

<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>LEICESTER &amp; LEICESTERSHIRE AUTHORITIES STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND – STRATEGIC DISTRIBUTION</b>	
<b>Presented by</b>	Cllr Nicolas Rushton Infrastructure Portfolio Holder  PH Briefed <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Background Papers</b>	<p><a href="#">Item 6 Report to Local Plan Committee 18 November 2025</a></p> <p><a href="#">Leicester &amp; Leicestershire Authorities - Statement of Common Ground relating to Strategic Warehousing &amp; Logistics Need (September 2021)</a></p> <p><a href="#">Leicester &amp; Leicestershire Strategic Distribution Need and Apportionment Study (2025)</a></p> <p><a href="#">National Planning Policy Framework (December 2024)</a></p>	<p><b>Public Report:</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Key Decision:</b> Yes</p>
<b>Financial Implications</b>	The cost of preparing the Statement of Common Ground and its supporting evidence is met by all the Leicester and Leicestershire authorities making agreed contributions.  <b>Signed off by the Section 151 Officer:</b> Yes	
<b>Legal Implications</b>	The Local Plan is required to be consistent with the National Planning Policy Framework and other government guidance and requirements. This includes working effectively on cross-boundary strategic matters. The Statement of Common Ground helps to address this requirement.  <b>Signed off by the Monitoring Officer:</b> Yes	

<b>Staffing and Corporate Implications</b>	No staffing implications are associated with the specific content of this report. Links with the Council's Priorities are set out at the end of the report.
	<b>Signed off by the Head of Paid Service:</b> Yes
<b>Purpose of Report</b>	To consider the draft Leicester and Leicestershire Statement of Common Ground for strategic warehousing (January 2026) at Appendix A to this report so that the view of Cabinet can be forwarded Council when it considers the Statement of Common Ground.
<b>Reason for Decision</b>	To consider the draft Leicester and Leicestershire Statement of Common Ground for strategic warehousing (January 2026) at Appendix A to this report so that the view of Cabinet can be forwarded to Council when it considers the Statement of Common Ground at its meeting on 12 May 2026.
<b>Recommendations</b>	<p><b>THAT CABINET:</b></p> <p><b>1. PROVIDES ANY COMMENTS ON THE STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND RELATING TO STRATEGIC DISTRIBUTION, DATED JANUARY 2026, AT APPENDIX A TO THIS REPORT FOR CONSIDERATION BY COUNCIL AT ITS MEETING ON 12 MAY 2026</b></p>

## 1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 A statement of common ground is formal, written agreement between local planning authorities dealing with cross-boundary strategic matters. Having a statement of common ground in place helps to ensure effective, transparent cooperation, identifying agreed facts and any outstanding issues. Such statements can be an important way to demonstrate effective joint-working (NPPF paragraph 36c).
- 1.2 This report is concerned with the 'Leicester & Leicestershire Authorities - Statement of Common Ground relating to Strategic Warehousing Need January 2026' (SoCG 2026). The full draft text of the SoCG 2026 is included in Appendix A.
- 1.3 The SoCG 2026 is being considered by Local Plan Committee on 18 March 2026. The Local Plan Committee covering report, which explains the purpose, background and implications of the SocG 2026, is included at Appendix B<sup>1</sup>. The content of the Local Plan Committee report provides Cabinet with information it needs to consider this matter.
- 1.4 The March Cabinet agenda papers will be published before the 18 March Local Plan Committee is held. The Committee's comments will be conveyed to Cabinet verbally at the Cabinet meeting itself.

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<sup>1</sup>, Appendix A to the Local Plan Committee report, which is the SoCG 2026 itself, has been omitted from Appendix B. This is to avoid unnecessary duplication.

## 2.0 NEXT STEPS

- 2.1 The SoCG 2026 will be considered by each of the signatory Leicester and Leicestershire authorities through their governance processes.
- 2.2 A decision on the statement will be made by Council at its meeting on 12 May 2026. The views of Cabinet and Local Plan Committee will be forwarded to Council to help inform its decision.

<b>Policies and other considerations, as appropriate</b>	
Council Priorities:	- Planning and regeneration
Policy Considerations:	The Local Plan is required to be consistent with the National Planning Policy Framework and other government guidance and requirements.
Safeguarding:	None-discernible.
Equalities/Diversity:	An Equalities Impact Assessment of the new Local Plan will be undertaken to accompany the Regulation 19 version of the plan.
Customer Impact:	No issues identified.
Economic and Social Impact:	The SoCG 2026 deals with the provision of new strategic warehousing floorspace which in turn will impact positively on the economy of the district in the form of additional investment and jobs.
Environment, Climate Change and zero carbon:	The decision, of itself, will have no specific impact. The new Local Plan as a whole, will aim to deliver positive environmental and climate change impacts and these will be recorded through the Sustainability Appraisal.
Consultation/Community/Tenant Engagement:	Further consultation on the Local Plan, including its approach to strategic warehousing outline in this report, will be undertaken at Regulation 19 stage.
Risks:	A risk assessment for the new Local Plan has been prepared and is kept up to date. As far as possible control measures have been put in place to minimise risks, including regular risk review.
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