



TO COUNCILLOR:

E R Barr
L A Bentley
Miss A R Bond
G A Boulter
J W Boyce
Mrs L M Broadley
F S Broadley
D M Carter (Mayor)
Mrs K M Chalk

Miss M V Chamberlain
M H Charlesworth
M L Darr
B Dave
R F Eaton
Mrs L Eaton JP (Deputy Mayor)
D A Gamble
Mrs S Z Haq
J Kaufman

Mrs L Kaufman
Dr T K Khong
Mrs H E Loydall
K J Loydall JP
Mrs S B Morris
R E R Morris
R H Thakor

Dear Sir or Madam

I hereby **SUMMON** you to attend a meeting of the **FULL COUNCIL** to be held at the **COUNCIL OFFICES, STATION ROAD, WIGSTON** on **TUESDAY, 11 DECEMBER 2018** at **7.00 PM** for the transaction of the business set out in the Agenda below.

Yours faithfully

Council Offices
Wigston
03 December 2018

Mrs Anne E Court
Chief Executive

ITEM NO.

AGENDA

PAGE NO'S

1. Calling to Order of the Meeting

The meeting of the Council will be called to order to receive His Worship The Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

2. One Minute Silence in Memory of Councillor Robert (Bob) R Fahey

3. Apologies for Absence

4. Declarations of Interest

Members are reminded that any declaration of interest should be made having regard to the Members' Code of Conduct. In particular, Members must make clear the nature of the interest and whether it is 'pecuniary' or 'non-pecuniary'.

5. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

1 - 7

To read, confirm and sign the minutes of the previous meeting in accordance with Rule 17 of Part 4 of the Constitution.



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Customer Service Centre: 40 Bell Street, Wigston, Leicestershire LE18 1AD
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Oadby_Wigston

6. Action List Arising from the Previous Meeting **8**

To read, confirm and note the Action List arising from the previous meeting.

7. Motions on Notice

To consider any Motions on Notice in accordance with Rule 12 of Part 4 of the Constitution.

8. Petitions, Deputations and Questions

To receive any Petitions and, or, Deputations in accordance with Rule 24 of Part 4 of the Constitution and to answer any Questions by the Public or Members in accordance with Rules 10 and 11 of Part 4 of the Constitution respectively.

9. Mayor's Announcements

a) List of Official Mayoral / Deputy Mayoral Engagements **9 - 14**

10. Leader's Statement

11. The Strategic Growth Plan - "Leicester and Leicestershire 2050: Our Vision for Growth" **15 - 59**

Report of the Head of Planning, Development & Regeneration

12. Proposed Gambling Act 2005: Statement of Licensing Principles (2019-2021) **60 - 94**

Report of the Interim Licensing Officer

13. Amendment to Polling Place and Polling Station (South Wigston Ward) **95 - 97**

Report of the Democratic & Electoral Services Manager

14. Member Conduct Update (Verbal Update)

Verbal update of the Head of Law & Governance / Monitoring Officer

15. Exclusion of the Press and Public

The press and public are likely to be excluded from the remainder of the meeting in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (Exempt Information) during consideration of the item(s) below on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in the respective paragraph(s) 1, 2 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and, in all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exempt item(s) outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

16. Facing the Future (Verbal Update)

Verbal update of the Director of Finance & Transformation / Section 151 Officer

For more information, please contact:

Democratic Services

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Council Offices
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Leicestershire
LE18 2DR

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL HELD AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES,
STATION ROAD, WIGSTON ON TUESDAY, 2 OCTOBER 2018 COMMENCING AT 7.03 PM**

PRESENT

Councillor David M Carter (Mayor)
Councillor Mrs Lynda Eaton JP (Deputy Mayor)

COUNCILLORS

E R Barr
G A Boulter
J W Boyce (Leader of the Council)
Mrs L M Broadley
Mrs K M Chalk
M H Charlesworth (Deputy Leader of the Council)
B Dave (Leader of the Opposition)
R F Eaton
R E Fahey
D A Gamble
Mrs S Z Haq
J Kaufman
Mrs L Kaufman
Dr T K Khong (Opposition Group Leader)
Mrs H E Loydall
K J Loydall JP
Mrs S B Morris
R H Thakor

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

S J Ball (Senior Democratic Services Officer / Legal Officer)
Mrs A E Court (Chief Executive)
D M Gill (Head of Law & Governance / Monitoring Officer)
A Thorpe (Head of Planning, Development & Regeneration)
S Tucker (Democratic & Electoral Services Manager)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Ms T Bhaur (Lightbulb Service Manager)
Ms Q Quinney (Housing & Community Services Group Manager)
Mrs J Toman (Chief Executive / Senior Responsible Officer (Lightbulb))

35. CALLING TO ORDER OF THE MEETING

The meeting of the Council was called to order to receive His Worship The Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

The meeting was led in prayer by the Reverend to the Mayor.

36. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillors L A Bentley, Miss A R Bond, F S Broadley, Miss M V Chamberlain and R E R Morris.

37. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Leader of the Council and the Deputy Leader of the Council declared a non-pecuniary interest with regard to Item 17 of the agenda, insofar as they are residents of Conservation Areas.

38. READING, CONFIRMATION AND SIGNING OF MINUTES

By affirmation of the meeting, it was:

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Tuesday, 31 July 2018 to be taken as read, confirmed and signed.

39. ACTION LIST

By affirmation of the meeting, it was

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The absence of any actions arising from the meeting of the Council held on Tuesday, 31 July 2018 be noted by Members.

40. MOTIONS ON NOTICE

None.

41. PETITIONS, DEPUTATIONS AND QUESTIONS

41a. PETITION AGAINST PINNACLE CLEANERS

The Council received notification that a petition had been received requesting action from the Authority to improve service delivery by the Council's cleaning contractor Pinnacle. A copy of the petition was available at the meeting for Members to view.

By affirmation of the meeting, it was:

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The receipt of the petition be noted by Members and the item be referred to the next available meeting of the Service Delivery Committee on Tuesday, 20 November 2018.

42. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

42a. LIST OF OFFICIAL MAYORAL/DEPUTY MAYORAL ENGAGEMENTS

By affirmation of the meeting, it was:

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The list of Official Engagements attended by The Mayor and/or Deputy Mayor be noted by Members.

43. LEADER'S STATEMENT

The Leader of the Council presented a Statement outlining his recent work, the administration's plans and an overview of recent decisions taken since the previous meeting of the Council.

In respect of the proposed unitary authority for Leicestershire, the Leader confirmed that there had been no further communication received from the County Council, and as such the only updates since the last Council meeting had been in the form of statements issued to the press. It was confirmed that the Leaders of each of the District/Borough Councils were continuing to co-operate and work together to demand more detail and clarity on the County Council's plans, as it was felt at the current time that the proposal did not satisfy the criteria specified by the Secretary of State with regard to making a convincing case for unitary status.

44. LIGHTBULB PROJECT & DISABLED FACILITIES GRANTS UPDATE (PRESENTATION)

The Mayor welcomed Jane Toman, Quin Quinney and Taranjeet Bhaur from the Lightbulb Project to the meeting. The Council then received a detailed presentation covering the key improvements, challenges and learning points recognised from the project to date. A copy of the presentation is attached to the printed minutes of the meeting at Annexe A.

The Leader of the Council thanked the Lightbulb representatives for their attendance at the meeting and acknowledged that the project had moved forward a considerable distance from where discussions had started approximately three years ago. It was also acknowledged that a number of concerns which had been raised both by Members and service users had been, or were in the process of, being appropriately monitored and addressed. Praise was given for the project's success in working in partnership across a diverse range of providers, including Clinical Commissioning Groups which were notoriously complex to deal with.

A Member raised a concern regarding figures suggesting that 11% of service users had reported dissatisfaction with the quality of service they had received, and asked whether any common patterns had been identified within the feedback which required further analysis. The Lightbulb representative gave an assurance that all feedback received is thoroughly scrutinised as part of the project's commitment to continuously improving service user satisfaction levels.

With regard to the future of the project, it was confirmed that the original agreement entered into by the Council was on the basis of an 18 month contract, which would fall due for renewal in April 2019. The Lightbulb representatives explained that a business case would be drawn up in advance of the renewal date to make the case for entering into a longer-term arrangement of either 3 years or 5 years after April 2019, in order to deliver certainty and longevity for all parties involved in the project.

By affirmation of the meeting it was

RESOLVED THAT:

The contents of the presentation be noted by Members.

Councillors D A Gamble and M L Darr left the Chamber at 8.15 pm.

45. FINDING OF MALADMINISTRATION BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND SOCIAL CARE OMBUDSMAN

The Council gave consideration to the report as set out on pages 15-20 of the agenda, which asked it to note a finding of maladministration by the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman in relation to a noise complaint from a resident.

The Head of Law & Governance provided the Council with a summary of the findings contained in the Ombudsman's decision notice, and confirmed that the recommended actions had been implemented accordingly. Members were advised to note that the details of the Ombudsman's investigation remained confidential.

It was noted that the Leicester Mercury had published an article on 02 October 2018 in relation to the Ombudsman's findings which was factually inaccurate, insofar as it claimed that the Council had been fined £200. In fact, a compensation payment of £200 had been made to the complainant in order to acknowledge the impact of the issues identified.

It was moved by K J Loydall JP, seconded by Mrs L M Broadley and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The content of the report and appendix be noted.

46. REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION UPDATE (OCTOBER 2018)

The Council gave consideration to the report as set out on pages 21-24 of the agenda, which asked it to note the progress made by the Constitutional Working Group in updating and revising the Council's Constitution.

A Member raised an ongoing concern in relation to the current requirement for a motion to be moved at Development Control Committee before an item can be debated, as this was said to create the perception of pre-determination amongst the public. As far as the Member was aware, only one other authority in Leicestershire operated such a mechanism. The Head of Law & Governance stated that to his knowledge, most Leicestershire authorities had similar rules within their Constitution, although it was perhaps the case that these were not being consistently applied.

In addition, it was stated the current Chair of the Committee favoured the continued application of this rule on the grounds that it enabled effective control of the meeting to be maintained, whilst best practice guidelines also advocated the same approach. That said, it was ultimately a decision for the Council as a whole to agree if it wanted to change the ruling. The Leader of the Council suggested that a Member of the Constitutional Working Group should bring a motion to a future Council meeting, setting out how they would like the see future rules to operate.

It was moved by K J Loydall JP, seconded by G A Boulter and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The progress made by the Constitutional Working Group in updating and revising the Council's Constitution be noted.

47. REVISED LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

The Council gave consideration to the report as set out on pages 25-44 of the agenda, which asked it to approve the revised Local Development Scheme (LDS) for publication as of 02 October 2018.

A query was raised by a Member in relation to the role of Place Shaping Working Group in contributing to the shaping of planning related documents set out in the LDS, given that it was understood that this Working Group was held in private session and therefore the public could not contribute to its output. The Leader of the Council, as Chair of the Place Shaping Working Group, confirmed that the Working Group does not make decisions or recommendations to any Committee, and simply acts as an informal sounding board for matters of future planning consideration. With that in mind, it was considered that there was no conflict between the proposed Scheme document and meetings of the Working Group remaining private.

It was noted by Members that the draft proposed Scheme contained an outdated version of the Council's logo on the front cover, and it was requested that this be amended not just on the LDS document but on all planning documents included on the meeting agenda which displayed the historic logo. The Head of Planning, Development & Regeneration confirmed that all relevant documents would be updated as necessary.

It was moved by Mrs H E Loydall, seconded by Mrs L M Broadley and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The revised Local Development Scheme be approved for publication as of 02 October 2018.

48. REVISED STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Council gave consideration to the report as set out on pages 45-82 of the agenda, which asked it to approve the Revised Statement of Community Involvement for the purpose of a 6 week consultation to commence on Monday 08 October 2018.

In respect of the list of general consultation bodies contained at Appendix 3 of the report, a Member requested that it be noted that Age UK Wigston operates independently of Age UK, and as such should they be treated as separate consultees.

It was moved by Mrs H E Loydall, seconded by G A Boulter and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The revised Statement of Community Involvement be approved for the purpose of a 6 week public consultation due to commence on Monday 8 October 2018.

49. DRAFT DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT

The Council gave consideration to the report as set out on pages 83-130 of the agenda, which asked it to approve the draft Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document for the purpose of a 6 week public consultation due to commence on Monday 08 October 2018.

With regard to the list of service providers contained at paragraph 2.3 of the report, a Member expressed significant disappointment that Oadby and Wigston was the only Borough within Leicestershire where the Clinical Commissioning Group had been unable to claim any section 106 money. This was in spite of the continued growth in demand for services being placed upon existing public health facilities in the Borough.

It was moved by Mrs L M Broadley, seconded by K J Loydall JP and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT

The draft Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document be approved for the purpose of a 6 week public consultation due to commence on Monday 08 October 2018.

50. DRAFT RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT

The Council gave consideration to the report as set out on pages 131-161 of the agenda, which asked it to approve the draft Residential Development Supplementary Planning Document for the purpose of a 6 week consultation due to commence on Monday 08 October 2018.

A Member welcomed the inclusion of housing standards within the report, as a means of addressing the recent issue of planning applications seeking to sub-divide, convert and/or change the use of existing properties into flats/apartments not of a size suitable for modern-day living standards. The Member also stated that particular attention should be given to addressing the decline in the number of bungalows being built in the Borough, ideally requiring a fixed percentage of bungalows to be included in any new developments. The Head of Planning, Development and Regeneration acknowledged that any assessment of housing need should consider the types of property required in addition to the numbers required, and stated that future adoption of the Local Plan and Housing Strategy should give put the Authority in a stronger position when it came to negotiations over future developments.

It was moved by Mrs H E Loydall, seconded by J Kaufman and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The draft Residential Development Supplementary Planning Document be approved for the purpose of a 6 week public consultation due to commence on Monday 08 October 2018.

51. DRAFT CONSERVATION AREAS SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT

The Council gave consideration to the report as set out on pages 162-228 of the agenda, which asked it to approve the draft Conservation Areas Supplementary Planning Document for the purpose of a 6 week consultation due to commence on Monday 08 October 2018.

Following issues identified in relation to a House in Multiple Occupation (HMO) situated in a Conservation Area, a Member sought assurances that the adoption of the Supplementary Planning Document would give the Authority suitable powers to avoid any proliferation of HMO's in areas that were not appropriate. The Head of Planning, Development & Regeneration confirmed that all applications have to be considered on their own merit, although the future adoption of the Local Plan should provide the Council with a suitable level of control.

With regard to Spa Lane Conservation area, a Member suggested a small number of additional sites/buildings for inclusion within the document. The Head of Planning, Development & Regeneration noted the suggestions and undertook to feed back to the Planning Policy team.

As a general observation, a Member noted that the document was one of four documents on the agenda which proposed being approved for a 6 week consultation starting on Monday 08 October 2018. It was felt that having four consultations open simultaneously

might dilute the quality and quantity of the responses received, therefore it was suggested that in future more careful consideration be given to the spacing of consultation exercises.

It was moved by The Deputy Leader of the Council, seconded by J Kaufman and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT:

The draft Conservation Areas Supplementary Planning Document be approved for the purpose of a 6 week public consultation due to commence on Monday 08 October 2018.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.47 PM



Mayor

Tuesday, 11 December 2018

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Council Offices, Station Road, Wigston, Leicestershire, LE18 2DR*

Agenda Item 6

FULL COUNCIL

ACTION LIST

Arising from the Meeting held on Tuesday, 02 October 2018

No.	Minute Ref. / Item of Business	*Action Details / Action Due Date	Responsible Officer(s)' Initials	Action Status
1.	47. – Revised Local Development Scheme	Replace old version of OWBC logo on the front cover of the document prior to publication, and similarly ensure that any other planning documents carry the latest version of the logo. <i>Due by Dec-18</i>	AdTh	Complete

* | All actions listed are those which are informally raised by Members during the course of debate upon a given item of business which do not form part of - but may be additional, incidental or ancillary to - any motion(s) carried. These actions are for the attention of the responsible Officer(s).

Events attended by the Mayor (May – November 2018)

MAY

20	Royal Air Force	Celebrate RAF 100 Parade & Service
22	1st Oadby Girl Guides	Award Evening
24	Leicester Children's Holiday Centre	Gala Drinks & Reception

JUNE

7	Lady Gretton	Final Fling
9	Oadby Wigston Swimming Club	OWSC Mayors Swimming Gala
11	1st Oadby Boy's Brigade	Awards Evening
20	OWBC	Forryan Brothers Memorial
21	Leicester Community Concert Band	Music Concert
21	Wigston Academy	School Council
21	Lord Mayor of Leicester	Civic Service
23	Leicestershire County Council	Armed Forces Day Parade
24	Bishop of Leicester	Summer Garden Party
24	Oadby & Wigston Lions	Bardi Concert
25	O&W Lions Club	Presentation Night
26	Wigston Academy	Student Awards Evening

JULY

4	Wigston College	Summer Madness Performance
11	Midlands in Bloom	Peace Memorial Park
11	Muslim School	Awards Evening
12	Rutland High Sheriff	Rutland Water Cruise
17	University of Leicester	Summer Degree Concert, De Montfort Hall
19	High Sheriff of Leicester Race Day	Leicester Racecourse
19	Leicester & Rutland Heritage Forum	Heritage Awards, Coalville
21	University of Leicester	Summer Celebration, Knighton Hall

23 Age UK
 24 Deli France UK
 26 Leicester CC Chairman

Glamorous Grandma Competition
 Business Open Day
 Summer Evening at Beaumanor Hall

AUGUST

4 OWBC
 4 Aylestone Lane Allotment Association
 10 Blaby DC
 29 OWBC

WW1 Memorial Bench Dedication
 Allotment Day
 Chairman's Twilight Walk
 WW1 Bench Dedication Ellis Park

SEPTEMEBR

3 OWBC
 7 Harborough DC
 7 Manor High School
 8 Framework Knitters Museum
 8 Colin Robertson
 8 Wigston Magna Methodist Church
 12 ABF Soldiers Charity
 15 Lady Mayoress
 15 Leicester Children's Holidays
 16 Royal Air Forces Association
 17 Leicestershire CC Chairman
 19 Mayor Charnwood
 20 Curtis Weston House
 21 Blaby DC
 27 Lidl Stores
 29 Sikh Welfare & Cultural Society

Merchant Navy Flag Day
 Chairman's Charity Lunch
 50th Celebrations
 Sock Day
 Pinfold Opening
 Wigston Manga Show
 Sounding Retreat Ceremony
 Coffee Morning
 Civic Lunch
 Battle of Britain Memorial Service
 Charity Curry Evening
 Civic Service
 Residents 100th Birthday
 Chairman's At home Welcome
 Opening of new store in Wigston
 Multi Faith RAF 100 event

OCTOBER

1 OWBC

Recycling Competition Winner

4 Pride of the Borough
 5 Cedar Court Care Home
 6 Royal Air Force Air Cadets
 7 Leicestershire County Council
 7 Melton BC
 11 Rural Community Council
 12 Leicester Grammar School
 12 O&W Hindu Community
 13 Wigston Civic Society
 23 Magistrates Association
 28 Oadby & Wigston Lions
 29 Leicester Cathedral

Awards Evening
 Harvest Festival
 Annual Dining in Night
 County Service @ Cathedral
 Civic Service
 Rural Achievement Awards
 Foundation Day Service
 Navrati Celebrations
 40th Anniversary Reception
 Autumn Event & AGM
 Charter Lunch
 That they may have life

NOVEMBER

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2 Gateway Club
 3 Leicester Progressive Jewish Community
 4 Blaby DC
 6 OWBC
 9 Thythorn Field Primary School
 10 Oadby Town Centre Association (Chris Swan)
 10 Alderman Duncan Lucas
 11 Oadby Royal British Legion
 11 Dean of Leicester
 11 OWBC
 12 Locality Manager - Leicester County Council
 13 Leicestershire Police
 15 OWBC
 17 Brocks Hill
 17 Leicester Festival of Music and Drama
 18 SSAFA
 20 Warning Zone
 21 O&W 2018 Awards Evening

Make a Guy competition
 Memorial Service
 Civic Service
 Remembrance Shop Front Window Competition
 Remembrance Assembly
 Oadby Festive Lights Switch on
 WW1 concert
 Remembrance Sunday Parade
 Remembrance Service
 Lighting of Beacon
 Tea and Cake (Library 10 Year Anniversary on The Parade)
 Intercultural Evening
 Inter Faith Week
 Christmas Craft Fair
 Annual Festival
 President's Luncheon
 Children's Life Skill Centre Visit
 Parklands Leisure Centre

24 AV Innovate Ltd
24 Oadby & Wigston Lions
25 Hinckley & Bosworth
27 OWBC

2018 Charity Box Appeal
Oadby Christmas Light Switch on
Civic Carol Service
Remembrance Service Shop Window Awards

Events attended by the Deputy Mayor (May – November 2018)

MAY

19	The Royal Yeomanry	Frezenberg Dinner
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JUNE

4	Harborough DC	Thanksgiving Event
11	28th Leicester Scout Group	Annual Summer Fete
18	Leicestershire CC	30th Anniversary Celebrations Schuan
22	DICE	The Enemy Within?

JULY

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1	Wigston Magna Dog Training Club	Summer Dog Show
2	Leicestershire Scouts	AGM
4	Parklands Leisure Centre	South Leicestershire School Sports Awards
6	Thythorn Field Primary School	Presentation Assembly
10	Wigston College	Students Awards Evening
12	Headway Brain Injury Association	Opening new shop in Wigston

AUGUST

8	Harborough Chairman	100 Years Women's vote
9	Girlguiding	Escape Camp VIP Day
18	Leicestershire CC	Chairman's Charity Brass Band Concert
26	ABF & Lord Lieutenant	Family Day Hog Roast Luncheon

OCTOBER

4	KUKU Connect	Annual Birthday Reception
6	O&W Lions	Annual Sponsored Swim

20 Mayor Hinckley & Bosworth
20 The Royal Society of St George
23 Sea Cadets
27 Royal British Legion
28 High Sheriff Leicester
31 Wigston Academy

Charity Luncheon
Trafalgar Dinner
Royal Navy Parade
Festival of Remembrance
Justice Service
Dance Showcase

NOVEMBER

3 Severn Pharmacy
3 All Saints Church
4 Leicestershire Rugby Union
11 St Thomas Church
11 OWBC
26 North Warwickshire & Leicestershire College

Grand opening of new pharmacy
Armistice Commemoration Evening Concert
Memorial Rugby Match
Remembrance Sunday Service (Cllr Samia Haq)
Remembrance Sunday Parade
Annual Awards Ceremony



Full Council	Tuesday, 11 December 2018	Matter for Information and Decision
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Report Title: **The Strategic Growth Plan - "Leicester and Leicestershire 2050: Our Vision for Growth"**

Report Author(s): **Adrian Thorpe (Head of Planning, Development and Regeneration)**

Purpose of Report:	The purpose of this report is to enable Council to consider the revised Leicester & Leicestershire Strategic Growth Plan (the revised SGP) which is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.
Report Summary:	Approval of the SGP will put in place a key long-term strategy for the future development and prosperity of Leicester & Leicestershire. For the Borough of Oadby & Wigston, it will provide the context for the Council to be able to prepare and deliver its forthcoming Local Plans.
Recommendation(s):	<p>A. That the Strategic Growth Plan "Leicester and Leicestershire 2050: Our Vision for Growth" ("the SGP") (as set out at Appendix 1) be approved; and</p> <p>B. That the Chief Executive (or equivalent) of each SGP partner authority, following consultation with the Leader of that authority and the Joint Strategic Planning Manager, be authorised to agree, prior to publication, any final minor amendments to the SGP which do not significantly change the overall content or purpose of the document.</p>
Responsible Strategic Director, Head of Service and Officer Contact(s):	<p>Stephen Hinds (Director of Finance & Transformation) (0116) 257 2681 stephen.hinds@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</p> <p>Adrian Thorpe (Head of Planning, Development and Regeneration) (0116) 257 2645 adrian.thorpe@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</p> <p>Jamie Carr (Planning Policy Team Leader) (0116) 257 2652 jamie.carr@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</p>
Corporate Priorities:	<p>An Inclusive and Engaged Borough (CP1)</p> <p>Effective Service Provision (CP2)</p> <p>Balanced Economic Development (CP3)</p> <p>Green & Safe Places (CP4)</p> <p>Wellbeing for All (CP5)</p>
Vision and Values:	<p>"A Strong Borough Together" (Vision)</p> <p>Accountability (V1)</p> <p>Respect (V2)</p> <p>Teamwork (V3)</p> <p>Innovation (V4)</p>

	Customer Focus (V5)
Report Implications:-	
Legal:	There are no implications arising from the report.
Financial:	There are no implications arising directly from this report.
Corporate Risk Management:	Key Supplier/Partnership Failure (CR2) Political Dynamics (CR3) Reputation Damage (CR4) Economy/Regeneration (CR9)
Equalities and Equalities Assessment (EA):	<p>By seeking to ensure that economic growth is secured, and appropriate provision for market and affordable homes is made, the implementation of the SGP can contribute to meeting the needs of disadvantaged groups across Leicester & Leicestershire.</p> <p>An Equalities & Human Rights Impact Assessment (EqHRIA) has been undertaken. The outcomes of the assessment are available to view in a report which supports the SGP. The assessment considers a number of options for the spatial distribution of growth within Leicester & Leicestershire, including that of the SGP. It is clear that different options have the potential to impact, in different ways, on matters such as age, disability, race, religion or belief (some positive, some negative and some neutral). Other matters are not likely to be affected.</p> <p>As this is a high-level strategic plan, however, the responsibility for mitigating any adverse impacts upon individuals or community groups will fall to subsequent statutory plans, primarily Local Plans prepared by individual authorities. In most cases, it will be important to ensure that specific infrastructure and services are planned effectively to deal with the specific needs of these groups. The EqHRIA ensures that the partner organisations are aware of the various impacts of the SGP and enables them to put in place any necessary mitigating measures and/or enhancements.</p> <p>See Background Documents Section.</p>
Human Rights:	No implications.
Health and Safety:	No implications.
Statutory Officers' Comments:-	
Head of Paid Service:	The report is satisfactory.
Chief Finance Officer:	There are no immediate resource implications as support for the development of the Plan is being resourced through existing staffing and operational budgets. The long term delivery of the SGP will be dependent on the necessary resources being secured to finance the delivery of key infrastructure required to enable the delivery of the SGP. It will be important that such infrastructure is delivered in parallel with the growth outlined in the SGP.

Monitoring Officer:	The report is satisfactory.
Consultees:	Full public consultation has been carried out on the SGP.
Background Papers:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation reports • Equalities & Human Rights Impact Assessment • Sustainability Appraisal <p>Documents are available upon request from the report author.</p>
Appendices:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Strategic Growth Plan - "Leicester and Leicestershire 2050: Our Vision for Growth" 2. Key Changes Made Following Consultation on the Draft Strategic Growth Plan 3. Risk Assessment

1. Policy Framework and Previous Decisions

1.1 On the 19 July 2016, Policy, Finance and Development Committee approved the Strategic Growth Statement for consultation. This formed the first stage in the development of the SGP. The Statement:

- set out the rationale and proposed process for the preparation of the SGP;
- identified the defining characteristics of the local area and challenges faced by the partners;
- outlined the evidence base that would be assembled and the generic spatial options to be considered in formulating a SGP, and;
- set out initial objectives and ambitions for the future.

1.2 A Consultation Draft SGP was considered and endorsed by the Members' Advisory Group (MAG) on the 6 November 2017. It was subsequently approved for the purpose of public consultation by Full Council on the 5 December 2017. A 17 week consultation period began on the 11 January 2018 and closed on the 10 May 2018.

2. Context

2.1 The background to the development of the draft SGP includes the revocation of regional spatial strategies by the government in 2012 and the resulting need for local planning authorities to consider strategic planning within the context of the 'duty to co-operate' required by the Localism Act 2011.

2.2 In Leicester & Leicestershire, it was decided by the local planning authorities that long term strategic planning would be more effective if undertaken across the City and the County, and included the local enterprise partnership, the LLEP, as a partner.

2.3 The SGP has, therefore, been prepared jointly by the eight local planning authorities (the borough and district councils), the County Council as the highway authority and the City Council as a unitary authority with combined planning and highways responsibilities. Each of these is represented on the MAG which, supported by senior officers, has overseen the preparation of the Plan. The LLEP attends MAG in the capacity of an observer. Homes England (formerly the Homes & Communities Agency) attends the senior officer group in the capacity of an observer.

2.4 The SGP will:

- support partners to plan effectively for the future, giving Local Plans a consistent

- framework, help to make decisions on infrastructure and secure Government funding;
- give some control over accommodating and supporting future growth and help to protect and enhance environmental assets; and
- provide confidence to the market, Government, local businesses and residents that the local councils and the LLEP are working together to manage the growth of the area in a plan-led and co-ordinated manner.

2.5 In this context, the SGP is very much the start of the conversation and not the end of the conversation. In addition, legislation requires the Borough Council to co-operate with other Councils in Leicester and Leicestershire under the duty to cooperate in the preparation of its own Local Plan. The SGP is significant in enabling the Council to meet this requirement and therefore to control growth in the future through its own Local Plans.

2.6 There are risks in not having a SGP and these are summarised in **Appendix 3**.

2.7 As the SGP has been developed, a number of events have been held for Members to keep them advised of progress. This has included all-Member briefings on the SGP. The draft Plan also went through normal governance procedures in autumn/winter 2017.

3. Key Elements of the SGP

3.1 The SGP sets out a strategy for the growth and development of Leicester and Leicestershire in the period to 2050, enabling partners to consider the longer term needs of the area and opportunities which extend beyond the conventional timeframe of a Local Plan. MAG considered the distribution of housing and employment land over the period 2011-31 and 2011-36 in the context of the Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment (January 2017) in order to give a more detailed framework for shorter term Local Plans.

3.2 There have been on-going discussions with organisations such as Network Rail and Midlands Connect to ensure that their emerging policies and proposals are incorporated in emerging plans, strategies and funding programmes where necessary.

3.3 The SGP proposes that overall, most development will take place in major strategic locations with less development happening in existing towns, villages and rural areas; in so doing, it allows new development to be focused along transport corridors and close to employment centres.

3.4 The five building blocks that have been used to prepare the Plan are an understanding and appreciation of:

- the existing settlement pattern;
- national policies, particularly in relation to planning, housing and infrastructure provision;
- the local economy and how it is supported by the Midlands Engine Strategy (March 2017);
- road and rail networks and the proposals and priorities of the Midlands Connect Strategy (March 2017); and
- the area's environmental, historic and other assets.

3.5 Four priorities are identified in the SGP:

- creating conditions for investment and growth;
- achieving a step change in the way that growth is delivered;
- securing essential infrastructure; and
- delivering high quality development.

3.6 Analysis has indicated that through existing and emerging Local Plans and planning

permissions the amount of new housing needed in the area to 2031 can be met. This will be achieved through a mixture of major strategic sites already identified in Local Plans (approximately 40%) and smaller scale growth on non-strategic sites (approximately 60%). The proposed new spatial distribution of strategic development, therefore, does not need to focus on this time period but it remains an important part of the plan's strategy e.g. to accelerate the delivery of consented and allocated sites we need to secure the infrastructure which is essential to their success.

- 3.7 Beyond 2031, the SGP proposes that more growth should be directed to strategic locations. This requires new strategic infrastructure to open up land for development and the Midlands Connect Strategy (setting out key transport priorities for the East and West Midlands) lays the foundations for this.

4. Proposed Growth Areas

- 4.1 The proposed growth areas are:

- Leicester City;
- the A46 Growth Corridor;
- the Leicestershire International Gateway;
- the A5 Improvement Corridor; and
- the Melton Mowbray Key Centre for Regeneration and Growth.

- 4.2 Coalville, Hinckley, Loughborough, Lutterworth and Market Harborough are identified as areas where growth would be managed in Local Plans.

- 4.3 In the villages and rural areas, the SGP proposes that there will be limited growth consistent with providing for local needs.

5. Public Consultation

- 5.1 A 17-week consultation period took place from 11 January-10 May 2018. Activities included:

- press releases, periodic media coverage;
- emails/letters to statutory consultees;
- emails/letters to organisations and groups identified by partners;
- public exhibitions;
- copies of the Draft SGP and summary leaflets;
- paper copies of questionnaires and all evidence at main offices;
- SGP website;
- links to the SGP website from partner websites; and
- social media messages.

- 5.2 A total of 588 responses were received, 79% of which were from members of the public. These comments have been analysed and considered during the preparation of the revised SGP. A summary of key changes is attached as **Appendix 2**.

- 5.3 In line with the Statement of Community Involvement, those respondents who provided contact details have been informed that a revised plan has been prepared. The opportunity for further comment will take place during governance and/or the preparation of Local Plans.

6. Environmental Implications

- 6.1 A Sustainability Appraisal (SA) (incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment) (SEA) has been undertaken together with a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA). The

outcomes are available to view in a report supporting the SGP. The SA concludes that the SGP has the potential to deliver significant positive effects in relation to health and well-being; housing; and economy and employment. Minor positive effects are reported in relation to climate change and cultural heritage (although, in the case of the latter, minor negative effects are also reported as well). Minor negative effects are reported in relation to water; and moderate negative effects in relation to landscape and land. Mixed effects are reported in relation to transport and travel i.e. significant positive effects in relation to the focusing of development in strategic locations and minor negative effects in relation to potential congestion on nearby routes. Uncertain negative effects are recorded in relation to biodiversity and minerals. Where significant effects are identified, measures to mitigate these have been suggested, if possible. Further measures to enhance the positive effects have also been suggested, where possible.

- 6.2 The SA reports that the findings broadly support the preferred strategy as it would generate the most benefits in terms of employment and housing growth. It reports that the focus of growth at key areas of economic growth and infrastructure capacity is also likely to reduce the length of car trips, and encourage sustainable modes of travel (particularly where there are strong rail and bus links into the City of Leicester). It also states that, in terms of environmental effects, the preferred approach does not generate any major negative effects and performs better or the same as the alternatives in this respect.
- 6.3 The SA acknowledges the role of the SGP in establishing broad preferred locations for longer term growth to provide a framework for statutory Local Plans. It states that the broad locations would evidently be able to accommodate a range of different growth levels so, if subsequent work based on updated evidence confirms that a higher level of growth ought to be pursued in certain locations, then this can be considered at that stage. A higher level of growth (than the notional projected housing requirement) will have largely negative impacts. This is supported by the SA findings which suggest that the negative effects for every option would be likely to increase and this could lead to major negative effects on the built and natural environment, water and transport infrastructure.



LEICESTER & LEICESTERSHIRE 2050: OUR VISION FOR GROWTH

FOREWORD

The Strategic Growth Plan has been prepared by the ten partner organisations in Leicester & Leicestershire to provide a long term vision that will address the challenges we face and the opportunities presented to us. It is a non-statutory plan but it sets out our agreed strategy for the period to 2050. We will deliver the strategy through our Local Plans.

We have listened to the comments submitted in response to our consultation and this document is the final version of the Plan. It explains the approach that we have taken in preparing the Plan, identifies broad locations where we think that development should take place and the infrastructure needed to deliver it. We will now work with local people, businesses, developers, landowners, government and statutory organisations to deliver the strategy and secure the infrastructure which is so critical to its success.

Cllr Trevor Pendleton

Chair, Members' Advisory Group for the Strategic Growth Plan

Our Partners:



This document has been prepared on behalf of: Blaby District Council, Charnwood Borough Council, Harborough District Council, Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council, Leicester City Council, Leicestershire County Council, Leicester & Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership, Melton Borough Council, North West Leicestershire District Council and Oadby & Wigston Borough Council.

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LEICESTER & LEICESTERSHIRE TODAY

OUR STRENGTHS:

Great location and connectivity

- at the heart of the UK, with nationally significant road, rail and air services, and businesses that have the potential to export more goods and services

Growing and diverse economy

- with employment opportunities ranging from traditional manufacturing, logistics and distribution to cutting edge, research and enterprise, innovation and technology sectors

Distinctive environmental, historic and other assets

- beautiful countryside, valuable flora and fauna, thriving market towns and popular villages, country parks, waterways and canals

A diverse and multi-cultural city

- with a young population, unique history, global tourism appeal, and attractive city centre with great shops, leisure, arts and entertainment

Three outstanding universities

- globally significant in space, engineering and sports science, and high quality FE colleges.

IN SHORT, A COMBINATION THAT OFFERS EXCEPTIONAL QUALITY OF LIFE AND BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

OUR WEAKNESSES:

Congestion on our roads and railways

- we are tackling this but further investment is needed to continue improvements and support our long term growth

Gaps in the road and rail network

- travelling north-south is relatively easy (albeit congested) but east-west links are slow and unreliable

Poor economic productivity per head of population

- lower than the national and regional averages

Low pay structure - many highly skilled employees and graduates move away, travel costs are high for those on a low wage making it difficult to access jobs

High levels of commuting - some of the most important employment areas are remote from places where people live

Outside the City, an **ageing population**, not economically active but relatively wealthy. A strong influence on the number and type of dwellings

Pressures on existing communities from new development, lack of infrastructure and services such as education and health

RECOGNISING THE CHALLENGE

Leicester & Leicestershire has huge potential for growth. Located at the very heart of the UK, with a population of over 1 million, a thriving and vibrant city, distinctive and characterful market towns, three universities and an international airport, our economy contributes some £23bn to the UK economy. We have much to offer in terms of quality of life.

We want to play our part in developing the UK economy, improve productivity and create the conditions for growth. We want to increase the speed of housing delivery, remove the barriers that have slowed progress to date, and ensure that there is a good supply of new housing for people who need it. We also want to protect the places and features that make Leicester & Leicestershire special.

If we are to be successful, we need to plan for the future at a 'larger than local' level and for the longer term. This allows us to consider a wider range of possibilities.

The Strategic Growth Plan has been prepared by the ten partner organisations - the City Council, the County Council, the seven boroughs and districts, and the Leicester & Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership - to provide a plan which will shape the future of Leicester and Leicestershire in the period to 2050. It is a 'non-statutory' plan but it provides an agreed framework which we will use when preparing our individual Local Plans and other strategies.

The Strategic Growth Plan focuses on four key matters:

- delivering new housing
- supporting the economy
- identifying essential infrastructure, and
- protecting our environment and built heritage.

We have not started with a blank sheet. Government, local and regional agencies are also making plans. Where these already have a measure of support, we have used them as a basis for our work. We have also commissioned evidence to inform our work and this is available on our website.*

GREAT LOCATION AND CONNECTIVITY - AT THE HEART OF THE UK

**FIGURE 1:
LEICESTER & LEICESTERSHIRE:
A CENTRAL LOCATION**



PLANNING FOR OUR GROWTH AND INFRASTRUCTURE

CALCULATING OUR HOUSING AND EMPLOYMENT NEEDS

2011-31 (AND 2036)

The Strategic Growth Plan covers the whole of the period from 2011-50. It is not possible to produce accurate estimates of the scale of growth that is likely to be required for the whole of the period up to 2050 but we can divide it into stages.

Up to 2036, we can use government statistics and economic forecasts to plan with some confidence. The results are set out in our study of housing and economic development needs which calculates the need for both new homes and jobs.¹ Because our Local Plans are being prepared to end dates of either 2031 or 2036, the study sets out our need for new homes and jobs to the same end dates.

The detail is set out in Appendix A but, in summary, across Leicester & Leicestershire we need some 96,580 homes and 367-423ha of land for employment use in the period 2011-31 (See Table A).

2031-50

For the period 2031-50, we can use government statistics and economic forecasts only for the period 2031-36. Beyond that, there are no reliable estimates of population growth or household change, nor economic forecasts, but we need to have some understanding of how much growth we might be expected to accommodate. Having this information allows us to consider a wider range of options than if we were to focus only on shorter term needs.

For the purposes of the Strategic Growth Plan, we have chosen to work with an estimate of our housing needs for whole of the period 2031-50.

These are referred to as our 'notional' needs and have been produced by projecting forward the annual figures given in our study of housing and economic development needs. This indicates that, across Leicester & Leicestershire, we will need an additional 90,500 dwellings in this period.

The results will need to be monitored and reviewed as Government statistics become available but they are considered to be a reasonable basis on which to proceed. If we do not look to this longer timescale we will not be able to plan for, and secure funding for, the essential infrastructure that we need.

TABLE A: TOTAL HOUSING AND EMPLOYMENT LAND NEEDS 2011-50

Housing	Employment Land (B1/B2/B8) ³	
2011-31	96,580 ¹	367-423ha. ¹
2031-50	90,516 ²	Not quantified at this stage
Total (2011-50)	187,096	

Notes:

1. As shown in Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment (January 2017)

2. 'Notional' needs calculated by projecting forward estimates set out in the Housing and Development Needs Assessment (January 2017)

3. Small scale B8 only (i.e. less than 9,000 sqm); the amount of land needed for strategic distribution facilities has not been quantified because it is so heavily dependent upon property market considerations.

WHETHER DEVELOPMENT TAKES PLACE BEFORE OR AFTER 2031, IT IS CLEAR THAT MORE HOMES AND JOBS WILL BE NEEDED. WE NEED TO PLAN FOR THIS NOW.

In terms of economic growth, it is very difficult to predict needs with any accuracy beyond 2036. We have decided, therefore, not to quantify the need for additional employment land for this period, at this stage. Again, in accordance with normal practice, we will monitor and review needs as necessary.

Our total requirements for the period 2011-50 are shown in Table A on page 5.

ACCOMMODATING OUR HOUSING AND EMPLOYMENT NEEDS

We have analysed the amount of development that has already been built, has planning permission or is allocated in adopted or emerging local plans that have been published. This demonstrates that much of our housing and employment land is already provided for in the period 2011-31.*

Only Leicester City Council has declared that it will be unable to meet its housing needs. We are confident, however, that any shortfall in the period 2011-31 can be met through Local Plan allocations in other areas.

Beyond, 2031, we have assumed that neither Leicester City Council nor Oadby & Wigston Borough Council will be able to accommodate their needs. An important aspect of the Strategic Growth Plan, therefore, has been to consider how any unmet needs might be shared between the other local authorities in Leicester & Leicestershire.

We have decided that these additional needs will be satisfied, in part, by development in strategic locations in accordance with the strategy set out in this Plan.

The agreed distribution will be set out in an agreed statement. In line with the needs of our Local Plans, this will cover the time periods to 2031 and 2036. The statement will be used with the Strategic Growth Plan as the basis for preparing or reviewing Local Plans.

ALIGNING GROWTH, INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

We are very clear that significant new development cannot be accommodated within Leicester & Leicestershire without significant investment in infrastructure and services. We welcome government's recognition of this problem at a national and regional level, and the investment that is already being committed to projects in our area.

We will continue to work with government, landowners, developers and other stakeholders to accelerate development and to align this with essential infrastructure.

WITHOUT ADDITIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE WE WILL BE UNABLE TO DELIVER LONG TERM GROWTH ON THIS SCALE, OR IN THE TIMESCALE PROPOSED.

To accelerate the speed of development, we will address the lack of essential infrastructure (highway capacity, schools, healthcare facilities, etc.) We will also consider financial viability which can be a problem on some sites. In others, the costs of the necessary infrastructure might need to be shared across several development sites.

We are working with developers, landowners and statutory agencies to remove the barriers to development and will focus on this more intensively as we move forwards. Our highway authorities have already identified key road and rail projects and are progressing these through formal approval and funding regimes. Outside the City, the County Council has summarised the key projects in its '*Prospectus for Growth*'.*

Together the City and the County Councils, as highway authorities, are collaborating on a Strategic Transport Plan which will identify additional projects and set out short and long term aspirations for sustainable transport initiatives including public transport improvements, ways of reducing the use of the private car and green transport initiatives.

Other statutory undertakers will be able to use the Strategic Growth Plan and Local Plans as a clear statement of the proposed growth in Leicester & Leicestershire. This will allow them to identify their own investment priorities. We will support them in their requests for funding, lobbying government and supporting applications for funding through the normal processes.

MAXIMISING THE RETURNS ON INVESTMENT

Where infrastructure has already been committed, we now have the opportunity to maximise the returns on this investment and use it to the advantage of our local communities. We have taken as one of the building blocks for our Plan, proposals for infrastructure investment that already have a degree of support from government, executive agencies and other organisations. All of the strategic infrastructure in our Plan is acknowledged as being required to resolve national and regional problems.

Through the Strategic Growth Plan we can maximise the benefits of this investment by focusing growth in areas close to new infrastructure proposals. This does not mean to say that these are the only road and rail projects that are needed to support the growth that we will have. Existing schemes are already in the pipeline (e.g. improvements to the A5, the A511 and Melton Mowbray Relief Road) and we are working to deliver these. Additional schemes will be needed to provide better connections to the strategic network. We will also look for ways to improve public transport, cycling and walking.

In undertaking this work, we recognise that, on our own, we cannot deliver growth on this scale. Government, statutory agencies, landowners, developers and local authorities all have an important role to play in this process. The partnership approach that we have achieved to date provides a secure foundation on which to move forward with other organisations. Without additional infrastructure we will be unable to deliver long term growth on this scale, or in the timescale proposed.

THE BUILDING BLOCKS FOR OUR PLAN

Other agencies are preparing plans and strategies which will influence what we do. In many cases, we have contributed to these documents so their contents are already aligned with our own aspirations. At the same time, the Strategic Growth Plan must be firmly rooted in the character of Leicester & Leicestershire and must protect our environmental, historic and other assets. This chapter summarises the principal building blocks that we have used to prepare our Plan.

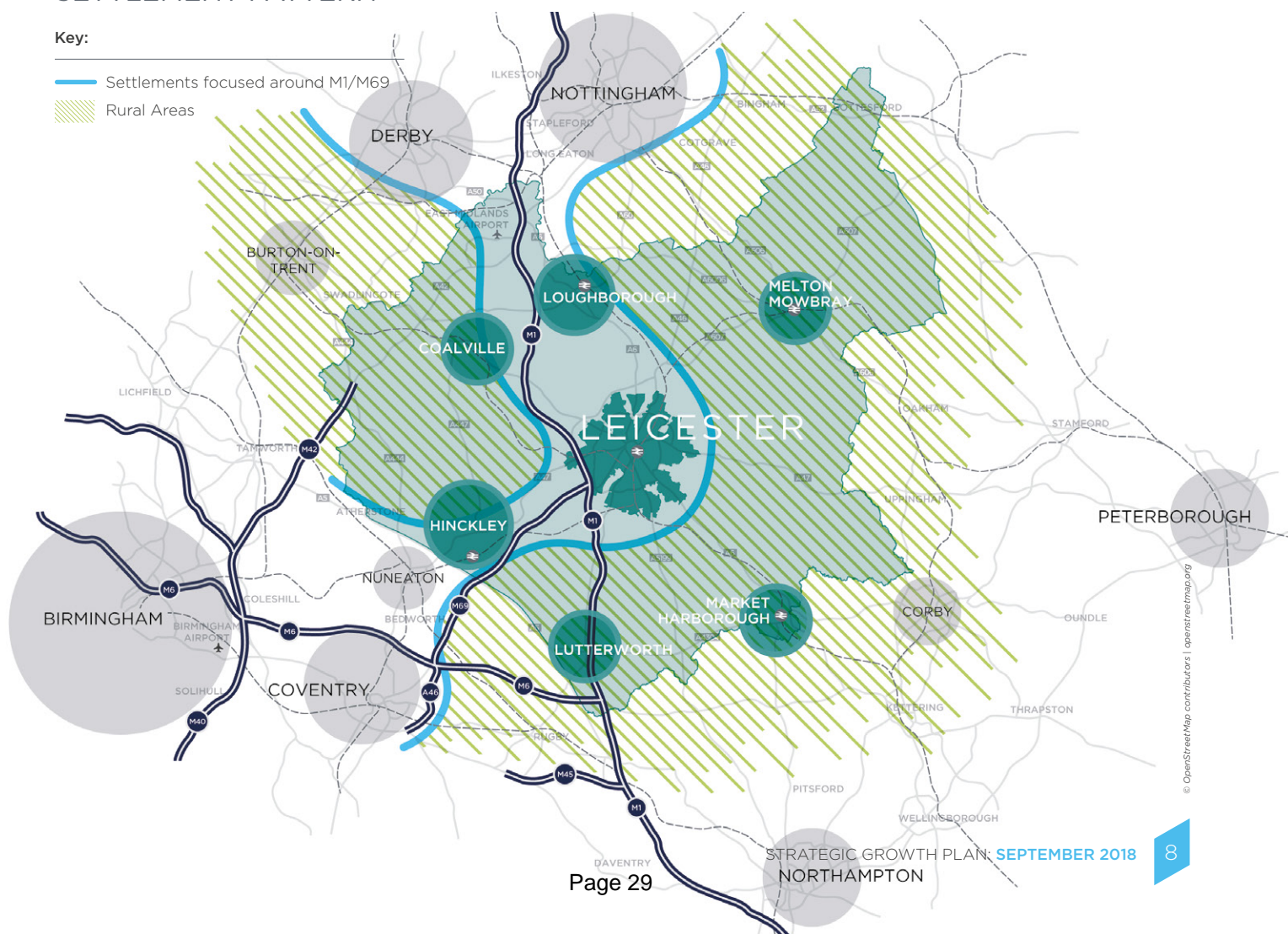
THE EXISTING SETTLEMENT PATTERN

The first building block for our Plan is the settlement pattern that we already have. Looking beyond the county boundaries, the settlement pattern can be described as a series of separate towns and cities, extending from Derby and Nottingham in the north to Coventry and Birmingham in the south-west, mostly focused around the M1 and the M69 with intervening rural areas. On either side, extensive rural areas separate Leicester & Leicestershire from the West Midlands and Cambridgeshire.

Within Leicester & Leicestershire the settlement pattern is quite distinctive:

- A strong 'central' city (**Leicester**), located at the heart of the County, with suburbs extending into adjoining boroughs and districts. With strong office, shopping, arts, culture, heritage and visitor profiles, the City is a focus for the market towns, rural areas and major employment areas that are linked to it.

FIGURE 2:
SETTLEMENT PATTERN



- **A ring of strong, independent and characterful market towns**

each connected to Leicester by radial routes and with strong physical, functional, social and economic ties to the City. The market towns contribute much to the character of Leicestershire, are economically buoyant in their own right and are an important focus for local communities.

- **Extensive rural areas**

encircling the City and the market towns, villages and hamlets. The landscape is beautiful and varied, and has an economy of its own, from nationally significant agriculture and food production to a growing professional services sector.

Together, this mix of urban and rural areas underpins our quality of life. The long-standing relationship between Leicester, the market towns and the rural areas is a feature that we wish to enhance. It is not lost on us that our settlement pattern resembles that of the 'social city', a phrase coined by the garden cities movement of the early 20th Century to describe a cluster of new garden cities in the countryside. The garden cities movement sought to deliver the perfect partnership between town and country.

NATIONAL POLICIES

The second building block of our Plan is an understanding of national policies. These influence what we can do, particularly in relation to our priority areas: housing, the economy, infrastructure and the environment. They also set the government's agenda for funding so it is important that we reflect these priorities. We want to be ready to take advantage of opportunities that will bring benefits to our area, yet able to control excessive development pressures.

THE INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY

The Government's Industrial Strategy sets out a long term plan to boost the productivity and earning power of people throughout the UK. It provides a framework for our own Local Industrial Strategy* and investment by the LLEP. The Strategic Growth Plan considers how existing employment areas can be supported and where new growth should be directed.

THE HOUSING STRATEGY

Government has also published its strategy for tackling problems in the housing market. This recognises that if more new housing is to be built, at a faster rate, it will have to be accompanied by investment in new infrastructure. The housing strategy also recognises the importance of strategic planning for long term growth.

Government has already committed to new investment in housing, industry and infrastructure in Leicester & Leicestershire through various funding programmes, and more is promised. We want to maximise the benefits of this investment, nationally, regionally and locally.

WE CONSIDER THAT OUR STRATEGIC GROWTH PLAN RESPONDS VERY POSITIVELY TO THE GOVERNMENT'S PRIORITIES FOR INVESTMENT AND NEW PLANNING POLICY

THE NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK

The National Planning Policy Framework has recently been revised. The emphasis of the new document is very much on strategic priorities, housing delivery and joint working. It includes a number of significant changes:

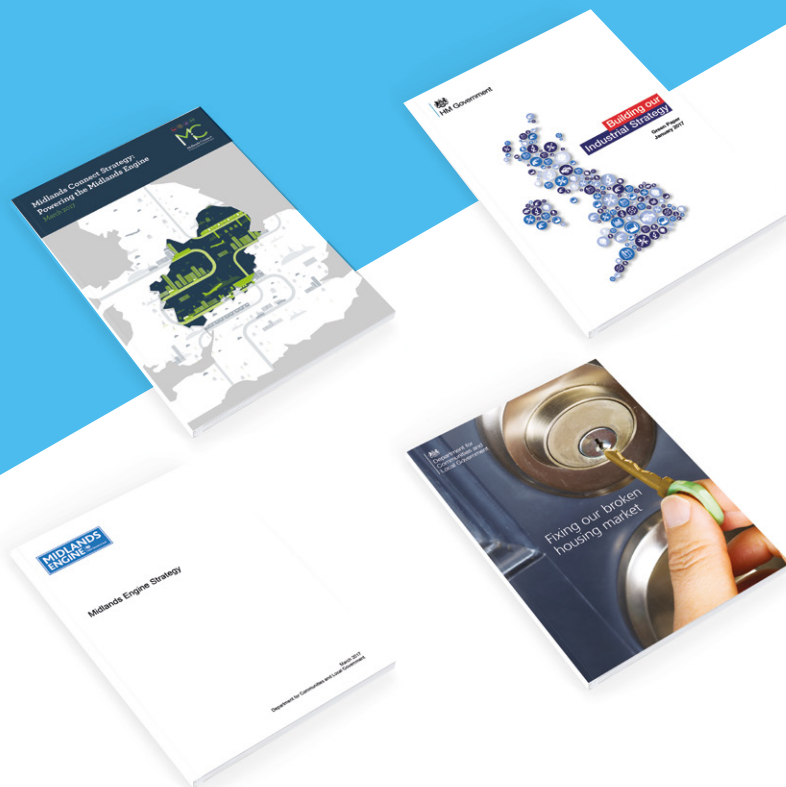
- the re-introduction of strategic planning
- the use of a 'standard methodology' for calculating housing need, and
- the requirement to prepare a 'Statement of Common Ground'.

In terms of strategic planning, authorities must now, as a minimum, ensure that there is a plan which addresses the priorities for an appropriate geographical area. It is acknowledged that in many cases, this will highlight the need for collaborative working on a joint plan.

We have used the standard methodology to calculate housing needs so that we can compare the results with our own study. We have found that, across Leicester & Leicestershire as a whole, the scale of need is very similar, although there are variations at the local level.

In terms of a Statement of Common Ground, our Strategic Growth Plan already fulfils much of what is required: it is a clear statement of acknowledged issues, it identifies our priorities and it sets out an agreed strategy for our Local Plans. It provides a good foundation for future work on our Statement of Common Ground.

Although the National Planning Policy Framework states the government's preference for statutory plans, this has come at a late stage in the preparation of our Plan. We consider that the current Plan fulfils many of the government's requirements. We also have a need for an agreed strategy to set a framework for our Local Plans and investment priorities. For these reasons, we have decided to complete our work on the Plan but we will, of course, consider the need for a statutory plan in line with the requirements of national planning policy as we move forwards.



OUR ECONOMY AND THE MIDLANDS ENGINE STRATEGY

The third building block of our Plan is an understanding of the local economy and how it is supported by the Midlands Engine Strategy. The economy in Leicester & Leicestershire is recovering strongly from the last recession but there is still much to be done. Productivity and wages remain below the national average but we have many important growth sectors and key employment locations.

The Midlands Engine Strategy has been prepared by Government and sets out a collective ambition for economic growth and prosperity. It aligns with the national industrial strategy and highlights how the region can build upon existing business sectors and areas of opportunity. It highlights many of our key industries, universities and employment areas as places of national, and even global, significance.

The Midlands Engine Strategy also recognises the growth potential of major employment areas such as East Midlands Airport, East Midlands Gateway, the two enterprise zones – MIRA Technology Park near Hinckley and the Loughborough & Leicester Enterprise Zone – the logistics and distribution industry and the potential of Leicester City Centre. Since the strategy was published government funding has been put in place for key projects.

THE MIDLANDS ENGINE STRATEGY HAS BEEN PREPARED BY GOVERNMENT AND SETS OUT A COLLECTIVE AMBITION FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH AND PROSPERITY





Key:

- | | | | |
|-----|--|-----|--|
| 1. | Toton Station (High Speed 2) | 13. | Leicester University |
| 2. | East Midlands Gateway (Strategic Rail Freight Interchange) | 14. | De Montfort University |
| 3. | East Midlands Airport | 15. | Global Space Technologies Hub |
| 4. | Engineering Skills Training Centre at MIRA | 16. | Space Research Centre & Earth Observation Centre |
| 5. | MIRA Enterprise Zone | 17. | IBM Client Innovation Centre |
| 6. | Centre for Connected Autonomous Vehicles | 18. | Agri-Food and Drink Processing |
| 7. | Birmingham International Airport | 19. | Loughborough & Leicester Enterprise Zone |
| 8. | Arden Cross Station (High Speed 2) | 20. | Loughborough University |
| 9. | Magna Park Distribution Centre | 21. | Life Sciences Opportunity Zone |
| 10. | Agri-Food and Drink Processing | | |
| 11. | Fosse Park Retail Centre | | |
| 12. | City Centre and Strategic Regeneration Area in Leicester | | |

INFRASTRUCTURE AND THE MIDLANDS CONNECT STRATEGY

The fourth building block of our Plan is an understanding of the local road and rail networks and how they are supported by proposals in the Midlands Connect Strategy. A particular feature of the road and rail network in Leicester & Leicestershire is its emphasis on north-south movement and the difficulty of east-west movement. All routes, however, are heavily congested and few have the capacity to support growth beyond 2031.

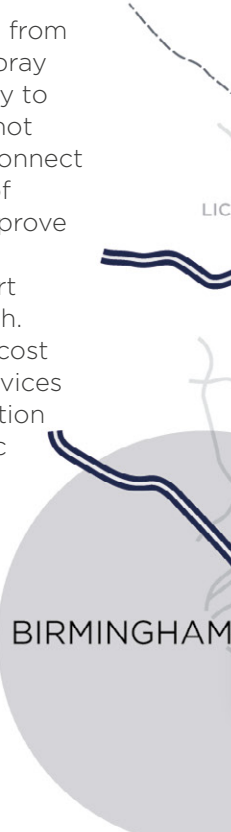
The Midlands Connect Strategy has been prepared jointly by the Midlands Connect Partnership and government agencies. It supports the Midlands Engine Strategy and sets out a series of long term transport investment priorities to help unlock jobs and growth. It proposes a rolling 25-year programme of strategic road and rail improvements around a series of economic hubs and intensive growth corridors.

The Strategy endorses a number of key rail projects in Leicester & Leicestershire including improved rail services between Leicester, Coventry and Birmingham. Key road projects include improving the A5, M42/A42 and A46 to expressway standard, including a new road to the south and east of Leicester linking into strategic highways to the west.

Whilst the electrification of the Midland Main Line north of Kettering will not now proceed as originally planned, we will continue to press for improvements to the track, stations and services to support our local economy and housing growth.

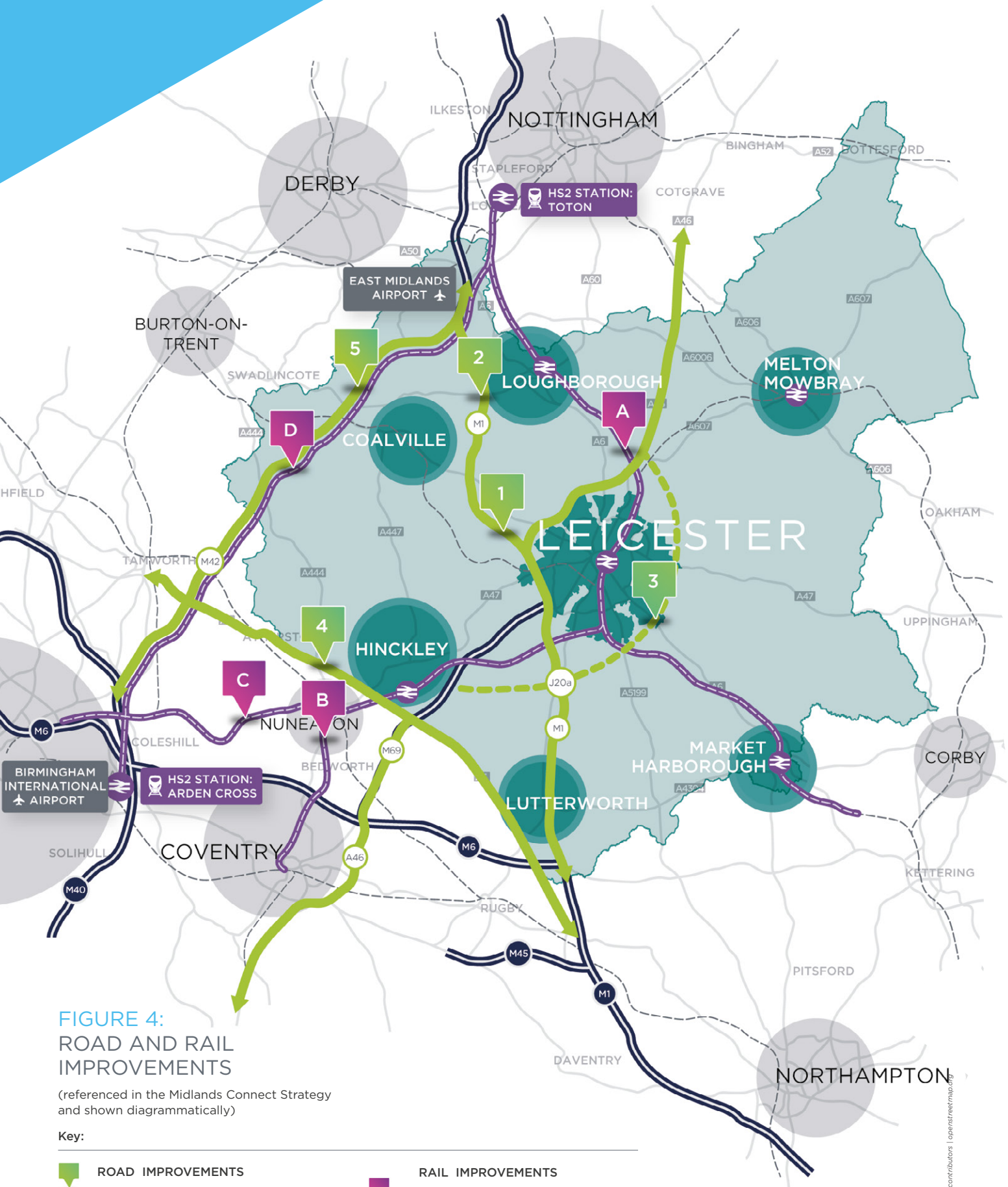
The improvement of the Leicester-Burton Railway Line does not form part of the Midlands Connect Strategy. Currently, the cost of improving the track for passenger use, re-instating stations and operating services on this line far exceeds available funding and the likely income. If viable funding solutions were to emerge, however, supported by new development in the vicinity of the line such that it could be re-opened for passenger use, the matter could be reviewed in future.

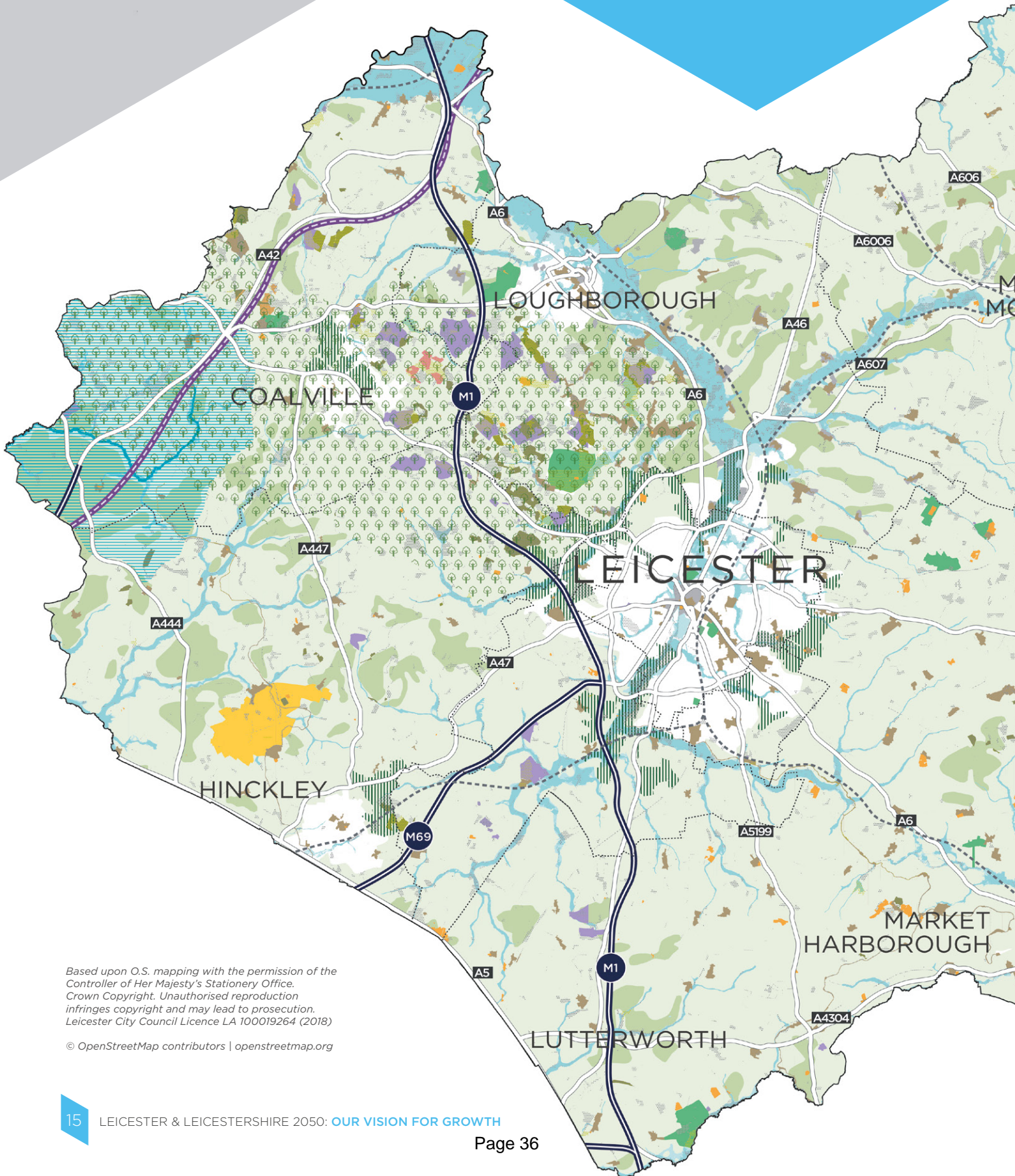
Similarly, the railway lines from Leicester to Melton Mowbray and from Melton Mowbray to Nottingham/Newark do not feature in the Midlands Connect Strategy. Improvement of these lines would also improve connectivity and provide additional public transport options to support growth. At present, however, the cost of improved lines and services requires further investigation to establish the economic case and availability of funding solutions.



BIRMINGHAM

THE MIDLANDS CONNECT STRATEGY HAS BEEN PREPARED JOINTLY BY THE MIDLANDS CONNECT PARTNERSHIP AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES





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PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENTAL, HISTORIC AND OTHER ASSETS

The fifth building block in the Plan is a recognition of the assets that are most important to us. We have identified key features and designations to help us make decisions about areas that need to be protected (See Fig 5). We have few national or international constraints but there are key features that are important to Leicester & Leicestershire, not least the National Forest, Charnwood Forest, Bosworth Battlefield, areas separating urban areas (our 'green wedges'), valuable landscape and townscape, local nature conservation designations, civic heritage, conservation areas, etc. Many other places are important locally and these too need to be protected.




In a strategic document such as this, it is impossible to convey the range of assets that we have. This information has been assembled, however, and is available on our website. Further detailed information is held by each of the local authorities and will be used to make decisions about potential development sites. Balancing the need for growth with protection of our assets has been a critical consideration.

Difficult decisions have had to be made but we know, from previous experience, that unplanned growth can bring even more unacceptable consequences. We will continue to gather evidence about our assets and how they can be protected as we continue our work on Local Plans.

FIGURE 5: ASSETS






Key:

AGRICULTURAL LAND GRADES:

	Grade 1
	Grade 2
	Grade 3

NATIONAL FLOOD ZONES:

	Level 3
	Level 2

	National / Charnwood Forest
	Battlefield
	Parks and Gardens
	Ancient Woodland
	Green Wedge

	Scheduled Monument
	River Mease Catchment Area
	River Mease SAC
	Conservation Areas
	National Nature Reserve
	Geology
	LNRs and Wildlife Sites
	Sites of Special Scientific Interest
	Archaeological Alert
	HS2

OUR OVERALL APPROACH

We acknowledge that Leicester & Leicestershire will grow. Our population is increasing and we need more homes. We have clusters of businesses, universities and research institutions that operate on a world stage. There is a national and regional imperative to provide more homes and jobs.

But we also know that too much growth in particular locations, and insensitive development, is having an adverse impact on our local communities and on our environment. The lack of essential infrastructure is also slowing the pace of delivery.

The Strategic Growth Plan is our proposal for balancing these competing interests. By providing a long term strategy and a framework for our Local Plans, the Strategic Growth Plan gives us the opportunity to identify strategic development locations and the infrastructure that is essential to their delivery.

THIS IS OUR OPPORTUNITY FOR CHANGE

OUR PRIORITIES

During the course of our work we have identified four priorities. They are:

- **creating conditions for investment and growth** - balancing the need for new housing and jobs with protection of our environment and built heritage.
- **achieving a step change in the way that growth is delivered** - focusing more development in strategic locations and less on non-strategic sites.
- **securing essential infrastructure that is needed to make this happen** - taking advantage of proposals to improve national and regional networks (as set out in the Midlands Connect Strategy) and maximising the benefits from them.
- maintaining the essential qualities of Leicester & Leicestershire and **delivering high quality development**.

This sets an agenda for growth which is based on achieving a better relationship between homes, jobs and infrastructure, increasing the speed of delivery and ensuring that development does not damage the special places that we cherish.

INVESTMENT AND GROWTH

Analysis of population and household statistics tells us that Leicester & Leicestershire will continue to grow whether we plan for this or not. New jobs continue to be created particularly in Leicester city centre, in the northern part of the county and around the market towns.

More new jobs are expected in the LLEP's priority sectors of life sciences (medical technologies); advanced manufacturing and engineering; advanced logistics; space and digital technologies; and textiles. These reflect the priorities of the Midlands Engine Strategy and the growth of the national economy.

More locally, individual authorities are focusing on tourism, leisure, health and wellbeing and supporting the rural economy. The Strategic Growth Plan provides a spatial framework within which this investment and growth can occur.

OUR VISION*

Our vision is that:

“By 2050, Leicester & Leicestershire will have established itself as a driver of the UK economy, exploiting opportunities for linkages across its diverse economic base, supporting its urban and rural centres, and taking advantage of its exceptional location. Growth will contribute to people’s health, happiness and well-being through the timely delivery of well-designed and high quality development, raising the bar in terms of environmental standards, quality of life and local distinctiveness.”

** Reference: Strategic Growth Statement (2016)*

SHIFTING THE FOCUS OF DEVELOPMENT

To date, the majority of new housing in Leicester & Leicestershire has been built on small and medium-sized sites in the City, market towns, villages and rural areas. Some of this development has been unplanned. Often these developments make little or no contribution to infrastructure or services and, instead, rely on existing facilities. This has created significant problems. Some communities feel overwhelmed by the speed and scale of change. Others are disadvantaged by pressures on local schools, health centres and recreation facilities. Congestion on local roads and public transport is a frequent cause of complaint.

Sometimes those who want to live in good quality homes close to their place of work find that there is little available within their price range. Several major employers and clusters of economic opportunities are located towards the edge of the County. Not all are close to housing so a great deal of commuting takes place. This is a problem not least for those who do not have a car – public transport is often limited.

Our strategy proposes to build more development in major strategic locations and to reduce the amount that takes place in existing towns, villages and rural areas. This will allow us to plan for new housing and employment together with new and improved roads, public transport, schools, health services, local shops and open space.

We are working with developers and Homes England to increase the speed at which development sites come forward and are built out. We will continue to seek funding for essential infrastructure to support development.

Our analysis has demonstrated that, through our existing and emerging Local Plans, and planning permissions, we can make provision for the amount of new homes and jobs we need in the period up to 2031. This will be achieved through a mixture of major strategic sites already identified in Local Plans (about 40%) and smaller scale growth on non-strategic sites (about 60%).

SECURING ESSENTIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Delivering sustainable growth, before and after 2031, needs new infrastructure, not only road and rail improvements but also schools, healthcare facilities, venues for sports and leisure, open space, community halls, etc. Through our work on Local Plans we have already identified the road and rail improvements that are needed to support growth in housing and jobs up to 2031. Statutory agencies also have the information that they need to organise their investment priorities. The problem has been aligning this provision across a number of delivery agencies. Solving this problem will lie at the heart of delivering growth in the early stages of our plan.

Beyond 2031, the scale of infrastructure and service provision is such that significant investment by government will be needed. Our strategy makes provision for more of our growth to be provided in strategic locations. To do this, we need to:

- deliver the infrastructure and services that have already been identified in Local Plans and planning applications; and
- secure public sector funding for new strategic infrastructure which will open up sites for development.

In terms of road and rail improvements, the Midlands Connect Strategy lays the foundations for longer term, strategic investment. Analysis has shown that by investing in road and rail schemes in Leicester & Leicestershire, congestion can be reduced on other parts of the regional and national network. The strategy, therefore, proposes major improvements to road and rail facilities throughout the area.

We have considered how these road and rail improvements could support strategic development in Leicester & Leicestershire. We have concluded that there are major opportunities for strategic development in locations that relate well to areas of housing need and economic opportunity. It makes great practical and financial sense to maximise the benefits that are offered by these schemes.

We recognise that, if high quality sustainable development is to be achieved, these schemes will need to be supported by public sector investment in local road and rail improvements, and in public transport. The City and County Councils, as highway authorities, are already starting to identify what will be needed but decisions cannot be finalised until specific development sites have been identified in Local Plans. The Strategic Transport Plan will provide more information on what these improvements are and how they will be delivered.

In terms of private sector projects, we recognise that the lack of funding, or the ability to secure finance, and a range of other factors have caused delay. We need to resolve these problems if we are to create high quality developments with a sense of place and everything that they need to create real communities. Growth after 2031 is also very much dependent upon earlier infrastructure being put in place.

We will work collaboratively with the private sector and others to remove any barriers which exist. The Strategic Growth Plan, together with Local Plans, the Local Industrial Strategy and the Strategic Transport Plan will demonstrate that we are speaking with one voice and are committed to an agreed strategy.

DELIVERING HIGH QUALITY DEVELOPMENT

We have decided that our common agenda will be delivering 21st century garden towns, villages and suburbs within our strategic growth areas. This reflects the settlement pattern of the City and County, and establishes a framework for protecting the valuable assets that we have. It also allows us to develop a strong agenda around social, economic and environmental priorities.

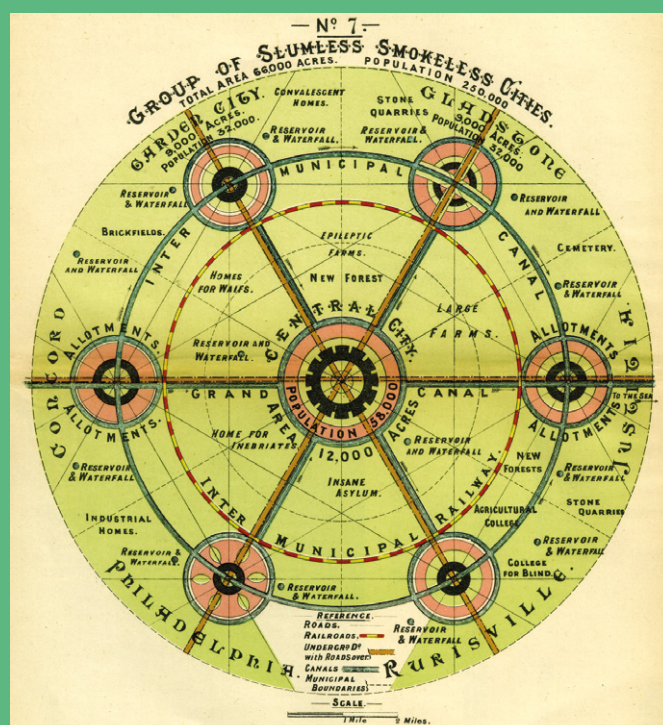
The scale of opportunity in Leicester & Leicestershire assists these choices. Our strategy focuses development along transportation corridors and close to important employment centres. At a local level, we could expand existing settlements or create new ones. We could plan for some new development in existing urban areas. Indeed, given the scale of opportunity, several of these options could be delivered in combination. The decisions will be made in our Local Plans but the intention is that individual decisions will be made in line with this strategy.

We also propose to seek high quality environments, with a strong community focus and economic justification, and we consider that new strategic development should be delivered to a common agenda.

For this we have looked to our distinctive settlement pattern - Leicester as a thriving central city surrounded by strong, independent and characterful market towns, and extensive rural areas. We are keen to reflect our heritage of garden suburbs and government support for new garden towns, villages and suburbs.

The Garden City concept allows us to plan for new development which captures the very best of town and country. It would ensure that new development is planned with strong social, economic and environmental foundations, and that communities are placed at the heart of planning. This is the common agenda to which we will work as we bring forward, through our Local Plans, the major development opportunities in the Plan.

FIGURE 6:
THE SOCIAL CITY CONCEPT OF
THE GARDEN CITY MOVEMENT



Credit: Town And Country Planning Association

OUR SPATIAL STRATEGY

Our spatial strategy acknowledges the scale of growth that is already in the pipeline as a result of Local Plans and planning permissions. It also builds upon known road and rail infrastructure opportunities or commitments. In delivering the strategy we will enhance the role of Leicester at the heart of the county and maintain the close relationships between the City, the market towns and rural areas. In doing so, we will prepare Local Plans in line with this spatial strategy to ensure that growth is delivered in a way which responds positively to our aspirations.

LEICESTER: OUR 'CENTRAL CITY'

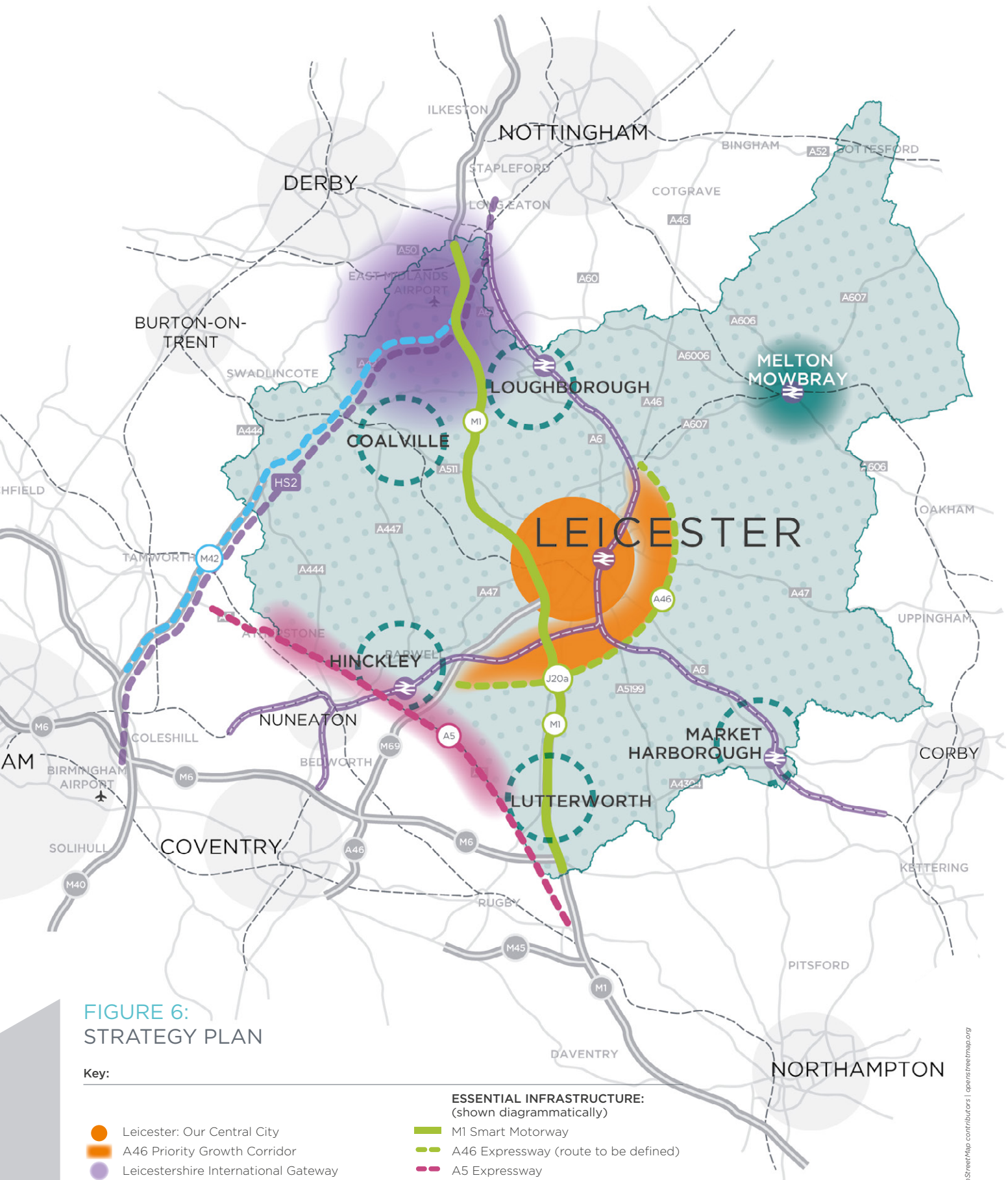
Leicester has a pivotal role to play in the strategy. We propose that it should develop its role as the 'central city' supporting the market towns and rural areas around it. More jobs, leisure, arts, culture and entertainment facilities would be provided within the City Centre. The strategic regeneration area along the Waterside will develop as a mixed use area, extending the economic opportunities available within the centre of the City, but balancing new jobs with the need for new homes.

The population of the urban area, in and around Leicester City, is about 650,000 and increasing rapidly. We are working collaboratively to accommodate all of the homes that the City needs in places that are well-connected to it.

Given the scale of housing need and the potential for new jobs, the City needs to grow. This needs to be done in such a way that we can make full use of existing services and infrastructure within the City. Also, by providing more homes close to jobs in the City Centre and other employment centres, we will be able to relieve development pressures in other parts of the surrounding **BIRMINGHAM** authorities.

Given the scale of development on the fringes of Leicester, any growth would need to be accompanied by measures to increase capacity on the radial roads and improve public transport, cycling and walking.

WE WILL ENHANCE THE
ROLE OF LEICESTER AND
MAINTAIN THE CLOSE
RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN
THE CITY, THE MARKET
TOWNS AND RURAL AREAS



THE A46 PRIORITY GROWTH CORRIDOR

The 'expressway' proposal for the A46 is critical to our strategy. It not only provides an alternative route to the M1 but also creates the opportunity for significant development to the south and east of the City. The expressway proposal is included in the Midlands Connect Strategy and proposes a new road extending from a new or improved junction on the M69, and continuing to the south and east of Leicester, with a new junction on the M1 (J20a). The new road will re-join the existing A46 to the north-east of the City. The precise route of the new road will have significant implications for encouraging growth in Leicester and Leicestershire and will be the subject of consultation at various stages in its routing and design.

Improvements to the railway lines and services between Leicester, Coventry and Birmingham are also proposed.

The combination of new and improved roads and railways in this area creates the opportunity for major development along a corridor extending around the southern and eastern fringes of Leicester. The proposed new road is of national and regional significance but it also provides the opportunity for strategic development in Leicester & Leicestershire. We estimate that this corridor has the potential to accommodate about 38,000 new homes and additional new jobs.

The Midlands Connect Strategy proposes that the A46 and A5 expressways will be built by the early 2030s. Increased capacity on the railways is proposed within the same timeframe. As planning progresses on these road and rail projects, and Local Plans make provision for future development, the Plan proposes that we should start to shift the balance of new growth, away from small and medium-sized sites, towards major strategic locations within this corridor.

WE ESTIMATE THAT
THIS CORRIDOR HAS
THE POTENTIAL TO
ACCOMMODATE ABOUT
38,000 NEW HOMES AND
ADDITIONAL NEW JOBS

THE LEICESTERSHIRE INTERNATIONAL GATEWAY

The Leicestershire International Gateway is focused around the northern parts of the A42 and the M1, where there are major employment opportunities notably East Midlands Airport, East Midlands Gateway (strategic rail freight terminal) and HS2 station at Toton nearby. The authorities have already made provision for strategic new housing developments in Ashby, Coalville, and Loughborough and these need to be completed as a matter of priority to provide the opportunity for people to live close to their places of work. At the same time, some parts of the area (e.g. the centres of Coalville and Shepshed) are in need of regeneration and the physical fabric needs to be improved. In our Local Plans we intend to explore the theme of 'forest towns' suggested in the National Forest Strategy. This could be a way of enhancing the physical fabric of the towns and villages in this area and making the most of our environmental assets. It would also support investment in tourism and leisure facilities and health and wellbeing agenda.

Loughborough, with a world class university, has also made provision for a science and enterprise park and this needs to be delivered in conjunction with improved access from J23 on the M1, now funded.

Overall, we estimate that the area has the potential to accommodate about 11,000 new homes. Improvements to the A42, the M1, railway lines and services – all set out in the Midlands Connect Strategy – support this opportunity.

THE A5 IMPROVEMENT CORRIDOR

The A5 provides a long distance strategic route running from the south-east to the north-west. The route acts as an alternative to the M6 motorway between J12 and the M1 but suffers from increasing congestion and lack of capacity to serve as a relief route when there are problems on the M6. Also, it is expected to experience increased traffic growth in the future from advanced manufacturing and logistics developments such as the MIRA Enterprise Zone & Technology Park, phase three of DIRFT near Daventry and Magna Park in Lutterworth.

Improvement of the A5 corridor is essential to reduce congestion in the area, to deliver already planned housing growth and to support delivery of major industrial sites which already have Local Plan allocations and/or planning permission. Managing the delivery of consented/allocated sites in and around Hinckley will be achieved through Local Plans.

There are long-standing proposals, promoted by the A5 Partnership, to improve the A5 from Dodwells to Longshoot, widening to dual-carriageway a short section of the A5 near Hinckley, which carries the traffic of both the A5 and the A47. The A5 Partnership proposals also call for improvements to upgrade the A5 between the A38 and the M1 to 'expressway' standard. This is supported by the Midlands Connect Strategy and will provide much needed relief to local roads, and provide an efficient alternative route to the M6, between J12 and the M1.

MELTON MOWBRAY: KEY CENTRE FOR REGENERATION AND GROWTH

Melton Mowbray sits at the centre of a largely agricultural area in the north east of the county. Somewhat distant from other centres, strategic road and rail routes, the town functions as a rural hub for the surrounding villages and rural communities, the focus of social and economic activity, enhanced by a characterful and distinctive landscape. Recently economic growth has been constrained by lack of sites and poor connectivity but there is evidence that local firms are looking to expand and new businesses wish to move in.

The town centre is congested and in need of regeneration but has a great deal of potential. Investment in the public realm – the buildings, public spaces, streets – would do much to restore confidence in the town and support its potential as centre for tourism and leisure in one of the most attractive parts of the county.

The recent approval for the Melton Mowbray Relief Road provides the catalyst for change: it will remove congestion in the town centre and open up land for development to the north and east of the town. Similar investment in highways to the south of the town could increase this further. New growth will support town centre shops and services and provide the opportunity for people to live close to where they work. The new A46 expressway and improved connections to it, will also improve connectivity to Leicester, the M1 and the Leicestershire International Gateway.

* Reference: The Department for Transport's Road Investment Strategy 2016-2019/20) includes proposals to upgrade the A5. The A5 Partnership is made up of 18 local councils supported by other public agencies along a 70 mile stretch from Gailey in Staffordshire, to Weedon in Northamptonshire (via Leicestershire and Warwickshire). It is supported by Highways England, four Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs), Midlands Connect, East Midlands Councils and the Homes and Communities Agency.

AREAS OF MANAGED GROWTH IN LOCAL PLANS

Coalville, Hinckley, Loughborough, Lutterworth and Market Harborough vary in size, location and economic base but all contribute significantly to the local economy. All are already under intense pressure for development and have made substantial provision within and on the edges of the existing towns. Much of this has still to be built and is dependent upon new local infrastructure. Further sustainable development should be consistent with the need to support local growth. In particular, there are aspirations for continued town centre regeneration and better services.

TABLE B: NOTIONAL CAPACITY OF STRATEGIC GROWTH AREAS (DWELLINGS)

Growth area	Notional capacity (dwellings)
A46 Priority Growth Corridor	38,000
The Leicestershire International Gateway	11,200
Melton Mowbray: Key Centre for Regeneration and Growth	3,800
Total	53,000

OUR VILLAGES AND RURAL AREAS

In recent years, our villages and rural areas have been under intense pressure for growth. The strategy proposes that, in future, there will be limited growth in these areas, consistent with providing for local needs.

NOTIONAL CAPACITY (DWELLINGS)

We have estimated the notional capacity of our strategic growth areas to accommodate new homes and this is shown in Table B below. In Appendix B we indicate how this growth would be distributed across the eight local authorities in Leicester & Leicestershire.

NOTIONAL CAPACITY (EMPLOYMENT LAND)

Our study of housing and economic development needs* indicates the amounts of employment land that will be required in the periods 2011-31 and 2011-36 (see Appendix A). We are confident that, for these periods, provision will be made in existing and emerging Local Plans.

Longer term requirements are not quantified. The need for employment land is subject to considerably greater market variability than the need for new homes.

It is, therefore, unrealistic to anticipate what these might be so far ahead. In principle, however, it is considered that the spatial distribution of new employment will need to reflect the overall strategy of the Plan, enable homes and jobs to be located in close proximity, and take advantage of opportunities for commuting by public transport. The need for new employment land will be monitored and reviewed on a regular basis through the preparation and adoption of Local Plans.

OUR COMMITMENT TO DELIVERY

A PARTNERSHIP APPROACH

Our analysis demonstrates that Leicester & Leicestershire has the potential to deliver development which is of national and regional significance. The fact that the Strategic Growth Plan has been prepared by the ten partner organisations responsible for planning, transport and economic development demonstrates the extent of the collaborative work that is taking place. Three strategic documents are being prepared in parallel: the Strategic Growth Plan, the Strategic Transport Plan and the Local Industrial Strategy. Together with Local Plans, these key documents will demonstrate our commitment to future growth and infrastructure investment.

STATUTORY VS NON-STATUTORY PLANS

The changes to the National Planning Policy Framework state a preference for statutory plans, make recommendations on a standard methodology for calculating housing need, and set out the requirements for a '*Statement of Common Ground*'. The work on our three strategic documents, however, has reached an advanced stage. To pause and re-work the Strategic Growth Plan in a different format would cause significant delay at a time when there are significant issues to resolve and opportunities to grasp.

We propose, therefore, to proceed on the basis of a non-statutory plan and we will reinforce its provisions as necessary to give confidence that we are committed to delivery. We will implement the Strategic Growth Plan through our statutory Local Plans, supplemented by additional documents as necessary.

Should circumstances change in future, we can update housing need and supply through Statements of Common Ground and/or a review of the Strategic Growth Plan.

ALIGNING INFRASTRUCTURE AND GROWTH

It is clear, however, that we will need support from government if we are to achieve the step change in the amount and speed of housing and economic growth that we propose. We started our work with a shared commitment to deliver the homes and jobs that Leicestershire needs over the period 2011-50 and our strategy is set out in this Plan. We wish to take full advantage of the opportunities that are presented by the Midlands Engine and Midlands Connect strategies. Our proposals, therefore, maximise the benefits that are delivered by the infrastructure investment proposed in these documents. We value the government's stated commitment to the region.

DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY

Digital connectivity is a significant issue in parts of Leicester & Leicestershire, both rural and urban. High quality communications support remote working and provide access to on-line services. They are an essential part of the infrastructure planning process and need to be funded as such.

OUR OFFER TO GOVERNMENT

Our offer to government, in return for investment in infrastructure, is to maximise the benefits that can be achieved from commitments that are already made in the Midlands Engine and Midlands Connect strategies. We are confident that we can deliver genuinely high quality new homes and jobs, in successful communities at a faster pace than has been achieved to date. New infrastructure will enable this to happen.

Given that our growth in the period 2011-31 can be provided on existing sites or in Local Plans, we have time to align infrastructure and new growth. We propose to work with government and its executive agencies to put this into effect. We will also work with local communities and government departments to ensure that new development brings with it the local services that are needed. For our part, through our Local Plans, we will deliver the growth that is set out in this Plan, ensuring that new development is built to the highest possible standards.

APPENDIX A

HOUSING NEEDS 2011-31 AND 2011-36

We have undertaken a study of our housing and employment economic development needs for the periods 2011-31 and 2011-36 to align with the different time periods for which Local Plans are being prepared. The results of this analysis are set out in Tables 1 and 2 and further detail can be found in the study. Leicester City Council has formally declared that it will be unable to meet its 'objectively assessed needs' (OAN) for housing for the period 2011-31. Oadby & Wigston Borough Council has declared that, subject to further investigation of highway matters, it might be unable to meet its needs for the period 2031-36. Planning guidance requires the OAN to be satisfied across the 'housing market area' (HMA) as a whole.

We have undertaken an analysis of completions, planning permissions and allocations in adopted and emerging Local Plans. We have concluded that sufficient provision has been, or will be, made in adopted or emerging Local Plans to accommodate the OAN for housing, across the HMA as a whole, for the period 2011-31. The unmet need arising in the administrative areas of Leicester City Council will, therefore, be accommodated in the remaining borough and district councils and this will be reflected in Local Plans as they progress, supported by an agreed statement or Statement of Common Ground as appropriate.

Beyond 2031, provision will be made in Local Plans in accordance with the framework set out in this Plan.

TABLE 1: HOUSING NEED 2011-31

Authority	Housing Need ¹	
	Number of dwellings per annum	Total number of dwellings
Blaby DC	370	7,400
Charnwood BC	1,031	20,620
Harborough DC	532	10,640
Hinckley & Bosworth BC	471	9,420
Leicester City Council	1,692	33,840
Melton BC	186	3,720
North West Leicestershire DC	481	9,620
Oadby & Wigston BC	148	2,960
Total (Leicester & Leicestershire)	4,829²	96,580²

TABLE 2: HOUSING NEED 2011-36

Authority	Housing Need ¹	
	Number of dwellings per annum	Total number of dwellings
Blaby DC	361	9,025
Charnwood BC	994	24,850
Harborough DC	514	12,850
Hinckley & Bosworth BC	454	11,350
Leicester City Council	1,668	41,700
Melton BC	170	4,250
North West Leicestershire DC	448	11,200
Oadby & Wigston BC	155	3,875
Total (Leicester & Leicestershire)	4,716²	117,900²

Notes:

1. Source: *Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment*, GL Hearn, January 2017

2. The totals do not match the sum of the parts due to the way in which additional provision to support economic growth in Melton BC and North West Leicestershire DC is taken into account.

EMPLOYMENT LAND NEEDS 2011-31 AND 2011-36

The study of housing and economic development needs also considered employment land needs for the periods 2011-31 and 2011-36. The results of this analysis are set out in Table 3 and further detail can be found in the study. In addition to the needs set out in Table 3, the authorities will seek to meet the need from strategic B8 uses identified in a separate study relating to logistics and distribution.

TABLE 3: EMPLOYMENT LAND NEEDS (HA) 2011-31 AND 2011-36

	2011-31			2011-36		
	B1a/b	B1c/B2	Small B8	B1a/b	B1c/B2	Small B8
Blaby DC	37-45	15	10	47-48	19	12
Charnwood BC	14-37	21	11	17-40	26	13
Harborough DC	14-21	22	8	17-24	28	9
Hinckley & Bosworth BC	11-32	14	16	13-34	17	20
Leicester City Council	2-6	36	15	3-7	45	19
Melton BC	10-18	21	14	10-23	26	17
North West Leicestershire DC	45-46	3	17	50-56	4	21
Oadby & Wigston BC	1	0	4	2	0	5
Totals	142-198	132	93	177-215	165	117

Notes:

The range for the Total B1a/b does not sum to the cumulative minimum and maximum range for each local authority. This is because the source of the minimum and maximum figures varies according to the outcome of the labour demands scenario and completions trends. The totals reflect the total for each scenario. Numbers may also not add up due to rounding.

Local plans will make provision for these needs in the period 2011-36.

Beyond 2031, provision made in Local Plans, for both housing and economic growth will be made in accordance with the framework established by the Strategic Growth Plan.

APPENDIX B

NOTIONAL HOUSING NEEDS AND SUPPLY 2031-50

For the purposes of the Strategic Growth Plan, we need to estimate the likely scale of growth for the period 2031-50. This needs to be identified across the housing market area as a whole. Currently, only the Melton Local Plan goes beyond 2031, and only to 2036.

The study of housing and economic development needs also gives us an indication of what needs might be for the period 2031-36.

We recognise that projecting forward beyond this date is highly problematical but we need some notional estimates of growth in order to take a longer term view. In the absence any more authoritative data, therefore, we have chosen to extrapolate these figures forwards. The results are set out in Table 4.

It is important to note that, although these numbers cannot be regarded as being authoritative, they will be consistently monitored and reviewed, and can be adjusted as necessary.

In Table 4, we have also estimated the likely sources of housing supply. The Strategic Growth Plan assumes that both Leicester City Council and Oadby &

Wigston Borough Council will be unlikely to be able to meet their objectively assessed needs during this period. Table 4, therefore, assumes that there will be a re-distribution of housing across the housing market area. In line with the strategy set out in the Plan, we propose that there should be a shift in the focus of development from small- and medium-sized sites to strategic locations.

The authorities in Leicester & Leicestershire agree that the distribution in Table 4 will be used as the basis for future Local Plans. This will be reinforced in an agreed statement or Statement of Common Ground and in Local Plans.

TABLE 4: NOTIONAL HOUSING NEED AND SUPPLY 2031-50

Authority	Notional Housing Needs 2031-50 ¹		Delivery on Non-Strategic Sites ⁴		Delivery on Strategic Sites	Total Delivery	
	dpa	Total	dpa	Total	Total	dpa	Total
Blaby DC	361	6,859	110	2,060 ³	15,500	924	17,560
Charnwood BC	994	18,886	470	8,890 ²	10,000	994	18,890
Harborough DC	514	9,766	150	2,930 ³	13,000	838	15,930
Hinckley & Bosworth BC	454	8,626	140	2,590 ³	7,500	531	10,090
Leicester City	1,668	31,692	550	10,450	0	550	10,450
Melton BC	170	3,230	80	1,520	3,800	280	5,320
North West Leicestershire DC	448	8,512	240	4,520 ²	5,200	512	9,720
Oadby & Wigston BC	155	2,945	60	1,140	1,500	139	2,640
Total (Leicester & Leicestershire) (%)	4,764	90,516	1,800	34,100 (38%)	56,500 (62%)	4,768	90,600

Notes:

1. Notional housing needs 2031-50 based on information contained in Housing and Economic Development Needs assessment (January 2017)

2. Charnwood and North West Leicestershire are assumed to meet notional OAN so delivery on non-strategic sites exceeds the Strategic Growth Plan's figure of 40% of notional OAN.

3. Due to the level of provision for development on strategic sites in Blaby DC, Harborough DC and Hinckley & Bosworth BC, development on non-strategic sites is limited to 30% of notional OAN.

4. Delivery on non-strategic sites rounded to the nearest '10'.



For further details on the Strategic Growth Plan please visit our web site:

 lstrategicgrowthplan.org.uk

or contact any of the partner organisations listed on the inside cover.

Key Changes Made Following Consultation on the Draft Strategic Growth Plan

Matter	Explanation
Chapter 3: Accommodating our Growth	
Ch 3: Title changed from ' <i>Accommodating Our Growth</i> ' to ' <i>Planning for Our Growth and Infrastructure</i> '.	Emphasises relationship between growth and infrastructure.
Ch 3: Re-drafted to bring together two time periods 2011-31 and 2031-50 (housing numbers as before).	Provides clarity on scale of growth over long term; better support for funding bids.
Ch 3: New text on aligning growth, infrastructure and services; focus on delivery, removing barriers to development; increasing speed.	Emphasises need for infrastructure to support committed and new development; identifies other infrastructure needs and priorities.
Chapter 4: The Building Blocks for our Plan	
Ch 4: New text added on the revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).	Explains how we will address changing government policy.
Ch 4: New text and plan relating to environmental, historic and other assets.	Emphasises that such assets are an important consideration when planning for and integrating growth into its environment, context and setting.
Chapter 5: Our Overall Approach	
Ch 5: New text on ' <i>Investment and Growth</i> '	Recognises that Leicester & Leicestershire will continue to grow so we have to plan for this; links to the LLEP's emerging Local Industrial Strategy; and ensures that local aspirations are reflected in the SGP.
Ch 5: New text on ' <i>Securing essential Infrastructure</i> '	States that wide range of infrastructure is needed; promised infrastructure needs to be provided in parallel with the delivery of growth; much of this from the public sector but also collaboration with private sector.
Ch 5: Text on garden cities agenda brought forward.	To emphasise the way in which this agenda will lie at the heart of our proposals to give social, economic and environmental focus to the delivery of

	growth in a plan-led way.
Chapter 6: Our Spatial Strategy	
Ch 6: New text to emphasise that the SGP will be delivered via Local Plans	To emphasise that local planning authorities intend to be at the forefront, managing the delivery process
Ch 6: A46: identified as the ' <i>The A46 Priority Growth Corridor</i> '	Reinforces the message that the new A46 Expressway is a critical infrastructure element of the strategy without which growth on the scale/speed proposed would not be possible.
Ch 6: ' <i>Northern Gateway</i> ': Re-defined and identified as ' <i>The Leicestershire international Gateway</i> '	Recognises the increasingly international importance of this area with East Midlands Airport, East Midlands Gateway, HS2 station, major employers, new roads, etc.
Ch 6: ' <i>Southern Gateway</i> ' deleted; replaced with ' <i>A5 Improvement Corridor</i> '	Emphasises the importance of the A5 improvements to the delivery of committed growth
Ch 6: Lutterworth deleted as ' <i>Key Centre for Growth</i> '; re-designated as an ' <i>Area of Managed Growth in Local Plans</i> '	Allows the local planning authority to focus on current proposals for growth and manage future development in Local Plans
Ch 6: Melton Mowbray renamed ' <i>Key Centre for Regeneration and Growth</i> '	Better reflects the aspirations of the local authority for growth and regeneration supported by new infrastructure
Strategy Plan revised	Amended in line with changes.
Housing numbers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced by 2,000 dwellings in the area of Harborough DC Increased by 800 dwellings in the area of Melton BC Increased by 1,200 dwellings in the area of North West Leicestershire DC 	Provides a more sustainable distribution and accurately reflects the positive aspirations of local authorities.
General changes to the text in various places	
Clear support for public transport enhancements; including radial routes and	Better reflects the aspirations of the partners in terms of public transport

railways not in Midlands Connect Strategy e.g. Leicester-Burton Line and around Melton Mowbray.	improvements.
Recognition of the need for public transport to support growth.	Amended to emphasis aspirations for improved public transport as part of a sustainable transport strategy.
Importance of delivering infrastructure in parallel with growth in order to support both long term growth and growth committed through the grant of planning permission.	Emphasises that infrastructure is needed to support both long term growth and sites which already have planning permission.
Emphasis on relationship/dependency between strategic and 'lower order' infrastructure	Recognises that improvements to the wider network will be needed to support the strategic road and rail improvements highlighted in the Plan.
Emphasis on delivery.	Emphasises that development in the period 2011-31 needs to be accelerated.
Align homes and jobs; recognising LLEP priorities.	Recognises the desire to reduce levels of commuting and the relationship between major employment centres and new homes.
Clear support for regeneration e.g. Coalville Town Centre	Acknowledges that growth can take the form of regeneration and redevelopment of brownfield sites.

Appendix 3

Risk Assessment

Risk	Specific issue	Response
Joint working	The revised NPPF makes it very clear that government wants LPAs to work together, specifically preparing joint statutory Local Plans.	<p>The SGP is clear evidence of joint working albeit on a non-statutory basis. The work has made steady progress over the last three years with no interruption, signs of hesitation or withdrawal of support. Failure to agree at this late stage would signal a major break-up in the partnership putting at risk all of the attendant benefits which could be delivered through continued joint working (notably access to funding and the ability to resist unwanted development pressures).</p> <p>Joint working has also raised the profile of the Leicester & Leicestershire partners with statutory agencies and has contributed to a positive outcome on a number of funding applications.</p>
The 'Duty to Co-operate'	The revised NPPF strengthens the requirements of the 'Duty to Co-operate', effectively turning it into a 'Duty to Agree'.	If approved by all partners, the SPG will be a clear statement of co-operation and agreement. It highlights the issues, identifies a strategy and, in its final form, will be a clear statement of agreement by the partners. This is a powerful statement and a good collaborative position for the partners which can be clearly demonstrated.
Statement of Common Ground	The revised NPPF establishes a mandatory requirement for a Statement of Common Ground and sets out a timetable for its preparation.	The SGP provides much of the information needed for a Statement of Common Ground. The Statement of Common Ground will set out the agreement on housing numbers including a recognition on behalf of the partners that they will need to accommodate any demonstrated unmet need arising from Leicester City (and Oadby & Wigston Borough if necessary).

Reputational damage if one or more partners does not approve the Plan	Clear demonstration of failure to work co-operatively, lack of strategy to address acknowledged development requirements and no framework for Local Plan. Consequential, ad hoc and piecemeal development pressures which would be difficult to resist.	Withdrawal of support by a number of partners would signal clear failure in attempts at joint working. This would be likely to result in a position that would probably be worse than if the SGP process had not started. Intense pressure from development interests would be likely to arise across the Leicester & Leicestershire Housing Market Area (HMA), in all likelihood targeting the types of site that the SGP is attempting to protect (e.g. development in villages and rural areas).
Delay in the preparation of Local Plans	The SGP is intended as a framework for Local Plans. If this does not exist, then the Duty to Co-operate will need to be re-cast in a different form.	Possibility of delay rather than rapid progression towards Statement of Common Ground being agreed across the Leicester & Leicestershire HMA and in the preparation of Local Plans.
Failure to deliver new housing at the pace required.	Local Planning Authorities will have to return to relying on disaggregated and piecemeal ways of securing infrastructure.	Government is committed to the delivery of new housing and accelerating the speed of delivery. Work on the SGP has already supported applications for funding (which have been successful). Homes England have expressed a willingness to support the partners in accelerating growth, bringing other government departments into the process. This is a good collaborative position for the partners to be able to demonstrate as they go forward.
Delivering new infrastructure	<p>Different mechanisms to make the case for arguing for strategic infrastructure would have to be devised. Returning to disaggregated and piecemeal means of doing this might not deliver provision at the scale and pace required.</p> <p>Lack of infrastructure is currently delaying the delivery of some growth</p>	Government's view is that infrastructure and growth are closely aligned. Those authorities which best demonstrate joint working and a commitment to growth will access the greatest Government funding. Leicester & Leicestershire has had some significant funding successes already e.g. the Melton Mowbray Relief Road; progress to Stage 2 of the Housing and Infrastructure Fund both the South-West Leicestershire package of improvements and the final section

	that already benefits from planning permission and, as a result, pressure continues to be exerted on other sites.	of the Melton Mowbray Relief Road.
Accelerating the pace of housing delivery	The SGP demonstrates to Government the effort that has already been made by the partners to accommodate development via existing Local Plan allocations and planning permissions. This provides a good platform to negotiate infrastructure funding and other work with Government in order to accelerate delivery.	Leicester City Council has secured Marginal Viability Funding to accelerate the pace of delivery at the important Ashton Green site. The Leicester & Leicestershire partnership is recognised by Homes England who have offered support in a variety of forms. Accelerating the delivery of consented schemes allows local people to see how growth can support the local housing market and to see the merits of growth.
Loss of confidence in the ability of the partners to plan pro-actively.	Powers exist already for the government to transfer control to the County Council if the partners fail to co-operate and manage growth positively and proactively through a planned approach.	The SGP is an excellent example of collaborative working across organisations with responsibility for the whole range of local government functions. It could be an exemplar of how to balance competing interests and thereby maximise funding opportunities.
The scale of growth will not reduce	There is intense pressure for development in the logistics sector in the Leicestershire and Leicestershire area. Both the Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment (January 2017) and the new standard methodology for calculating housing needs (set out in the revised NPPF) indicate a similar scale of housing need across the Leicester & Leicestershire housing market area.	The SGP does not promote growth above objectively assessed needs. That being the case, even if the SGP were to be abandoned, Local Plans would have to plan for the same scale of growth but with no over-arching strategy in place. The development industry could target particularly vulnerable authorities e.g. those whose five-year housing land supply is marginal.
Deletion of the A46 Expressway (Southern/Eastern Leicester Bypass	Growth likely to gravitate towards existing infrastructure and major employment centres. Continued pressure also in	The SGP does no more than accommodate the objectively assessed needs of Leicester & Leicestershire. That being the case, if the new A46 Expressway were to be deleted from

	villages and rural areas across the Leicester & Leicestershire area.	the plan, some 38,000 dwellings would have to be provided in other locations. Conventional sustainability criteria are likely to support the notion that new growth should gravitate towards places with infrastructure and economic generators.
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Agenda Item 12



Full Council	Tuesday, 11 December 2018	Matter for Information and Decision
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Report Title: **Proposed Gambling Act 2005: Statement of Licensing Principles (2019-2021)**

Report Author(s): **Stephen Eyre (Interim Licensing Officer)**

Purpose of Report:	The purpose of this report is for Council to consider the final proposed Gambling Act 2005: Statement of Licensing Principles for 2019-2021 ("the Statement"), approve and adopt its contents and agree its implementation commencing on 31 January 2019.
Report Summary:	The Authority's Statement of Licensing Principles issued under the Gambling Act 2005 requires renewing every three years. The Statement gives a framework that applicants can use when formulating an application under the 2005 Act in addition to an overview of how the Council will determine those applications.
Recommendation(s):	That the final proposed Gambling Act 2005: Statement of Licensing Principles (2019-21) (as set out at Appendix 1) be approved and adopted for commencement on 31 January 2019.
Responsible Strategic Director, Head of Service and Officer Contact(s):	David Gill (Head of Law & Governance / Monitoring Officer) (0116) 257 2626 david.gill@oadby-wigston.gov.uk Stephen Eyre (Interim Licensing Officer) (0116) 257 2637 stephen.eyre@oadby-wigston.gov.uk
Corporate Priorities:	Effective Service Provision (CP2)
Vision and Values:	Customer Focus (V5)
Report Implications:-	
Legal:	The Statement of Licensing Principles is a statutory requirement.
Financial:	There are no implications directly arising from the report.
Corporate Risk Management:	Regulatory Governance (CR6) Reputation Damage (CR4)Click to insert corporate risk.
Equalities and Equalities Assessment (EA):	There are no implications directly arising from the report. EA not applicable.
Human Rights:	There are no implications directly arising from the report.
Health and Safety:	There are no implications directly arising from the report.
Statutory Officers' Comments:-	

Head of Paid Service:	The report is satisfactory.
Chief Finance Officer:	The report is satisfactory.
Monitoring Officer:	The report is satisfactory.
Consultees:	Various public bodies, individuals, businesses and elected Members.
Background Papers:	Gambling Act 2005
Appendices:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gambling Act 2005: Statement of Licensing Principles (2019-2021) (Final Proposed) 2. Email Received from Gamcare

1. Background

- 1.1 Under section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005 ("the 2005 Act"), Licensing Authorities are required to prepare and publish a Statement which they intend to apply when exercising their functions under the 2005 Act.
- 1.2 Section 349 of the 2005 Act also requires Licensing Authorities to review their Statement every three years. The reviewed Statement must be in place on 31 January 2019.

2. Review of Statement of Licensing Principles

- 2.1 The current Statement has been reviewed and arising from that review, a final proposed document has been produced. A consultation on a proposed draft took place from 12 October to 23 November 2018. The final proposed document is attached at **Appendix 1**.
- 2.2 As there has been very little in the way of major reviews of the legislation since the start of the current Statement, consequently the proposed Statement is fundamentally unchanged.

3. Consultation

- 3.1 The 2005 Act requires that the proposed Statement is subject to wide consultation.
- 3.2 Following the Licensing and Regulatory Committee's approval of the draft Statement at its meeting on 11 October, consultation commenced on 12 October and ended on 23 November 2018. The list of those consulted can be found at Appendix 2 of **Appendix 1**.
- 3.3 Only one representation was received – from Gamcare, a charity, giving support and guidance to gamblers. The details of their representation can be found at **Appendix 2**.
- 3.4 Although Gamcare's representation appears to be a standard reply to all council's licensing statement consultations, it has been considered in a thoughtful way. However, there is very little that is relevant to the gambling scene within the Borough or that has not already been considered in the proposed Statement. Its risk assessment sets out some of the issues and it is clear that Leicester City will continue draw more gamblers from Oadby and Wigston to its area. There have been no new premises licence applications since the publication of the current Statement: therefore, it has been decided not to implement any of its suggestions.

4. Approval Process

- 4.1 On approval, the Statement must be published by way of a public notice in a local newspaper and on the Council's website 4 weeks prior to it coming into force on 31 January 2019.

OADBY & WIGSTON BOROUGH COUNCIL GAMBLING ACT 2005: STATEMENT OF LICENSING PRINCIPLES (2019-2021)

TU approval	Not Applicable
Committee approval	Full Council 11 December 2018
Author	Stephen Eyre (Licensing Officer)
EIA	
Policy Version Number	1.0
Date of Policy Review	2021



Oadby & Wigston Borough Council Gambling Act 2005: Statement of Licensing Principles (2019-2021)

Foreword

The Gambling Act has been in force since 2006 and this is 5th edition of Oadby and Wigston Borough Council's Statement of Licensing Principles.

A Licensing Authority is required to prepare and publish a Statement of Licensing Principles. From the inception of the Act, the Statement has aided the promotion of the main licensing objectives, these are:

1. Preventing gambling from being a source of crime and disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime
2. Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way
3. Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling

The Licensing Authority has considered and evaluated the effectiveness of the previous policy and with partners has decided which elements of the Statement should be retained.

The Statement was adopted by Full Council during December 2018 following consultation with stakeholders. If the Statement is reviewed in the intervening period, the Statement of Licensing Statement will remain in force until January 2021.

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PART 1: Introduction

Oadby & Wigston Borough Council is the Licensing Authority under the Gambling Act 2005 ('the Act') and this Statement of Licensing Principles is intended to meet the Council's obligations under Section 349 of the Act. The Licensing Authority is responsible for granting a variety of permissions under the Act within the Oadby & Wigston Borough. The Licensing Authority also has a role alongside the Gambling Commission in regulating gambling within the area.

'Gambling' is defined in the Act as either gaming, betting or taking part in a lottery.

- **Gaming** means playing a game of chance for a prize
- **Betting** means making or accepting a bet on the outcome of a race, competition, or any other event; the likelihood of anything occurring or not occurring; or whether anything is true or not
- **A lottery** is where persons are required to pay in order to take part in an arrangement during the course of which one or more prizes are allocated by a process which relies wholly on chance

The Borough of Oadby & Wigston

Oadby and Wigston is a Borough Council based in South East Leicestershire which is one of the smallest in the Country in terms of both population and area. Despite this the area contains a wealth of activity and resource for people of all ages, ethnicity, and gender.

The Borough is principally a residential area which consists of 3 towns, Oadby, Wigston and South Wigston covering an area of 9 square miles (2,372 hectares). The 2011 census of the Borough showed an estimated population of 55,845 broken down as follows:-

Oadby	22,729
Wigston	25,645
South Wigston	7,471

Residents are well provided for by a wide range of shopping facilities, leisure activities by both public and private facilities with Community Colleges offering extended access to educational resources to the public. Leicester University has various Halls of Residence and other educational facilities within the district.

The majority of factories and industrial buildings are located on industrial estates with a wide variety of manufacturing activity; such as hosiery, footwear, general engineering, and printing and food products.

PART 2: Declaration

In producing the statement of Gambling Policy, the Licensing Authority declares that it has regard to the licensing objectives of the Act, the guidance issued by the Gambling Commission, and any responses from those consulted on the policy statement.

It should be noted that this policy statement will not override the right of any person to make an application, make representations about an application, or apply for a review of a licence, as each will be considered on its own merits and according to the statutory requirements of the Act.

PART 3: Licensing Objectives

In exercising most of their functions the Licensing Authority will have regard to the licensing objectives as set out in section 1 of the Act.

The licensing objectives are:

- Preventing gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, being associated with crime or disorder or being used to support crime
- Ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way
- Protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling.

PART 4: Responsible Authorities

These are generally public bodies that must be notified of applications and who are entitled to make representations to the Licensing Authority if they are relevant to the licensing objectives.

Section 157 of the Act defines those authorities as :-

- The Gambling Commission
- The Police
- The Fire Service
- The local planning authority
- Environmental health
- HM revenue and Customs
- A licensing authority in whose area the premises is situated
- The Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Children Board

In accordance with Section 157(h) the Licensing Authority designates the Leicestershire Police to advise the authority on child protection issues.

It should also be noted that applications for some types of permit will also need to be sent to some of the above authorities.

PART 5: Interested Parties

An interested party can make representations about a licence application or apply for a review of an existing licence and is defined by Section 158 of the Act as someone who:

- a) lives sufficiently close to the premises to be likely to be affected by the authorised activities, or
- b) has business interests that might be affected by the authorised activities, or
- c) represents persons in either of the two groups above (see notes below)

In determining whether someone lives sufficiently close to a particular premise so as to be affected the Licensing Authority will take into account, among other things:

- I. the size of the premises
- II. the nature of the premises
- III. the distance of the premises from the person making the representation
- IV. the nature of the complainant
- V. the potential impact of the premises

NB Interested parties can be persons who are democratically elected such as Councillors and MP's. Other than these persons, this authority will require written evidence that a person 'represents' someone who either lives sufficiently close to the premises, and/or has business interests that might be affected by the authorised activities. A letter from one of these persons requesting the representation is sufficient.

This authority will not generally view bodies such as trade associations and trade unions, and residents' and tenants' associations as interested parties unless they have a member who can be classed as one under the terms of the Gambling Act 2005 e.g. lives sufficiently close to the premises to be likely to be affected by the activities being applied for.

Each case will be decided upon its merits. This authority will not apply a rigid rule to its decision making. It will consider the examples of considerations provided in the Gambling Commission's Guidance to local authorities.

PART 6: Information Exchange

In fulfilling its functions and obligations under the Act the Licensing Authority will exchange relevant information with other regulatory bodies and will establish protocols in this respect. In exchanging such information, the Licensing Authority will conform to the requirements of data protection and freedom of information legislation in accordance with the Council's existing policies.

Details of those persons making representations will be made available to applicants to allow for negotiation and, in the event of a hearing being held, will form part of a public document. Anyone making representations or applying for the review of a premises licence will be informed that their details will be disclosed.

PART 7: Licensing Authority Functions

The main functions of the Licensing Authority are to:

- License premises for gambling activities
- Grant permits for gambling and gaming machines in clubs

- Regulate gaming and gaming machines in alcohol licensed premises
- grant permits to family entertainment centres for the use of certain lower stake gaming machines
- grant permits for prize gaming
- consider notices given for the temporary use of premises for gaming
- consider occasional use notices for betting at tracks
- register small societies lotteries
- provide information to the Gambling Commission and HM Revenue and Customs
- maintain registers of licences, permits and registrations

PART 8: Local Risk Assessments

The Gambling Commissions Licence Conditions and Codes of Practice (LCCP issued February 2018) requires operators to consider local risks in their applications.

As part of the application process licensees are required to submit a local risk assessment when applying for a new premises licence. An exception to this may be Racing Tracks, as they are not required to have an operating licence unless they are providing facilities for betting themselves. An updated risk assessment must be submitted:

- When applying for a variation of a premises licence
- To take account of significant changes in local circumstances, including those identified in a licensing authority policy statement
- When there are significant changes at a licensee's premises that may affect their mitigation of local risks.

The Licensing Authority may require a licensee to share their risk assessment with the authority. The risk assessment will set out the measures the licensee has in place to address specific issues where concerns exist over new or existing risks. Adopting a proactive approach Licensing Authorities and licensees should be able to reduce the occasions on which a premises review is required.

PART 9: Local Area Profile

The following local area profile has been included to facilitate operators being able to understand the environment for the Oadby and Wigston Borough, therefore proactively alleviate risks to the licensing objectives.

Oadby and Wigston Borough Council have a total of 8 gambling premises licences. The number, and make-up, of current licences remains the same since the last policy edition.

The Breakdown

By Premises

Bingo	0
Adult Gaming Centres	1
Betting (on course)	1
Betting	6

By Location

Oadby Town Centre	1 Racecourse	2 Betting premises
Wigston Town Centre	3 Betting Premises	1 Adult Gaming Centre
South Wigston Town Centre	1 Betting premises	

In Oadby Town Centre there are 2 betting premises with 5 Primary Schools located within 5 miles, a figure which has remained consistent since the inception of the Act.

Betting premises can also be found in Wigston and the smaller community of South Wigston.

The district's only Adult Gaming Centre (AGC) is situated in Wigston Town centre and although it is close to several schools it is not felt that the premises pose a high risk to underage gambling. Being situated close to the Council offices makes it a premises that can be regularly visited should the need arise.

Leicester Racecourse is situated alongside the A6 carriageway to Market Harborough and is only open for gambling activities on race days. Although the venue is on the whole marketed as a family venue it goes without saying that the premises will attract a larger proportion of gamblers. It is considered that under age gambling would be a low risk as younger people are more likely to be present with their parents.

The district remains without any bingo premises and as there are only two bingo premises in the whole of greater Leicester it could be assumed that there is insufficient demand for further expansion in this form of gambling.. Should a bingo hall be developed in the area during the life time of this document arrangements will be made to ensure that it has a low impact on the life of the district.

During the short term it is deemed that Oadby and Wigston Borough is low risk for underage and problem gambling and although the population of the borough is set to rise significantly the focus of gambling as a leisure time pursuit will always be the larger Leicester City district.

In relation to the use of B2 or Fixed Odds betting terminals (FOBT), by licensing enforcement officers have highlighted a high level of compliance by the industry and this is backed up by the historically low, almost nil, complaints received about individual premises. Oadby and Wigston Borough will endeavour and continue to monitor and ensure high compliance levels are maintained

PART 10: Registers

The Licensing Authority keeps registers of the premises licences it has issued. They can be viewed at the Council's offices during normal office hours 8.30am – 5pm. Copies of the register can be requested but a charge will be administered.

PART 11: General Statement of Principles

The Act provides for three categories of licence

- Operating Licences
- Personal Licences
- Premises licences

In general terms, the Gambling Commission is responsible for issuing Operating Licences and Personal Licences. The local Licensing Authority is responsible for issuing Premises Licences. In addition to Premises Licences the Licensing Authority is also responsible for granting permits, temporary and occasional use notices and registrations under the Act. Oadby & Wigston Borough Council is the local Licensing Authority for the administrative area of the Borough.

This Policy sets out principles that the Licensing Authority will apply when making decisions upon applications or notifications made for:-

1. Premises Licences
2. Temporary and Occasional Use Notices
3. Permits as required under the Act
4. Registrations as required under the Act

The Licensing Authority, when making decisions about Premises Licences, is required by Section 153 of the Act to aim to permit the use of premises for gambling in so far as it thinks it is:

- In accordance with any relevant code of practice issued by the Gambling Commission
- In accordance with any relevant guidance issued by the Gambling Commission
- Reasonably consistent with the licensing objectives and
- In accordance with the authority's statement of licensing policy

The Licensing Authority recognises the wide variety of premises that will require a licence or a permit. These include casinos, bingo halls, betting shops, pubs, clubs and amusement arcades.

To ensure the licensing objectives are met the Licensing Authority will establish a close working relationship with the police, the Gambling Commission and, where appropriate other responsible authorities.

This Licensing Authority will not seek to use the Act to resolve matters more readily which can be dealt with under other legislation.

The overriding principle is that each application and the circumstances prevailing at each premises will be considered on their own merits.

PART 12: Consultation

In developing this Statement the Licensing Authority has consulted with the groups set out below,

- Leicestershire Constabulary
- Representatives of the holders of the various licences for premises within the Borough who will be affected by this policy

- Persons/bodies representing the interests of persons likely to be affected by this policy
- Other responsible authorities/groups that the Licensing Authority considers appropriate.

PART 13: Period of Validity and Review

This statement of licensing policy will come into effect on 31st January 2019 and will be valid for three years.

The policy will be kept under review during the period of validity and if necessary amendments made.

Before a new policy is adopted or amendments made to the existing one the Licensing Authority will undertake consultation in accordance with Section 349 of the Gambling Act 2005.

PART 14: Conditions

The starting point in determining applications will be to grant the application without conditions. Conditions will only be considered where they are needed to meet the requirements of the licensing objectives. When considering any conditions to be attached to licences, the Licensing Authority will primarily focus on the direct impact of the activities taking place at licensed premises on members of the public living, working or engaged in normal activity in the area concerned. Premises licences are already subject to mandatory and default conditions provided by regulations issued by the Secretary of State.

Licensing authorities are able to exclude default conditions and also attach others, where it is believed to be appropriate.

Any conditions attached to licences will be proportionate and will be:

- relevant to the need to make the proposed building suitable as a gambling facility
- directly related to the premises and the type of licence applied for;
- fairly and reasonably related to the scale and type of premises: and
- Reasonable in all other respects.

Decisions upon individual conditions will be made on a case by case basis, although there will be a number of control measures this licensing authority will consider utilising should there be evidence of a risk to the licensing objectives, such as the use of door supervisors, supervision of adult gaming machines, appropriate signage for adult only areas and betting machines in licensed betting premises. The Council will not impose further conditions relating to door supervisors at a Betting Track, as they are already required by the Licensing Act 2003 and the Private Security Industry Act 2001 to provide licensed door supervisors in some roles.

The overriding principle is that each application and the circumstances prevailing at each premises will be considered on their own merits.

PART 15: Legislation and Strategies

In undertaking its licensing function under the Gambling Act 2005, the Licensing Authority is also bound by other legislation.

However, the policy is not intended to duplicate existing legislation and regulation regimes that already place obligations on employers and operators.

The Licensing Authority will seek to discharge its responsibilities identified by other national and local strategies and policies, in so far as they impact on the objectives of the licensing function. The licensing authority also recognises the importance of co-ordination and integration of the Gambling Policy with these strategies and policies.

The Licensing Authority, in undertaking its licensing function, will have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination and to promote equality and good relations between persons of different racial groups.

PART 16: Promotion of Equality

In developing this strategy, the Licensing Authority has recognised its responsibility under the Race Relations Act 1976 (as amended), to consider the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination and to promote equal opportunity and good race relations between persons of different racial groups. This Licensing Policy therefore supports and is supported by the Licensing Authority's Multi-Cultural Aims.

The Licensing Authority also recognises that this policy should promote equality in a wider sense and has therefore assessed the potential impact on disadvantaged groups in general, as well as from a race equality perspective. It has considered and consulted with this in mind.

The following actions, which have been identified as being necessary to promote equality, and within the scope of the Act and supporting guidance, will be implemented by the Licensing Authority:

- The Licensing Policy and associated documents will be available on the internet, and in other formats upon request.
- The licensing objective of protecting children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling will be promoted.
- Support will be offered to licence applicants, licence holders and potential objectors who are socially excluded.
- Account will be taken of the effect of specific applications on community cohesion, including the need to balance the benefits of cultural and community activities with limited local disturbance.
- Action will be taken to endeavour to ensure the safety of vulnerable people in licensed premises.
- Action will be taken to ensure that all applications, particularly those for disadvantaged groups, are dealt with fairly.

The Licensing Authority is aware that there may be particular sensitivities of certain buildings, for example religious buildings, to certain gambling activities taking place in close proximity. Where this proximity has an impact on the promotion of one of the licensing objectives this is a matter for the Licensing Authority. Where the impact does not affect the promotion of the licensing objectives, there may be other control mechanisms, such as the planning system, that could be applicable.

PART 17: Disabled Access

The guidance supporting the Act advises that conditions relating to disabled access should not be attached to licences, as this would duplicate existing statutory requirements. The Licensing Authority therefore takes this opportunity to remind operators of premises of their duties under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995. This includes a duty that any person who provides a service to the public must make reasonable adjustments to any physical feature that makes it impossible or unreasonably difficult for a disabled person to access a service, or to provide the service by a reasonable alternative means.

PART 18: Relationship with Planning

When considering applications for premises licences the Licensing Authority cannot take into consideration "irrelevant matters" such as the expected 'demand' for facilities, the likelihood of planning permission being granted or building control approval.

An applicant can apply for a "provisional statement" if the building is not complete or if he does not yet have a right to occupy it. Such an application is however a separate and distinct process to the granting of planning permission or building control approval.

The lack of planning permission does not prevent an applicant from applying for a premises licence and does not preclude an application for a premises licence being granted. The Licensing Authority is required to consider each application on its merits.

The Gambling Commissions guidance to Licensing Authorities advises that when granting a licence the licensing authority must be satisfied that the premises are going to be ready to be used for gambling in the near future.

Where planning permission has not been obtained to use the premises for gambling the Licensing Authority must be satisfied as a matter of fact and degree in the particular circumstances of that case that the premises is not ready to be used for gaming. In such instances the Licensing Authority may feel that granting the licence would not promote the licensing objectives.

The Licensing Authority therefore recommends that when planning permission has not been obtained applicants apply for a provisional licence.

PART 19: Decision Making

The Council's Licensing Officers will deal with all licensing applications where either no representations have been received, or where representations have been received and it is agreed by the parties that a hearing is not necessary.

A Licensing Sub-Committee of three Councillors will sit to hear applications where representations have been received from interested parties and/or Responsible Authorities. Ward Councillors will not sit on a Sub-Committee involving an application within their ward.

Where a Councillor who is a member of the Licensing Committee is making or has made representations regarding a licence on behalf of an interested party, in the interests of good governance they will disqualify themselves from any involvement in the decision making process affecting the licence in questions.

Decisions as to whether representations are irrelevant, frivolous or vexatious will be made by Council Officers, who will make the decision on whether representations or applications for licence review should be referred to the Licensing Sub-Committee. Where representations are rejected, the person making that representation will be given written

reasons as to why that are the case. There is no right of appeal against a determination that representations are not admissible.

The current scheme of delegations in relation to the Gambling Act can be found in the Council's Constitution.

PART 20: Promotion of Licensing Objectives

Preventing gambling from being a source of crime and disorder

The Gambling Commission will play a leading role in preventing gambling from being a source of crime and will maintain rigorous licensing procedures that aim to prevent criminals from providing facilities for gambling.

The Council places a considerable importance on the prevention of crime and disorder, and will fulfil its duty under s17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to do all it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in the borough. A high standard of control is therefore expected to be exercised over licensed premises.

The Council will, when determining applications, consider whether the grant of a Premises Licence will result in an increase in crime and disorder.

Applicants are encouraged to discuss the crime prevention procedures in their premises with the Council's Licensing Officers and Leicestershire Constabulary before making a formal application.

Applicants for a premises licence will have to be granted an Operating Licence by the Gambling Commission before a premises licence can be issued. Operators will already have satisfied the Gambling Commission that they have policies in place that promote the licensing objectives.

The Licensing Authority would not intend to duplicate these policies as conditions on the premises licence, but they and the responsible authorities, may wish to know how such policies will be put in place at the premises.

Where concerns about a person's suitability arise the Council will bring those concerns to the attention of the Commission.

As far as disorder is concerned, there are already powers in existing anti-social behaviour and licensing legislation to deal with measures designed to prevent nuisance, whether it arises as a result of noise from a building or from general disturbance once people have left a building. The Council does not therefore intend to use the Act to deal with general nuisance issues

The Council will only seek to address issues of disorder under the Act if the disorder amounts to activity which is more serious and disruptive than mere nuisance. A disturbance could be serious enough to constitute disorder if police assistance was required to deal with it. Another factor the Council is likely to take into account is how threatening the behaviour was to those who could see or hear it, whether those people live sufficiently close to be affected or have business interests that might be affected.

When making decisions in this regard the Licensing Authority will give due weight to any comments made by the police.

Ensuring gambling is conducted in a fair and open way

The Gambling Commission does not expect licensing authorities to become concerned with ensuring that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way. This will be a matter for either the management of the gambling business or will be in relation to the suitability and actions of an individual. Both issues will be addressed by the Commission through the operating and personal licensing regime.

Because betting track operators do not need an operating licence from the Commission the Licensing Authority may, in certain circumstances require conditions of licence to ensure that the environment in which betting takes place is suitable.

Protecting children and other vulnerable people from gambling

The access of children and young person's to those gambling premises which are adult only environments will not be permitted. The Gambling Commission has issued a number of Codes of Practices for each sector of the gaming industry in ensuring that children and young person's do not access adult only environments.

The Licensing Authority will consider whether any measures are necessary to protect children when considering whether to grant a premises licence or permit. The Licensing Authority may also wish to see evidence from the operator of how any code of practice will be complied with in respect of the premises in question.

In seeking to protect vulnerable people the licensing authority will include people who gamble more than they want to, people who gamble beyond their means, and people who may not be able to make informed or balanced decisions about gambling, perhaps due to a mental impairment, alcohol or drugs.

The Council will consult with the Leicestershire Police on any application that indicates there may be concerns over access for children or vulnerable persons

The Licensing Authority will always treat each case on its own individual merits and when considering whether specific measures are required to protect children and other vulnerable people will balance its considerations against the overall principle of aiming to permit the use of premises for gambling.

Applicants for premises licences are required to hold an operators licence granted by the Gambling Commission before trading under a premises licence. All applicants for Premises Licences will be required to set out how they will promote the licensing objectives and what measures they intend to employ to ensure compliance with them.

PART 21: Types of Licence

Casinos

There are currently no casinos operating within the Borough.

The Licensing Authority has not passed a 'no casino' resolution under Section 166 of the Gambling Act 2005, but is aware that it has the power to do so.

Should the licensing authority decide in the future to pass such a resolution, this will be a resolution of Full Council following a considered debate, and the reasons for making this resolution will be given.

There is no right of appeal against this resolution.

Adult Gaming Centres

Premises licensed as an Adult Gaming Centre are permitted to provide an unlimited amount of category D and C machines and up to 20 percent of the total machines can be category B machines. Persons under the age of 18 years old are not permitted to enter an Adult Gaming Centre. The need to protect children and vulnerable persons from harm and/or being exploited by gambling is an important licensing objective. Before granting a premises licence the Licensing Authority will need to be satisfied that there will be sufficient measures to ensure that under 18 year olds do not have access to the premises.

The Licensing Authority recommends that any premises licensed for gambling purposes adopts a policy of requiring proof of age from any person where there is any doubt as to whether they are over 18. The authority would suggest as best practice, that proof of age could be in the form of a passport, photographic driving licence, or a proof of age card complying with the Proof of Age Standards Scheme (PASS) launched in January 2003 by the British Retail Consortium.

As regards the protection of vulnerable persons, the licensing authority will consider measures such as the use of self-barring schemes, provision of information leaflets / helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare.

Betting Premises (off-course)

Off course betting premises are any premises licensed to accept bets that are not situated at a track.

Children and Young persons are not permitted to enter a Betting Premises, and the Authority would need to see appropriate measures in place to be satisfied that children and young persons will not gain access to the premises.

The Licensing Authority is aware of its power to restrict the number of betting machines, their nature and the circumstances in which they are made available by attaching a licence condition to a betting premises licence or to a casino premises licence (where betting is permitted in the casino)

In the event that the Authority considers whether to impose such a condition on any particular licence it may, among other things, take into account the size of the premises, the number of counter positions available for person to person transactions, and the ability of staff to monitor the use of the machines by children and young persons or by vulnerable persons.

As regards the protection of vulnerable persons, this licensing authority will consider measures such as the use of self-barring schemes, provision of information leaflets / helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare.

Family Entertainment Centres (licensed)

A family entertainment centre is permitted to provide any number of category C and category D machines. Category D machines can be played by children and young persons but not category C machines.

This licensing authority will specifically have regard to the need to protect children and vulnerable persons from harm or being exploited by gambling and will expect the applicant to satisfy the authority that there will be sufficient measures to ensure that under 18 year olds do not have access to the adult only gaming machine areas. It is a requirement that category C machines are segregated from D machines so that there is no access to them by children.

As regards the protection of vulnerable persons, this licensing authority will consider measures such as the use of self-barring schemes, provision of information leaflets / helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare.

This licensing authority will, refer to the Commission's website to see any conditions that apply to operator licences covering the way in which certain areas of the premises should be delineated. This licensing authority will also make itself aware of any mandatory or default conditions on these premises licences, when they have been published.

Bingo Premises

The primary purpose of a Bingo premises licence is to permit the premises to be used for the playing of Bingo. Bingo premises are permitted to make any number of C and D machines available for use and up to 20 percent of the total machines can be category B machines.

Where children and young persons are allowed to enter premises licensed for bingo the operator must ensure that they do not participate in any gambling other than on category D machines. Where category C or above machines are available in premises to which children and young person are admitted the Licensing Authority will require that

- All such machines are located in an area of the premises separated from the remainder of the premises by a physical barrier which is effective to prevent access other than through a designated area;
- Only adults are admitted to the area where these machines are located;
- Access to the area where machines are located is supervised;
- The area where machines are located is arranged so that it can be observed by staff of the operator or the licence holder; and
- At the entrance to, and inside any such area there are prominently displayed notices indicating that access to the area is strictly prohibited to persons under 18.

The Licensing Authority will take into account guidance issued about the particular issues that licensing authorities should take into account in relation to the suitability and layout of bingo premises.

Tracks

Tracks are defined under the Act as "a horse race course, greyhound track or other premises on any part of which a race or other sporting event takes place or is intended to take place". Examples of tracks include:

- A horse racecourse
- A greyhound track
- A point to point horse race meeting

- Football, cricket and rugby grounds
- An athletics stadium
- A golf course
- Venues hosting darts, bowls or snooker tournaments
- Premises staging boxing matches
- Sections of river hosting a fishing competition
- A motor racing event

This list is not exhaustive, but gives an example of the types of venue which could accommodate the provision of betting facilities.

There are three types of authorisation under which betting facilities may be made available at a sporting event:

- An occasional use notice
- A temporary use notice and
- A track premises licence.

Betting in relation to tracks may be provided either as on course, or off course betting. The different types of betting are explained in detail in the Guidance issued by the Gambling Commission, and an up to date excerpt of this guidance is published at www.gamblingcommission.gov.uk. As discussed previously Oadby & Wigston Borough Council is home to Leicester Racecourse which makes the provisions in the section of the policy more relevant.

A betting premises licence permits premises to be used for the provision of facilities for betting, whether by:

- Making or accepting bets
- Acting as a betting intermediary; or
- Providing other facilities for the making or accepting of bets.

Tracks are the only class of premises that may be subject to more than one premises licence, provided that each licence relates to a specific area of the track. This allows track venues to develop leisure facilities such as a casino and apply for a (casino) premises licence for that part of the track.

There is no special class of betting Premises Licence for a track, but the Act does contain rules which apply specifically to Premises Licences granted in respect of tracks.

Special rules apply to applicants for a Premises Licence in relation to a track. Most importantly the applicant need not hold an Operator licence. That is because, unless the occupier of the track wishes to offer pool betting (or general betting) facilities himself (for which he will need a licence) the betting that is provided upon the track will not be provided by him, but will be provided by other operators who come on-course. Since those people will require the necessary Operator Licences, the Act allows the track operator to obtain a Premises Licence without also having to hold an Operator Licence. This track Premises Licence then authorises anyone upon the premises with a valid Operator Licence to offer betting facilities.

Track premises licences are distinguished from all other premises licences because children and young persons are allowed to be present on the track while betting is taking place on those licensed premises.

Track premises that safeguard the achievement of the three licensing objectives may generally be considered fit for gambling. By using the following general principles licensing authorities can establish whether a track is fit for provision of gambling facilities:-

Licensing objective	Issues to consider	Reason to consider a track premises unfit for gambling purposes?
The protection of children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling	Tracks permit access to children.	No - Children are allowed access to tracks on race days
	Bet receipt terminals in areas where there is no supervision which would allow children or young persons to use machines undetected.	No - It is a mandatory condition of the operating licence that operators ensure that bet receipt terminals are supervised. This is not an issue for the premises licence.
	Children are allowed access to areas holding category B and C gaming machines.	It is a mandatory condition of the operating licence that operators ensure that children are not allowed access to areas where Category B and C gaming machines are provided. However, section 182 of the Act also creates a premises licence condition that children and young persons must be excluded from areas where any gaming machines other than Category D are located.
	Betting areas adjacent to areas where children/young persons are present such as play areas.	No - Children are allowed access to tracks on race days and so will be exposed to gambling areas. It is a mandatory condition of the operating licence that operators do not accept bets from children or young persons.
	Betting areas adjacent to areas where children/young persons are present such as play areas	The Commission considers that the location of betting does not generally pose a risk to this licensing objective. Licensing authorities may impose their own local conditions there they perceive problems.
Ensure gambling is conducted in a fair and open way	The rules of betting are not displayed on the premises.	No (not an issue at application stage) - it is a mandatory condition of the premises licence that the rules of betting are displayed.
	Unlicensed betting operators are allowed to operate on tracks.	No (not an issue at application stage) - it is a mandatory condition of the premises licence that licence holders make

		arrangements to ensure that they only allow licensed operators on track.
	Betting takes place out of approved hours.	No (not an issue at application stage) - it is a mandatory condition of the premises licence that betting only takes place within the specified hours.
Prevent gambling from being a source of crime and disorder	Betting is allowed in all parts of a track resulting in greater difficulties for track premises licence holders to identify instances of illegal Betting.	No - the Commission's view is that this does not generally pose a risk to this objective. Licensing authorities may impose their own conditions should they perceive a problem.
	No formal exit/entry points allowing easy access for unapproved operators and customers.	No - the Commission's view is that this does not generally pose a risk to this objective. Licensing authorities may impose their own conditions should they perceive a problem.

The Licensing Authority will take any such guidance into consideration when determining an application for a track premises licence.

Access to premises and other parts of the track

Access between premises licensed for gambling and non-gambling areas is an important local licensing consideration, for reasons such as the following:

- to prevent operators from seeking to circumvent the Act by artificially subdividing a premises and securing separate premises licences for its composite parts;
- to ensure that operators do not circumvent regulations governing the maximum number of gaming machines applicable to specific premises;
- to ensure that people who have entered a premises for one type of gambling are not exposed to another, potentially harder, form of gambling;
- to ensure that there is no direct access between gambling premises to which children have access and those which they are prohibited from entering;
- to ensure that all gambling premises have publicly accessible entrances; and
- to ensure that gambling premises are not developed in the backrooms of other commercial premises.

Access by children – special dispensation for tracks

The Act forbids all persons under 18 years old to enter premises when betting facilities are being provided, other than at tracks. This dispensation allows families to attend premises such as greyhound tracks or racecourses on event days, and children to be permitted into areas where betting facilities are provided, such as the betting ring, where betting takes place. This dispensation does not, however, apply to:

- areas within a track where category C or above machines are provided; or
- other premises to which under 18 year olds are specifically not permitted access.

Licensed betting operators at tracks are bound by their operating licence conditions which prevent them from accepting bets from persons who are under 18 years old. The track

premises licence holder is also required through premises licence conditions to display a notice in a prominent place at every public entrance stating that no person under the age of 18 is permitted to bet on the premises.

There may be some specific considerations with regard to the protection of children and vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling, the need to ensure entrances to each type of premises are distinct and that children are excluded from gambling or betting areas where they are not permitted to enter.

Children and young persons will by law be permitted to enter track areas where facilities for betting are provided on days when dog racing and/or horse racing takes place, although they are still prevented from entering areas where gaming machines (other than category D machines) are provided. The Licensing Authority will normally expect Premises Licence applicants to demonstrate suitable measures to ensure the children do not have access to adult only gambling facilities.

Appropriate measures may include:

- Proof of Age schemes
- CCTV
- Door Supervisors
- Supervision of entrances/machine areas
- Physical separation of areas
- Location of entry
- Notices/signage
- Specific opening hours
- The location of gaming machines
- Self barring schemes
- Provision of information leaflets/helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare or Gamble Aware.

This list is not mandatory, nor exhaustive, and is merely indicative of example measures.

Betting on event and non-event days

Hours of betting on event days

Premises licence holders will be expected to comply with the mandatory and default conditions applicable to them on both event and non-event days. The licensing authority will not generally expect to re-assess a licence application as a result of a change to the dates of sporting events, but would expect applicants and licence holders to make information about sporting fixtures available as part of the application.

Significant changes to the fixture/events listing have a bearing on the licence conditions in that track premises licence holders will be expected to comply with the mandatory and default conditions applicable to them on both event and non-event days.

On days when no public sporting event is taking place on a track, gambling facilities may only be provided on the track between the hours of 7am and 10pm. Where the premises user intends to continue to offer facilities for gambling outside the proposed gambling hours on non-event days these facilities should be provided by virtue of an occasional use notice.

On non-event days, tracks become similar to licensed betting offices on the high street. Tracks may achieve this requirement by:

- locating all betting areas inside an area of the premises that is separated from the remainder of the premises by a physical barrier, thereby preventing access other than through a designated entrance;
- only admitting adults to the part of the track where betting areas are located, by establishing procedures for verifying customer ages and refusing entry to adult-only areas for those unable to produce an acceptable form of identification (and taking action where there are unlawful attempts to enter adult-only areas); and
- placing prominent notices in front of and inside each entrance stating that access to the area is prohibited to persons under 18. The Licensing authority may consider reducing the default gambling hours, providing any reduction is in line with the principles set out in section 153 of the Act.

Bet receipt terminals

Licensed operators may install bet receipt terminals on tracks. There is no restriction on the number of bet receipt terminals that may be in use but operators must, by virtue of their operating licence conditions, supervise such terminals to prevent them being used by those under 18 years of age.

There is no formal requirement on track premises licence holders to involve themselves in the procedures used by betting operators to supervise their bet receipt terminals unless specific local conditions specifying supervisory arrangements are added to the track premises licence by the licensing authority terminals.

Gaming machines

A track premises licence does not of itself entitle the holder to provide gaming machines, as this type of premises licence can be held without any corresponding operating licence. Where a track owner holds both a track premises licence and a pool betting operating licence issued by the Commission (in effect, greyhound tracks only), they may site up to four gaming machines within categories B2 to D on the track.

Some tracks may also hold a premises licence under the Licensing Act 2003. As such they will be automatically entitled under section 282 of the Act to two gaming machines of category C or D.

In such scenarios the operating licence entitlement does not take precedence, and each licence has its own requirements that must be complied with.

Applications for permits to allow additional gaming machines are not permitted where the premises is already covered by a track premises licence.

It is a condition of section 282 of the Act that alcohol-licensed premises licence holders (not necessarily the owners) must comply with any relevant provision of a code of practice under section 24 about the location and operation of a gaming machine. The gaming machine permits code of practice can be found on the Commission's website.

Where track premises licence holders possess a pool betting operating licence, the Commission places a mandatory licence condition on such operators that they must:

- have and put into effect documented policies and procedures to
- prevent underage gambling; and
- monitor the effectiveness of these.

Track administration

Administration of betting

Administrative and quasi-regulatory arrangements in place to ensure that activities held on tracks run smoothly for paying customers, track operators and betting operators are considered to be outside the remit of the Act unless they affect the licensing objectives.

The role of track premises licence holders

The responsibilities of track premises licence holders are established by the mandatory and default licence conditions attaching to their premises licence.

The licensed betting operators authorised by track owners to provide betting facilities at tracks must comply with their operating licence conditions and codes of practice issued by the Commission.

Track premises licence holders have a responsibility to report regulatory breaches or potential breaches relating to the premises itself or to betting operators.

Acceptance of bets

Track premises licences for greyhound tracks and racecourses are subject to mandatory licence conditions requiring access to be offered at the track-side to betting operators generally. This prevents track premises licence holders who are also pool betting operators from becoming a monopoly supplier of betting on tracks.

While this does not mean that there must be independent betting operators on tracks on event days, track premises licence holders cannot hold events days without at least making places available to licensed operators. This matter is the responsibility of the Gambling Commission and not the Licensing Authority.

Pool betting

Under the Act, holders of track premises licences on licensed greyhound tracks are given exclusivity to offer pool betting facilities on greyhound racing.

They may also authorise other people to conduct such pool betting on their behalf, although in all cases a relevant operating licence will be required to license this activity.

A totalisator on a licensed greyhound track will only be permitted while the public are admitted to the track for the purpose of attending greyhound races, and no other sporting events are taking place. A mandatory condition is attached to the premises licence to this effect.

Admission of betting operators

It is a mandatory premises licence condition of track premises licences that the licence holder makes arrangements to ensure that the betting operators they admit to their track operate under valid operating licences.

Track premises licence holders are responsible for determining their own arrangements for the verification of betting operators. As part of this process, the track premises licence holder should make arrangements for ensuring that the betting operator holds an operating licence. Additionally, both parties should agree a procedure for assessing that persons accepting bets on behalf of a betting operator either themselves hold operating licences in their own right, or are employed by the operator under a written contract of employment.

Removal of illegal betting operators

Track premises licence holders are required by a mandatory licence condition to take reasonable steps to remove from the racecourse anybody found to be providing facilities for gambling without authorisation. Failure to uphold this requirement could result in action being taken against the premises licence holder.

Track premises licence holders are not expected to have proactive policies and procedures for identifying illegal gambling other than the mandatory requirement to verify that betting operators offering betting facilities on their track hold suitable operating licences.

Display of rules

It is a mandatory condition of premises licences that clear and accessible information about the terms on which a bet may be placed must be displayed at betting premises, including tracks.

The track premises licence holder should make the necessary arrangements to ensure that betting rules are accessible to all customers, regardless of which area of the track they are in. If certain areas are restricted to certain customers (such as different stands within a football ground) then rules could be displayed at various parts of the track. Other measures could be taken to ensure that they are made available to the public, such as printing them in the race-card or programme. The requirement could also be met by making a copy of the rules available in leaflet form from the main track office, and customers could be given a copy if they request one.

Betting operators offering betting facilities on racecourses and at greyhound tracks are required through the conditions of their operating licence to clearly display any of their own rules that differ from those that the track premises licence holder elects to display, and their rules concerning voids, late bets, and maximum payouts. For racecourses and greyhound tracks, the maximum payout will vary according to the rules of individual on-course operators.

Approved betting areas

Betting areas

In considering applications, the licensing authority will take into account the licensing objectives and assess whether these objectives are compromised by proposed betting arrangements. The location of betting areas (other than those for gaming machines and bet receipt terminals) is not considered a threat to the licensing objectives and therefore no additional conditions would normally be imposed by licensing authorities, unless the circumstances are such that the Licensing Authority considers that the licensing objectives would be undermined.

Multiple licences

The Act permits a Licensing Authority to issue more than one premises licence for a track provided that each licence relates to a distinct specified area of the track (although there cannot be more than one premises licence covering the same area of the track).

This enables track owners to extend existing facilities to provide other gambling facilities such as a casino on their existing tracks, whereby these additional gambling activities are covered by separate premises licences.

Where an application is made for an additional premises licence, the Licensing Authority will consider the following matters when determining an application:

- access issues in particular whether access to the desired premises will be allowed directly from the track. Direct access between a track and other betting premises (other than a track betting shop) is not permitted. The track owner would need to make arrangements so that access to a casino or bingo hall would be via a street, not via the track itself.

Where a particular area of a track is already subject to a premises licence, and a person wishes to apply for a licence to offer another type of activity in that area, an application must be made to the licensing authority to vary the original premises licence. The new track premises licence can only be granted at the same time as, or after, the original licence has been varied.

Where the Licensing authority receives an application indicating separate betting areas that may not necessarily have clear physical boundaries, such as walls or fencing, it may grant the licence where it is satisfied that the area is clearly delineated, both in terms of making it clear to the public that they are entering a 'betting office', and to keep out persons aged under 18.

Where the licensing authority is not satisfied that a new activity in an existing area is clearly delineated, it may consider refusing the application.

Social responsibility considerations for tracks

The Act places a condition on the track premises licence that the licensee shall ensure that children and young persons are excluded from any area where facilities for betting are provided (unless on race days at racetracks and at greyhound tracks).

Travelling Fairs

A travelling fair is defined under the Act as a "fair consisting wholly or principally of the provision of amusements" and is provided "wholly or principally by persons who travel from place to place for the purpose of providing fairs".

A travelling fair meeting the statutory definition will be permitted to make one or more category D gaming machines available for use as no more than an ancillary amusement at the fair. A travelling fair can only be sited on a piece of land that has not been used for the purposes of a fair, for more than 27 days per calendar year.

The Licensing Authority will monitor pieces of land within the borough to ensure that 27 day statutory period is not exceeded in any one calendar year regardless as to whether it is the same or different travelling fairs occupying the land.

This Licensing Authority will ensure that the provision of category D machines, which are made available for use at a travelling fair, amount to no more than an ancillary amusement at the fair.

Premises Licences

In carrying out the licensing function under the Act the Licensing Authority will aim to permit the use of premises for Gambling as long as it is considered to be:-

- In accordance with any relevant Codes of Practice issued by the Gaming Commission
- In accordance with any relevant Guidance issued by the Gambling Commission
- In accordance with this Statement of Gambling Policy
- Consistent with the licensing objectives.

A premises licence can authorise the provision of facilities at the following:

- casino premises
- bingo premises
- betting premises, including betting tracks
- adult gaming centres
- family entertainment centres

Section 152 of the Gambling Act 2005 defines "Premises" to be "any place" but prevents more than one premises licence applying to any one place. A single building can be subject to more than one premises licence provided that the licences are for different parts of the building and those parts can be genuinely regarded as being different 'premises'.

Due to concerns by the Gambling Commission that some operators may try to circumvent legislation by artificially sub-dividing premises in order to be granted separate premises licences for the same place, and thus be able to provide extra high payout machines, further guidance has been issued.

In order to ensure that operators do not attempt to circumvent the spirit of the Gambling Act the Licensing Authority will look carefully at any proposed breakdown of premises and consider the suitability of any such separation, its locations and whether it can comply with mandatory codes of practice.

The Gambling Act distinguishes between different types of premises, by doing so the intention is that the gambling activity authorised by that premises licence is the primary activity. A new operating licence conditions are now in place requiring that Casino, Bingo and Betting operators can only provide machines as an ancillary to the primary activity they are licensed for.

The Licensing Authority will consider very carefully whether applications for premises licence in respect of certain gambling premises located very close to a school, or a centre for gambling addicts should be granted in light of the third licensing objective. If an applicant for a premises licence can show how licensing objective concerns can be overcome, that will have to be taken into account. Each case will be decided on its merits, and will depend to a large extent on the type of gambling that it is proposed will be offered on the premises.

PART 22: Reviews

Once granted a premises licence may still be subject to Review proceedings if there are concerns that a premises is not promoting the licensing objectives. The Licensing Authority will carry out a review of a Premises Licence where it has received a formal application for review in accordance with the Act. Requests for a review of a premises licence can be made by interested parties or responsible authorities,

Due consideration will be given to all relevant representations, a representation will be relevant unless they fit the following:-

- a) The grounds are frivolous;
- b) The grounds are vexatious;

- c) The grounds will not cause the Licensing Authority to revoke or suspend a licence or to remove, amend or attach conditions on the premises licence;
- d) The grounds are substantially the same as the grounds cited in a previous application relating to the same premises; or
- e) The grounds are substantially the same as representations made at the time the application for a premises licence was considered.

The licensing authority can also initiate a review of a licence on the basis of any reason which it thinks is appropriate.

PART 23: Permits and Registrations

Prize Gaming Permits

An application can be made by anyone who occupies or plans to occupy relevant premises for a Prize Gaming Permit. In the case of an individual applicant the individual must be aged over 18 years of age.

There are a number of conditions within the Act that will apply to a prize gaming permit, but the licensing authority cannot attach any further conditions.

The conditions in the Act are:

- The limits on participation fees, as set out in regulations, must be complied with;
- All chances to participate in the gaming must be allocated on the premises on which the gaming is taking place and on one day; the game must be played and completed on the day the chances are allocated; and the result of the game must be made public in the premises on the day that it is played;
- The prize for which the game is played must not exceed the amount set out in regulations (if a money prize), or the prescribed value (if non-monetary prize); and
- Participation in the gaming must not entitle the player to take part in any other gambling.

A permit can only be granted if the Licensing Authority has consulted with the chief officer of police. Any rejection will have to give the applicant an opportunity to respond both orally and in writing.

Unlicensed Family Entertainment Centres

An unlicensed family entertainment centre can provide category D machines only by virtue of a permit issued by the Licensing Authority. Children are permitted to play category D machines and such premises may need to have stringent measures in place.

The Licensing Authority will expect the applicant to show that there are policies and procedures in place to protect children from harm. Harm in this context is not limited to harm from gambling but includes wider child protection considerations. The efficiency of such policies and procedures will each be considered on their merits; however, they may include CRB checks for staff, training covering how staff would deal with unsupervised very young children being on the premises, or children causing perceived problems on / around the premises.

Club Gaming Permits & Club Machine Permits

A Members' Club or Miners Welfare Institute may apply to the Licensing Authority for either a Club Gaming Permit or a Club Machine Permit. A commercial members club may apply for a Club Machine Permit only.

This Licensing Authority is aware that it may only refuse an application on the grounds that:

- (a) the applicant does not fulfil the requirements for a members' club, commercial members club or miners' welfare institute and therefore is not entitled to receive the type of permit for which it has applied;
- (b) the applicant's premises are used wholly or mainly by children and/or young persons;
- (c) an offence under the Act or a breach of a permit has been committed by the applicant while providing gaming facilities;
- (d) a permit held by the applicant has been cancelled in the previous ten years; or
- (e) an objection has been lodged by the Commission or the police

Both permits allow for the premises to provide up to three gaming machines of either category B, C or D to be made available and a Club Gaming permit also permits the club to provide certain types of Gaming at the premises as may be prescribed by the Secretary of State. Currently this is Bridge and Whist.

Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Permits

Premises licensed to sell alcohol for consumption on the premises without any conditions restricting the sale as an ancillary to food, are automatically entitled to have 2 gaming machines. Provided they notify the licensing authority in writing and pay the prescribed fee.

If a premises wishes to have more than 2 machines a Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Permit must be applied for. The licensing authority must consider that application based upon the licensing objectives, any guidance issued by the Gambling Commission and any relevant matters.

This licensing authority considers that "matters" will be decided on a case by case basis but generally there will be regard to the need to protect children and vulnerable persons from harm or being exploited by gambling and will expect the applicant to satisfy the authority that there will be sufficient measures to ensure that under 18 year olds do not have access to the adult only gaming machines.

As regards to the protection of vulnerable persons the applicants may wish to consider the provision of information leaflets / helpline numbers for organisations such as GamCare.

Temporary Use Notices

Part 9 of the Gambling Act 2005 allows gambling to be carried out in specified circumstances on a temporary basis, subject to a temporary use notice being served on the Licensing Authority, the Gambling Commission, the Police and HM Revenue & Customs. All these persons can raise objections having regard to the licensing objectives.

A Temporary Use Notice can only be given by the holder of an operating licence and can only authorise gambling for which that operating licence authorises. A set of premises can not be authorised for more than 21 days under Temporary Use Notices. A notice must be served not less than three months and one day before the day on which the event may begin.

The licensing authority will consider each application and the objections on their own individual merits.

Small Society Lotteries Registration

The Licensing Authority is responsible for registering small society lotteries. To be eligible to register the society must be established and conducted for charitable purposes, for the purpose of enabling participation in, or of supporting sport, athletics or a cultural activity or for any other non-commercial purpose other than that of private gain.

When receiving an application for a small lottery registration, as soon as practical it must:

- Enter the details on the register
- Notify the applicant of the registration and
- Notify the Gambling Commission of the registration

The Licensing Authority will exercise its functions under this Act in relation to lotteries in accordance with the guidance issued by the Gambling Commission, particularly the need to be satisfied that the organisation falls within the definition of a small society and may request a signed declaration from the organisation that they are bona fide non-commercial society.

PART 24: Enforcement

The Gambling Commission will take the lead role in investigation and, where appropriate, the prosecution of illegal gambling.

The Licensing Authority intends to use appropriate enforcement to promote the licensing objectives. Once licensed, it is essential that premises are monitored to ensure that they are run in accordance with the provisions of the Gambling Act, codes of practice and in compliance with any licence conditions. It will also be important to monitor the Borough for unlicensed premises.

The Licensing Authority will seek to work actively with the Gambling Commission, Leicestershire Police and other responsible authorities where appropriate in enforcing licensing legislation and intends to establish a protocol with Leicestershire Constabulary on enforcement issues to ensure an efficient deployment of police and council officers.

Enforcement activities will be targeted in terms of risk and so as best to promote the licensing objectives. In addition account will be taken of the general enforcement policy of the licensing authority, which aims to ensure that enforcement is open, fair, reasonable and proportionate.

PART 25: Complaints against Licensed Premises

The Licensing Authority will investigate complaints against licensed premises in relation to matters relating to the licensing objectives for which it has responsibility. In the first instance, complainants are encouraged to raise the complaint directly with the licence holder or business concerned to seek a local resolution.

Where an interested party has made either a valid representation about licensed premises or a valid application for a licence to be reviewed, the Licensing Authority may initially arrange a conciliation meeting to address and clarify the issues of concern.

This process will not override the right of any interested party to ask that the licensing committee consider their valid objections or for any licence holder to decline to participate in a conciliation meeting.

PART 26: Further Information

Further information about the Gambling Act 2005, this Statement of Licensing Policy, the application process, and fees, can be obtained from:-

Licensing Section
Oadby & Wigston Borough Council
Station Road
Wigston
Leicestershire
LE18 2DR

Tel: 0116 257 2642
E-Mail: licensing@oadby-wigston.gov.uk

Information is also available at

Gambling Commission
Victoria Square House
Victoria Square
Birmingham
B2 4BP

Tel: 0121 230 6666
Website: www.gamblingcommission.gov.uk

Appendix 1:
Map of the Borough of Oadby and Wigston



Appendix 2: **List of Bodies Consulted**

- Leicestershire Police
- Association of British Bookmakers
- British Amusement Catering Trades Association
- Bingo Association
- British Horse Racing Board
- Working Men's Club and Institute Union
- British Beer and Pub Association
- Gamcare
- Racecourse Association
- Salvation Army
- Leicestershire County Council
- Leicestershire Partnership NHS
- Leicestershire Fire Service
- Gambling Commission
- Leicester Racecourse
- MarkJarvisBet
- Ladbrokes / Coral Betting
- Oadby and Wigston Borough Council Environmental Health Department
- Oadby and Wigston Borough Council Planning Department
- All Oadby and Wigston Borough Council Councillors

Email Received from Gamcare in Response to the Gambling Act Statement of Licensing Principles Consultation

Hello,

Thank you for your email, we appreciate your interest in our work.

While we do not have the resources available to allow us to personally respond to each Local Authority which contacts us regarding their refreshed Statement of Principles, we have compiled a list of the issues or factors which we think it would be helpful to consider below, more information is available via the [Gambling Commission](#).

The function of the Statement is to reflect locally specific gambling concerns and to reflect the Council's wider strategic objectives. The active use of the Statement is one means by which you can make clear your expectations of gambling operators who have premises in your area. This allows operators to respond to locally specific requirements and adjust their own policies and procedures as required.

- A helpful first step is to develop a risk map of your local area so that you are aware of both potential and actual risks around gambling venues. A useful explanation of area-based risk-mapping has been developed with Westminster and Manchester City Councils, which gives some guidance on those who may be most vulnerable or at-risk of gambling-related harm. For more information please see www.geofutures.com/research-2/gambling-related-harm-how-local-space-shapes-our-understanding-of-risk/
- Consider that proposals for new gambling premises which are near hostels or other accommodation or centres catering for vulnerable people, including those with learning difficulties, and those with gambling / alcohol / drug abuse problems, as likely to adversely affect the licensing objectives set out by the Gambling Commission. This is also relevant regarding the proximity to schools, colleges and universities.
- A detailed local risk assessment at each gambling venue – pertinent to the environment immediately surrounding the premises as well as the wider local area – is a good way to gauge whether the operator and staff teams are fully aware of the challenges present in the local area and can help reassure the Local Licensing Authority that appropriate mitigations are in place.
- Does the operator have a specific training programme for staff to ensure that they are able to identify children and other vulnerable people, and take appropriate action to ensure they are not able to access the premises or are supported appropriately?
- Does the operator ensure that there is an adequate number of staff and managers are on the premises at key points throughout the day? This may be particularly relevant for premises situated nearby schools / colleges / universities, and/or pubs, bars and clubs.
- Consider whether the layout, lighting and fitting out of the premises have been designed so as not to attract children and other vulnerable persons who might be harmed or exploited by gambling.
- Consider whether any promotional material associated with the premises could encourage the use of the premises by children or young people if they are not legally allowed to do so.

We would suggest that the Local Licensing Authority primarily consider applications from [GamCare Certified operators](#). GamCare Certification is a voluntary process comprising an

independent audit assessment of an operator's player protection measures and social responsibility standards, policy and practice. Standards are measured in accordance with the GamCare Player Protection Code of Practice. If you would like more information on how our audit can support Local Licensing Authorities, please contact mike.kenward@gamcare.org.uk

For more information on GamCare training and other services available to local authorities, as well as recommended training for gambling operators, please see the attached brochures. If there is anything else we can assist with please do let us know.

Kind regards,
Catherine

Catherine Sweet
Head of Marketing and Communications

T: 020 7801 7028

E: catherine.sweet@gamcare.org.uk



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Full Council	Tuesday, 11 December 2018	Matter for Information and Decision
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Report Title: **Amendment to Polling Place and Polling Station (South Wigston Ward)**

Report Author(s): **Steve Tucker (Democratic & Electoral Services Manager)**

Purpose of Report:	To advise the Council of an amendment proposed by the Returning Officer in respect of the polling place and polling station to be used for the Borough Council election taking place on Thursday 2 May 2019 in polling district 'R' (South Wigston Ward).
Report Summary:	Due to Bassett Community Centre being unavailable for hire, the Returning Officer is proposing that St Mary's Parish Church Hall be designated as a polling place and polling station in South Wigston Ward for the Borough Council election taking place on 2 May 2019.
Recommendation(s):	That St Mary's Parish Church Hall be approved as a designated polling place and polling station in South Wigston Ward for the Borough Council election scheduled for Thursday 2 May 2019.
Responsible Strategic Director, Head of Service and Officer Contact(s):	<p>Anne Court (Chief Executive / Returning Officer) (0116) 257 2602 anne.court1@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</p> <p>David Gill (Head of Law & Governance / Monitoring Officer) (0116) 257 2626 david.gill@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</p> <p>Steve Tucker (Democratic & Electoral Services Manager) (0116) 257 2605 steven.tucker@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</p>
Corporate Priorities:	An Inclusive and Engaged Borough (CP1) Effective Service Provision (CP2)
Vision and Values:	"A Strong Borough Together" (Vision) Customer Focus (V5)
Report Implications:-	
Legal:	The implications are as set out in the report (see paragraph 3).
Financial:	The implications are as set out in the report (see paragraph 2).
Corporate Risk Management:	Regulatory Governance (CR6)
Equalities and Equalities Assessment (EA):	Officers have visited the proposed polling place and completed the Electoral Commission's Evaluation Checklist, which addresses the relevant equalities issues. The Returning Officer is therefore satisfied that the reasonable requirements of all electors, including

	those with disabilities, are able to be met. EA not applicable.
Human Rights:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Health and Safety:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Statutory Officers' Comments:-	
Head of Paid Service:	The report is satisfactory.
Chief Finance Officer:	The report is satisfactory.
Monitoring Officer:	The report is satisfactory.
Consultees:	The Ward Members for South Wigston and the County Member for South & West Wigston Division have been consulted on the Returning Officer's proposed amendment and have not raised any objections.
Background Papers:	'Guidance on the Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places' The Electoral Commission Report entitled 'Interim Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places' to Full Council on 31 July 2018
Appendices:	None.

1. Background Information

- 1.1 At the Full Council meeting held on 31 July 2018, the Council approved the Returning Officer's final proposals for the polling districts, polling places and polling stations to be used at all relevant future elections and referendums taking place within the Borough. The proposals took into account the views of all relevant stakeholders that responded to the interim review consultation carried out between 13 April 2018 to 25 May 2018.
- 1.2 At the time the interim review was carried out, the availability of Bassett Community Centre (Bassett Street, South Wigston) for polling use was unconfirmed, due to the Community Action Partnership vacating the County Council-owned premises in May 2018. The County Council confirmed to OWBC Officers that they had set a deadline of 22 July 2018 for expressions of interest from prospective tenants, and were therefore confident that a new tenant would be in place in time for the next scheduled election in May 2019.
- 1.3 Whilst a new tenancy for the Community Centre has now been agreed in principle with Menphys Charity, Officers have been advised that the new tenant will not be moving in until June 2019 at the earliest, which has meant that alternative polling arrangements have had to be identified for Thursday 2 May 2019 in polling district 'R'.
- 1.4 Electoral Commission guidance states that a polling place must be situated within the polling district, unless special circumstances make it desirable to designate an area wholly or partly outside the district (for example, if no accessible polling place can be identified in the district). The Returning Officer has given consideration to a number of possible alternative venues within polling district 'R', including Elliott Hall (Albion Street) and South Leicestershire College (Blaby Road).
- 1.5 Following an assessment of the viability of each potential venue for polling use, the Returning Officer considers that the venue which best meets the reasonable requirements

of all voters, including those with disabilities, is St Mary's Parish Church Hall (Countesthorpe Road).

- 1.6 The three South Wigston Borough Councillors, along with the County Member for South & West Wigston Division, were consulted on the Returning Officer's proposed venue. No objections were made to the proposal.

2. Financial Implications

- 2.1 The cost of hiring the Parish Church Hall for the Borough Council election in May 2019 will be approximately £300.
- 2.2 At all other elections, all 'actual and necessary' costs are recovered by the Returning Officer from the relevant governing body for that particular election (e.g. Central Government for UK Parliamentary elections).

3. Legal Implications

- 3.1 Normally, any amendments to polling districts, places and stations are carried out during compulsory or interim reviews, and are therefore subject to the full statutory consultation requirements. However, Electoral Commission guidance states that if a building becomes unavailable before an election, the polling place can be changed by the local authority in accordance with their decision making arrangements.
- 3.2 Under the Council's Constitution, it is a function of Full Council to make decisions concerning electoral wards.
- 3.3 The Council will need to carry out a further compulsory review of all its polling districts, places and stations between the period 01 October 2018 and 31 January 2020. Any feedback which is provided in respect of St Mary's Parish Church Hall when it is used for the May 2019 election will be incorporated into this compulsory review, to determine whether it will be desirable to revert back to using Bassett Community Centre (subject to agreement of any terms with the new tenant), or to continue to use the Parish Church Hall for future elections and referenda.
- 3.4 By approving this amendment the Council will be complying with its statutory duty to keep under review its polling districts and polling places as designated under the Representation of the People Act 1983 section 18A-18E (amended by section 17 of the Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013).
- 3.5 Provision is also contained within the above legislation to state that no election is to be questioned by reason of any informality relative to polling districts and polling places.