

NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

CABINET – 14 JANUARY 2014

Title of report	CHARNWOOD LOCAL PLAN CORE STRATEGY – MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
Key Decision	a) Financial No b) Community No
Contacts	Councillor Trevor Pendleton 01509 569746 trevor.pendleton@nwleicestershire.gov.uk Director of Services 01530 454555 steve.bambrick@nwleicestershire.gov.uk Head of Regeneration and Planning 01530 454782 david.hughes@nwleicestershire.gov.uk
Purpose of report	To advise cabinet of a proposed Memorandum of Understanding in respect of the Charnwood Local Plan Core Strategy.
Reason for Decision	To agree the Council's position
Council Priorities	Not applicable
Implications:	
Financial/Staff	None
Link to relevant CAT	Not applicable
Risk Management	The proposed wording of the Memorandum of Understanding has been arrived at following discussions such that the Council's position is protected.
Equalities Impact Assessment	None
Human Rights	No discernible impact
Transformational Government	Not applicable
Comments of Head of Paid Service	The report is satisfactory

Comments of Section 151 Officer	The report is satisfactory
Comments of Monitoring Officer	The report is satisfactory
Consultees	Portfolio Holder
Background papers	None
Recommendation	<p>THAT CABINET:</p> <p>(I) NOTES THE CHARNWOOD MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND;</p> <p>(II) DELEGATES AUTHORITY TO THE DIRECTOR OF SERVICES TO SIGN THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING</p>

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Charnwood Local Plan Core Strategy was published on 10 June 2013. At the time of drafting this report it was understood Charnwood Borough Council was proposing to submit the Core Strategy to the Secretary of State on 20 December 2013.
- 1.2 Members will be aware that as part of their plan preparation local planning authorities are required to demonstrate that they have complied with the Duty to Cooperate required under the Localism Act.
- 1.3 To assist with this aspect at the forthcoming examination, Charnwood Borough Council has produced a Memorandum of Understanding. The Memorandum of Understanding seeks to demonstrate the outcome from joint working and cooperation which has taken place between Charnwood Borough Council and the other Leicestershire local authorities in the preparation of the Charnwood Local Plan Core Strategy
- 1.4 Charnwood Borough Council is seeking support from all of the local planning authorities in the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing Market Area and are asking all of the authorities to be signatories to the Memorandum of Understanding. A copy of the memorandum is attached at Appendix 1 to this report.
- 1.5 The Memorandum of Understanding has been subject to significant discussions at officer level to try and agree a form of wording which is to everybody's satisfaction. From a North West Leicestershire perspective the biggest concern has been around the weight to be accorded to the housing requirements and distribution in the former East Midlands Regional Plan. This is because this Council's Core Strategy used a more up-to-date housing evidence base than that used to inform the Regional Plan. Notwithstanding the fact that the Council has agreed to withdraw the Core Strategy in accordance with the advice of the Planning Inspector appointed to examine the plan, it is still the case that this Council no longer recognises the provisions of the Regional Plan.
- 1.6 The form of wording now agreed is considered to be such as to protect this Council's position and so it is recommended that the Council be a signatory to the Memorandum of Understanding.