new Local Plan immediately after the adoption of the Local Plan Partial Update.
8. Melton Borough Council will seek to simplify its [Pre-Submission Local Plan Update](#) draft Policy SS6 (currently making reference to 'local plan update' in some of its paragraphs) and relevant supporting text during the examination (and subject to the Inspector's considerations) by:
 - a. Simplifying the policy to the following (or similar) wording: *Policy SS6 – New Local Plan. The council will commence a new Local Plan immediately upon adoption of this partial update. On adoption of the partial update, the council will publish a Local Development Scheme to set out the timescales for the new Local Plan.*
 - b. Amending paragraph 109 to say: *As identified in the Local Development Scheme (2023) and subsequent updates, the council is committed to commence the preparation of a new local plan covering a longer plan period immediately after the adoption of this Local Plan Partial Update. This plan will be prepared under the provisions of the reformed approach to plan-making.*
 - c. Deletion of the remainder of the supporting text for this policy (paragraphs 110 to 121).
 - d. Adding reference in paragraph 24 to our commitment to continue working collaboratively with other authorities to meet unmet needs within the Housing Market Area.

Considering the above, North West Leicestershire District Council agrees that Melton Borough Council should commence the preparation of a new Local Plan immediately after the adoption of this Local Plan Partial Update.

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Signed on behalf of Melton Borough Council	Signed on behalf of North West Leicestershire District Council