



Title: **Leicester City Local Plan: Emerging Options Stage and
Development Management Policies Consultation Comments**

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Regeneration)**

1. Introduction

- 1.1. Leicester City Council is currently preparing its new Local Plan. During the period 26 July 2017 to the 31 October 2017 the City Council is undertaking an emerging options consultation as well as a development management policies consultation.
- 1.2. The consultation currently being undertaken by the City Council consists of four documents; the Potential Development Sites document; the Emerging Options document; the Draft Development Management Policies document; and, the Sustainability Assessment document.
- 1.3. This report sets out the Borough Council's comments in relation to the four consultation documents set out above.

2. Recommendation(s)

It is recommended that Members approve the consultation comments set out in paragraphs 3.3 to 3.6, paragraphs 5.2 to 5.3, and paragraphs 6.2 to 6.4 of this report as Oadby and Wigston Borough Council's formal response to Leicester City Council's current Local Plan consultation stage.

3. Information

The current consultation stage of Leicester City Council's Local Plan does not illustrate housing or employment targets and does not fully evidence the current level of unmet need within the Leicester City area. The documents do however, suggest that there could be an unmet need within the Leicester City area up to 2031.

4. The Emerging Options Document

- 4.1. The Emerging Options document is the document that sets out, in broad terms, how Leicester City is expected to change during the period up to 2031. This document is from which the other documents on consultation stem.

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- 4.2. Page 43, paragraph 5.10 suggests that one of the functions of green wedges is to '*be areas where high quality design and appropriate scale and size of development are expected*'. This is considered to be an objective of a green wedge rather than a function.
- 4.3. Page 43, paragraph 5.13 does not seem to be complete. The sentence suggests that some areas of open space may be of relatively low value, but does not suggest what

they may be more suited to.

- 4.4. In addition to the above comments, Under the Duty to Cooperate the Borough Council would wish to be involved in any proposals that could have a cross boundary impact. The City of Leicester and Oadby and Wigston are closely linked spatially and share a boundary. The highway and transport links between the two are also intrinsically linked. Any development proposed through the Local Plan should be appropriately evidenced, particularly in relation to cross boundary themes, such as highway and transport infrastructure.
- 4.5. The City Council should seek to meet the full housing and employment Objectively Assessed Need (OAN) for the City of Leicester, as set out within the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing and Economic Needs Assessment (HEDNA). It is the responsibility of the City Council to produce evidence to demonstrate its ability to meet both the housing and employment OAN before the Borough Council can consider the matter with any certainty. It is also the responsibility of the City Council to work with all other authorities (under the Duty to Cooperate) within the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing Market Area to meet the full Leicester and Leicestershire housing and employment OAN.

5. Potential Development Sites Document

- 5.1. The Potential Development Sites document sets out a large number of sites that the City Council are to assess for their suitability and inclusion as land use allocations or designations in the City's Local Plan.

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- 5.2. The section of the document that relates to the Borough of Oadby and Wigston is titled 'Sites in the South East Sector'. The site options illustrated within this section include, Knighton Park, Knighton Spinney, Shady Lane Arboretum, Land to the East of Shady Lane, and Judgemeadow Community College Playing Fields. All of the sites mentioned, are adjacent or close to the Borough boundary and form part of the cross boundary green wedges between the Borough and the City.
- 5.3. The document does not specify forms of development on any of the sites, however suggests that these sites will be assessed for appropriate uses. Under the Duty to Cooperate the Council would wish to be consulted on any plans for built development on any of the sites mentioned in paragraph 3.8, due to the cross boundary nature of the green wedges in which they are situated, as well as the close highway and transportation links that the Borough and the City share.

6. Draft Development Management Policies Document

- 6.1. The Development Management Policies document illustrates draft detailed policy guidance on a range of planning matters, whether they are environmental, social or economic. The City is proposing to adopt the policies contained within this document as part of the Local Plan.

Consultation Comments

- 6.2. The Council would suggest that wording similar to the following is inserted into DM Policy 56. *'For all new development proposals, it will be necessary to consider both the isolated and cumulative impact that they may have upon the surrounding infrastructure'*. This will ensure that any development that has cross boundary impacts

can be appropriately mitigated.

- 6.3. The Borough Council has no comment currently in relation to the Sustainability Assessment.
- 6.4. A general comment for all documents on consultation; when there is reference to the Greater Leicester Urban Area and the reference relates to the Leicester Principal Urban Area, the common currently agreed Leicester Principal Urban Area term should be used.

Background Documents:

None.

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Implications | Leicester City Local Plan Emerging Options Stage and Development Management Policies Consultation Comments

Finance	There are no financial implications.
Chris Raymakers (Head of Finance, Revenues and Benefits)	
Legal	There are no legal implications.
Dave Gill (Deputy Monitoring Officer)	
Corporate Risk(s) (CR)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political Dynamics (CR3)
Adrian Thorpe (Head of Planning, Development and Regeneration)	The Duty to Co-operate requires all Council's in the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing Market Area to co-operate over strategic planning matters. The Strategic Planning Group and Member Advisory Group are in place to facilitate this process.
Corporate Priorities (CP)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
Adrian Thorpe (Head of Planning, Development and Regeneration)	
Vision & Values (V)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
Adrian Thorpe (Head of Planning, Development and Regeneration)	
Equalities & Equality Assessment(s) (EA)	There are no equalities implications.
Adrian Thorpe (Head of Planning, Development and Regeneration)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable (EA)