



Matter 1

Appendix 3 – I-P

**Minutes and agenda of meetings referred to in
appendix 2 of DtC statement (DtC/001)**

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Black Country

Duty to Co-operate Meetings

2024/25

Black Country Planning Leads - Duty to Co-operate Meeting - 22nd February 2024

Present:

Ian Culley – Wolverhampton (Chair)		Vicki Popplewell - Dudley
Patricia McCullagh, Andy Miller, Philippa Smith - Sandwell		Liz Forster, Neville Ball - Walsall
Apologies:		
Michele Ross - Wolverhampton		
Dave Holloway - Walsall		
		Actions
1.	Formalising Black Country Planning Leads Meetings Agreed that BCPL meetings be formalised as DtC meetings, with relevant DtC issues minuted as a formal record.	PS to take notes of meeting and produce minute
2.	Black Country Local Plans Dudley – Reg18 complete, working towards Reg19 later this year Sandwell - Reg18 complete, working towards Reg19 later this year Walsall – Call for Sites until later in 2024 Wolverhampton – Reg18 Issues and Preferred Options out for consultation until April 2024	
3.	Evidence and Cross Boundary Issues SFRA – JBA request for info – will be similar for all BCLAs Infrastructure – need to address issues around sites adjacent to council boundaries in BC. Iceni work on review of Local Housing Need for Dudley, Sandwell and Wolverhampton Local Plans – MR drafted a brief prior to demise of the BCP. Need to check relevance and confirm costings. Transport – will receive a ‘do minimum’ scenario in May with the rest of the data received during June/July. BCLAs will need to review their Uncertainty Logs ASAP so as not to impact the programme.	Dudley to check info sent for BCSFRA. Discuss at next BCPL meeting MR to action and report back All to review Log ASAP
4.	BNG Discussion around the potential for BC BNG process if we’re off-setting sites outside of borough boundaries. NE is currently the only responsible body for BNG, BCLAs could be each other’s responsible body.	Briefing note to next BCPL meeting
5.	HMA and DtC Strategic Growth Study – potential for 10 LAs to participate in the work. Will need to rely on data from those who don’t want to participate. Remit – review of existing study, advise on need, high level look at areas over and above the existing growth locations.	IC

	Agreed to request advice from PAS. Cannock Local Plan Closing date for reps – 18th March Includes 500 dwellings for BC – will be asking for more clarity over the wording and justification for this contribution. South Staffs Currently reviewing the Local Plan in the light of the current NPPF.	Walsall to respond to Cannock Local Plan consultation.
6.	AOB National Trust – have plans for a regional park, mainly in Bromsgrove https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/worcestershire-herefordshire/clent-hills/8-hills	VP to monitor/respond

Black Country Planning Leads - Duty to Co-operate Meeting - 9th April 2024
Present:

Ian Culley (Chair), Michele Ross – Wolverhampton		Liz Vesty - Dudley
Patricia McCullagh, Andy Miller, Philippa Smith - Sandwell		Liz Forster, Neville Ball, Dave Holloway - Walsall
Apologies:		
Vicki Popplewell - Dudley		
		Actions
1.	Black Country DtC meeting notes – 22/02/24 Agreed that BCPL will be the forum for signing off DtC minutes. There is an understanding that the minutes may be published. All four councils agreed to Ian Culley chairing the meetings.	Dudley to confirm acceptance of notes All to provide track changes by end of week
2.	Black Country Local Plans Dudley – Reg18 complete, working towards Reg19 later this year Sandwell - Reg18 complete, working towards Reg19 later this year Walsall – Call for Sites until later in 2024, awaiting new Regs before producing a new timetable. Wolverhampton – Reg18 Issues and Preferred Options out for consultation until April 2024	
3.	Evidence and Cross Boundary Issues Infrastructure – need to address issues around sites adjacent to council boundaries in BC. Iceni work – MR drafted a brief prior to demise of the BCP. Need to check relevance and confirm costings. Waste and Minerals – Walsall and CWC still awaiting their final reports. DtC – concerned with local and strategic cross boundary waste movements. Dudley has requested meetings with relevant LAs. Separate meeting to be arranged to discuss how the BCAs are individually approaching minerals and waste issues and to agree a consistent approach. Employment – SSES has identified sites in adjacent boroughs that could contribute to BC needs.	MR to action and report back WSP have been contacted Waste and Minerals Leads to discuss Employment Leads to discuss
4.	BNG	

	Agreed that BNG Governance should be a regular item on the agenda. Walsall are leading on this for the BC. Further discussion at next BC meeting.	Discussion at next meeting
5.	HMA and DtC HMA Growth Study – LAs in the HMA now need to confirm whether they are prepared to contribute to the Study. Letters need to go out. South Staffs Reg19 Plan approved. The GB sites have been deleted which reduces the housing contribution to the BC and increases the employment land contribution. BC responses are likely to express disappointment at the changes but recognise that they are in accordance with the revised NPPF. S.Staffs has also sent round SoCGs for housing and employment. None of the BCAs will be signing them in the current form.	IC and Sandwell
6.	AOB Raby Estates, Beslow, Shropshire – developers are looking for support from BCLAs. Dudley and Sandwell have responded.	

Black Country Planning Leads - Duty to Co-operate Meeting - 6th June 2024

Present:

Ian Culley (Chair), Michele Ross – Wolverhampton		Vicki Popplewell - Dudley
Patricia McCullagh, Philippa Smith – Sandwell		Liz Forster - Walsall
Apologies:		
Andy Miller - Sandwell		
Neville Ball, Dave Holloway - Walsall		
		Actions
1.	Black Country DtC meeting notes – 09/04/24 Employment – SSES has identified potential broad locations in adjacent boroughs for more detailed assessment though Local Plan preparation that could contribute to BC needs. BNG Governance – see item 4. HMA Growth Study – IC has emailed all HMA LAs to confirm participation and contributions	
2.	Black Country Local Plans Dudley – Reg19 – September Cabinet and October Council Sandwell - Reg19 – September Cabinet and October Council Walsall – Call for Sites until later in 2024, awaiting new Regs before producing a new timetable. Wolverhampton – Reg18 closed in April, Reg19 – November Cabinet and December Council	
3.	Evidence and Cross Boundary Issues Transport – Transport Study – consultants are awaiting info from various sources. Employment – WMSESS – Draft Final Report has been received. Looking to publish in September. EDNA update – commissioned by CWC. Centres – CWC working on brief and quote. Waste and Minerals – Walsall and CWC have not yet received their reports. Sandwell to chase. Housing – Homes and Jobs Alignment Study – the proposal for the work has been received from consultant. HRA – Awaiting the results of the Regional Air Quality Modelling work. HMA Growth Study – HMA LAs have been asked to participate and contribute – awaiting responses.	
4.	BNG Agreed that BNG Governance should be a regular item on the agenda. Walsall are leading on this for the BC.	Discussion at next meeting

	Further discussion at next BC meeting. Strategic Significance Guidance for BNG – EcoRecord has requested the info be held on their website. CWC and Sandwell need to agree.	MR and PMc
5.	HMA and DtC HMA Growth Study – email sent to all HMA authorities asking for confirmation that they will take part in the Study – asking for response by 14th June. South Staffs Local Plan South Staffs consultation – all BC responses submitted. SoCGs Discussed an approach to DtC for the BC. The main aim is to have a housing SoCG covering the wider HMA area. This was agreed as a way forward for DtC in BC and will seek approval for the approach across the wider HMA area. DtC Letter – discussed the draft letter to be sent out from Sandwell as part of the DtC process. BCLAs have agreed in principle but have time to send specific comments to Sandwell. BC Apportionment – agreed to use the most up-to-date migration figures for BC apportionment. Andy Donnelly is reviewing the previous paper prepared by IC using the most up to date data.	IC
6.	AOB Strategic Significance Guidance for BNG – EcoRecord has requested the info be held on their website	

Black Country Planning Leads - Duty to Co-operate Meeting - 9th July 2024
Present:

Ian Culley (Chair), Michele Ross – Wolverhampton		Vicki Popplewell - Dudley
Patricia McCullagh, Philippa Smith – Sandwell		Neville Ball, Dave Holloway - Walsall
Apologies:		
Andy Miller - Sandwell		
Liz Forster - Walsall		
		Actions
1.	Black Country DtC meeting notes – 06/06/24 Agreed that BNG Governance should be a regular item on the agenda. Walsall are leading on this for the BC. Further discussion at next BC meeting.	Discussion still needs to take place
2.	Black Country Local Plans Dudley – Reg19 – September Cabinet and October Council Sandwell - Reg19 – September Cabinet and October Council Walsall – Call for Sites until later in 2024, awaiting new Regs before producing a new timetable. Wolverhampton – Reg18 closed in April, Reg19 – November Cabinet and December Council	No change
3.	Evidence and Cross Boundary Issues Transport – Transport Study – timetable will be delayed due to waiting for information. There will be a three-week delay on the original SWECO work. Employment – WMSESS – Final Report will be discussed at Next HMA meeting. Discussion ongoing to confirm publication date and arrangements but provisionally September 2024. EDNA update – Findings will be fed into the Jobs and Alignment Study. Centres – currently awaiting approvals from Sandwell to commence the work. Waste and Minerals – Walsall and CWC have not yet received their reports. Sandwell to chase. Housing – Homes and Jobs Alignment Study – awaiting approvals from Sandwell to commence the work. HRA – Cannock Extension Canal is potentially the only area likely to be impacted by air quality issues. However, there are some concerns over the methodology, particularly the housing numbers, which may have been under-estimated.	
5.	HMA and DtC HMA Growth Study – sufficient local authorities have been engaged to enable the work to begin. The next stage is to confirm the	IC

	arrangements for commissioning the work, considering any changes to the NPPF. Work to be commissioned by WMCA. Birmingham Plan – agreed to prepare a BC response to the Reg18 consultation. Solihull – a BC response is required. Propose to revisit the previous draft response and recirculate. SoCGs South Staffs – agreed to undertake individual bi-lateral SoCGs with SStaffs.: FEMA – Neville to produce comments on the draft South Staffs FEMA SoCG for employment land and circulate. This to form the basis of the Black Country FEMA SoCG which IC will draft and circulate. WM Interchange – Email has been sent to all relevant LAs. The information from this SoCG will inform the Black Country FEMA SoCG. Sandwell DtC Letter – BC Responses CWC – briefing Cabinet Member on 2nd August and then will send a formal response. Walsall – response sent. Dudley – to brief Leader and Cabinet. BC Apportionment VP to update the HMA SoCG once information on migration figures is received from Andy D.	VP ALL NB / IC IC IC VP VP
6.	AOB	

Black Country Planning Leads - Duty to Co-operate Meeting - 5th September 2024
Present:

Ian Culley (Chair) – Wolverhampton		Vicki Popplewell - Dudley
Andy Miller, Philippa Smith – Sandwell		Neville Ball, Dave Holloway - Walsall
Apologies:		
Patricia McCullagh - Sandwell		
Michele Ross - Wolverhampton		
		Actions
1.	Black Country DtC meeting notes – 09/07/24 None	None
2.	Black Country Local Plans Dudley – Reg19 – 25 September Cabinet and consult in October – November Sandwell - Reg19 – 11 September Cabinet and consult in Sept – October Walsall – tbd – may decide to progress a Plan under current guidance given the extension to submit until December 2025. Wolverhampton — November Cabinet and consult in December-January	
3.	Evidence and Cross Boundary Issues Transport – Transport Study – timetable has been delayed but SWECO will complete prior to Sandwell consultation commencing. AM advised that there were no showstoppers flagged up by the modelling particularly when proposed mitigation/transport improvements and proposals were factored in. Employment – WMSESS – Final Report to be published on 9th September by Nuneaton & Bedworth as part of the EiP submission. Report will be presented to WMCA Board in November. EDNA update – Work currently being reviewed to address concerns over the robustness of the forecasting data. Centres – work commenced and nearing completion. The updated report is not expected to have any major changes from previous Centre's work. Waste and Minerals – CWC has now received their reports. Walsall to follow up with WSP. Housing – Homes and Jobs Alignment Study – awaiting clarification on the economic modelling and agreed employment land data approach. HRA – Ongoing	
5.	HMA and DtC	

	HMA Growth Study – sufficient local authorities have been engaged to enable the work to begin. The next stage is to confirm the arrangements for commissioning the work, considering any changes to the NPPF. Work to be commissioned by WMCA. Birmingham Plan – agreed to prepare a BC response to the Reg18 consultation. Solihull – a BC response is required. Propose to revisit the previous draft response and recirculate. SoCGs Shropshire Updated SoCG - to be signed off by each LA to reflect the identification of sites in the Shropshire Plan to meet the BC housing needs. Agreed HMA wider SoCG to agree apportionment on the contributions and those LAs receiving the contributions. This will need to be based on migration data which Andy Donnelly is currently pulling together. South Staffs – agreed to undertake individual bi-lateral SoCGs with SStaffs. FEMA – BC FEMA SoCG to be produced for agreement. WM Interchange – Email has been sent to all relevant LAs. The information from this SoCG will inform the Black Country FEMA SoCG. Bilateral SoCG between individual LAs were required on cross boundary matters. Sandwell DtC Letter – Responses Still awaiting three responses. BC Apportionment VP to update the HMA SoCG once information on migration figures is received from Andy D.	IC VP ALL VP IC IC ALL VP
6.	AOB	

Black Country Planning Leads - Duty to Co-operate Meeting - 16th October 2024

Present:

Ian Culley (Chair), Michele Ross – Wolverhampton		Vicki Popplewell - Dudley
Patricia McCullagh, Philippa Smith – Sandwell		Neville Ball, Dave Holloway - Walsall
Apologies:		
Andy Miller - Sandwell		
		Actions
1.	Black Country DtC meeting notes – 05/09/24 None	None
2.	Black Country Local Plans Dudley – Reg19 – Reg19 consultation begins on 18th October. Sandwell - Reg19 – Reg19 consultation began on 23rd September until 11th November (extended by one week). Walsall – tbd Wolverhampton — November Cabinet and consult in December-January	
3.	Evidence and Cross Boundary Issues Transport – Transport Study – completed. Dudley has some concerns with how the Active Travel Measures have been written into the Plan, i.e. their impacts on the movement of traffic. There are also some issues around Burnt Tree that needed to be addressed. Employment – WMSESS – Final Report has been published. Only queries so far have related to Nuneaton and Bedworth. EDNA update – the final demand figures have been agreed. We are now only waiting for the demand vs supply paper. This will enable the Jobs and Homes Study to be completed. There are also issues around offices to be addressed which will have some cross over with the Centres Study. Centres – work commenced and nearing completion. Waste and Minerals – Walsall still to follow up with WSP Housing – Homes and Jobs Alignment Study – can progress once the demand vs supply paper has been received (EDNA). AQ HRA – Work on two of the sites is ongoing. All parties have agreed to produce a SoCG containing a mitigation plan. NE need to be happy with the mitigation measures to enable them to sign the SoCG.	
5.	HMA and DtC	IC IC

	HMA Growth Study – Brief is currently being prepared in line with the current NPPF. The next stage is to confirm the arrangements for commissioning the work with the WMCA. SoCGs Shropshire Updated SoCG - signed and completed Wider HMA SoCG - agree apportionment of any contributions and those LAs receiving the contributions, including the apportionment between the BCAs. This will include the contribution from Telford to the BC. VP to provide draft early in November. South Staffs – CWC and Sandwell have signed, DMBC & WMBC will sign after Cabinet approval. BC FEMA SoCG – 4 BCAs, SStaffs, Birmingham, Bromsgrove, Wyre Forest, Shropshire This can now be produced using the EDNA figures WMI apportionment table will be included. Bilateral SoCG between individual LAs were required on cross boundary matters.	VP ALL IC ALL
6.	AOB BNG – BNG meetings to be held every 6 weeks. Invitation to a discussion session with Warwickshire Council – LAs to identify attendees.	

Black Country Planning Leads - Duty to Co-operate Meeting - 12th November 2024

Present:

Ian Culley (Chair), Michele Ross – Wolverhampton		Vicki Popplewell - Dudley
Patricia McCullagh, Philippa Smith, Andy Miller – Sandwell		Neville Ball, Dave Holloway - Walsall
Apologies:		
		Actions
1.	Black Country DtC meeting notes – 12/11/24 BNG - No action as yet. IC to discuss with AD	None
2.	Black Country Local Plans Dudley – Reg19 consultation ends on 29th November. Sandwell - Reg19 consultation ended on 11th November Walsall – tbd Wolverhampton — November Cabinet with Reg19 consultation in December- January. Hope to submit by end of January 2025.	
3.	Evidence and Cross Boundary Issues Transport – Transport Study – completed. SWECO have produced a response to technical queries raised by National Highways on the modelling. This response can be used by all BCAs and will be published. Employment – WMSESS – Final Report has been published. EDNA update – final document has been received and circulated to employment leads Centres – work completed Waste and Minerals – Walsall still to follow up with WSP. CWC – checking queries. Housing – Homes and Jobs Alignment Study – still to be completed. AQ HRA – Meeting this week to discuss further findings. Hoping to agree a way forward for local plans this week.	
5.	HMA and DtC HMA Growth Study – Brief is currently being prepared in line with the current NPPF. The next stage is to confirm the arrangements for commissioning the work with the WMCA. SoCGs	IC

	Shropshire Updated SoCG - still uncertainty about Shropshire contribution to BC housing shortfall due to pause in EiP. Still awaiting a letter from the Inspectors as to the issues to be addressed. Wider HMA SoCG - VP has circulated a first draft for comment. It contains the approach to apportionment and confirmation of the shortfalls. There are also lots of gaps. Need comments before it can progress any further. To be discussed at the next HMA meeting. BC FEMA SoCG – 4 BCAs, SStaffs, Birmingham, Bromsgrove, Wyre Forest, Shropshire Still to do. Bilateral SoCG between individual LAs were required on cross boundary matters.	VP ALL IC ALL
6.	AOB None	

Black Country Planning Leads - Duty to Co-operate Meeting - 12th December 2024

Present:

Ian Culley (Chair), Michele Ross – Wolverhampton		Vicki Popplewell - Dudley
Patricia McCullagh, Philippa Smith, Andy Miller – Sandwell		Neville Ball, Dave Holloway - Walsall
Apologies:		
		Actions
1.	Black Country DtC meeting notes – 12/11/24 No issues	
2.	Black Country Local Plans Dudley – Reg19 consultation closed on 29th November. Looking to submit during the transition period. Sandwell - Reg19 consultation closed on 11th November. Submitted 11/12/24. Walsall – timetable approved at Cabinet – Reg18 in Autumn 2025, Submission in December 2026. Wolverhampton — Reg19 closes on 9th January. Hope to submit by end of January 2025.	
3.	Evidence and Cross Boundary Issues Transport – Transport Study – completed. SWECO have produced a response to technical queries raised by National Highways on the modelling. This response can be used by all BCAs and will be published. EDNA update – completed Waste and Minerals – Walsall still to follow up with WSP. Housing – Homes and Jobs Alignment Study – work will not be progressing unless it is required at an EiP. AQ HRA – Draft SoCG has been prepared	
5.	HMA and DtC HMA Growth Study – Brief is currently being prepared in line with the current NPPF. The next stage is to confirm the arrangements for commissioning the work with the WMCA. SoCGs Shropshire Updated SoCG - no update on EiP. However, the BCAs have commented on the draft SoCG. Wider HMA SoCG - almost completed – awaiting response from North Warwickshire and Telford. To be discussed at future HMA meetings.	IC VP

	BC FEMA SoCG – still in progress Bilateral SoCG between individual LAs could be required on cross boundary matters. Lichfield Local Plan – Dudley and Walsall responded Call for evidence from WM Mayor – no responses	ALL ALL
6.	AOB None	

[illegible]

	Call for evidence from WM Mayor – no responses	ALL
6.	AOB None	



Sandwell Local Plan

Individual Duty to Co-operate Meetings

**Birmingham City Council, Dudley
Council, Walsall Council,
Wolverhampton City Council**

2024

Minutes

Meeting title:	Duty to Cooperate – Birmingham City Council
Meeting date:	20 th June 2024
Meeting time:	11.00- 12.00pm
Meeting venue:	TEAMS
Present:	Andy Miller, Patricia McCullagh, Maria Dunn, Martin Dando

- 1. Introductions**
- 2. Sandwell Council Local Plan timetable**

PMc advised timetable as follows:

September/October 2024	Cabinet and Full Council approval to consult on Submission Plan (Reg19) and then submission to Secretary of State
November – December 2024	Six-week Submission Plan consultation (Reg19)
January 2025	Submit the Plan and representations to the Secretary of State
January 2025 – Summer 2025	Window for holding the Examination in Public (likely to be a 2-3 week-long hearing) followed by Inspector's report
30 th June 2025	Last date for submitting Plan under current system
Late 2025/Early 2026	Adoption at Full Council (assuming plan has been found 'sound')

Birmingham advised that the housing figure in the DtC letter was incorrect, Sandwell advised that they will resend with correct figure.

- 3. Birmingham Council Local Plan Update**
 Consultation on Birmingham Local Plan Preferred Options Document from 8th July to 27th August 2024.
 Identifies a shortfall of 46,153 homes.
 Not reviewing Green Belt in this local plan as it was comprehensively reviewed through the last local plan.
 Employment – position being finalised for Preferred Options
- 4. Cross boundary matters**
 - Main issue is around how the housing shortfall will be met.

- Both Birmingham and Sandwell reliant on South Staffs Interchange for contributions to employment land shortfalls.
- Need to look at A41 Corridor – Hockley, Icknield Port Loop
- LTP blue top cycle route, general infrastructure is ok
- Not able to assist with G&T shortfall, Birmingham can meet their own need.
- No other Strategic Matters.
- Sandwell to look at growth zones in Birmingham Local Plan.

5. Next Steps

Circulate notes for agreement.

6. AOB

None

Draft Sandwell Local Plan – Reg 19

Duty to Co-operate meeting - Dudley MBC

9th May 2024 13.30pm – 14.30pm

Present – Vicki Popplewell, Kaliegh Lowe, Dudley MBC; Sam Holder, Sandwell MBC

1. Sandwell Local Plan (SLP) timetable /consultation/Reps

Discussed current stage of SLP. SLP is due to go to Cabinet / Council in September / October 2024. Out to consultation following that endorsement and submission early 2025.

Dudley Local Plan – might go to Council in either Sept or Dec, depending on timings.

Discussion around outcome of local elections – no anticipated impacts on either local plan process.

Dudley's shortfall can be met in significant part through apportionment from other authorities. Sandwell is not able to meet its needs given constraints.

2. Sandwell Local Plan Update

Explained where we are with SLP – draft almost complete, going through checks. Waiting on some further evidence but expect it to be ready by end of summer / autumn.

3. Dudley reps to Sandwell Local Plan /cross boundary matters

DMBC would like to be included in IDP consultation, given proximity of certain forms of infrastructure to shared boundary.

NOTE – please ensure all SLP correspondence is copied to Vicki Popplewell and to planning.policy@dudley.gov.uk.

Went through fifteen reps raised by Dudley and explained what had been done to address the comments and questions raised for each one. Dudley colleagues seemed generally content with responses.

Reps covered as follows:

- Housing sites adjacent to Dudley boundary
- Lion Farm
- Table 10 on town centres
- Owen Street / Tipton
- Shortfall / densities
- Tipton



- EDNA SEC1
- Coneygre
- Historic areas
- Housing sites
- Gypsy and Traveller site
- Densities in town centres
- BNG sites
- Waste management
- Edwin Richards date for closure

Agreed to undertake further DtC work when the need arises, including for infrastructure, housing sites, employment land and mixed-use allocations. Discussed issues around the potential Lion Farm allocation, and a need for Sandwell to identify adjacent replacement sports pitch provision – Dudley confirmed that they had a shortfall of provision and would be unable to assist in this.

4. DtC correspondence /matters arising/SoCG

Discussed potential shared SoCGs – these are being looked at in more detail through Planning Leads and Vicki indicated that work may start on them next week.

Shared topics include BC apportionment SoCG, HMA SoCG, FEMA SoCG, and transport? Advised that the CA may be leading on that topic?

5. Evidence base

Explained the ongoing evidence base work – work to undertake a green space audit to establish quantitative supply of accessible and other open spaces in borough; current work on the appointment of a consultant to review and update climate change policies as necessary; ongoing SFRA work. Dudley expressed their regret that a joint SFRA could not be commissioned. Discussed the opportunity to agree a shared methodology with the EA, given that Dudley are also using the same consultants as Sandwell.

6. Next Steps

Agreed to continue dialogue and start work on SoCGs.

7. AOB

Dudley asked whether Sandwell would be likely to respond on green belt issues following the publication of the revised NPPF in December. Confirmed that as Dudley's position will not change on the likelihood of sites in the GB being allocated, Sandwell would not be seeking to make further comment.

Minutes

Meeting title:	Duty To Cooperate – Walsall Council
Meeting date:	9 th May 2024
Meeting time:	14.00- 15.00pm
Meeting venue:	TEAMS
Present:	David Holloway; Neville Ball; Patricia McCullagh

1. Introductions

2. Sandwell Council Local Plan timetable

PMc advised timetable as follows:

September/October 2024	Cabinet and Full Council approval to consult on Submission Plan (Reg19) and then submission to Secretary of State
November – December 2024	Six-week Submission Plan consultation (Reg19)
January 2025	Submit the Plan and representations to the Secretary of State
January 2025 – Summer 2025	Window for holding the Examination in Public (likely to be a 2-3 week-long hearing) followed by Inspector's report
30 th June 2025	Last date for submitting Plan under current system
Late 2025/Early 2026	Adoption at Full Council (assuming plan has been found 'sound')

3. Walsall Council Local Plan Update

- Advised that Plan has 'paused' whilst waiting for new plan making regulations.
- Call for Sites currently open until September 2024

4. Walsall Council reps to Sandwell Local Plan / cross boundary matters

Acknowledged that Walsall response to SLP Reg 18 consultation recognised shortfall in housing and employment land supply but that housing numbers and employment land had increased from BCP Reg 18. It also acknowledged that it will be necessary to export the unmet need to neighbouring authority areas.

It also noted that Sandwell has very little Green Belt (with the majority in Sandwell Valley), is heavily constrained being surrounded by other urban authorities and very few vacant open spaces.

Advised that the planning application for housing (150 homes in Green Belt) at Peak House Farm, which was refused, will go to appeal.

5. DtC correspondence / matters arising / SoCG

Discussed the need for a SoCG between the Black Country authorities for housing to include apportionment methodology and a SoCG between the FEMA (BC and S.Staffs) for employment. Also discussed a need for a SoCG between Sandwell and Walsall in addition.

Discussed that a SoCG will also need to be agreed and confirmed between the authorities within the GBBCHMA to address the housing shortfall across the area and setting out approach to deal with the shortfall including updating the Strategic Growth Study. To that end advised that Sandwell will shortly be circulating a letter to the member authorities to understand who will be taking part in the study and contributing to the cost and who will not.

Advised that not aware of any issues for education places in either Walsall or Sandwell due to proposed housing allocations. Both agreed to check that this is still the case.

Confirmed that there are no strategic Waste and Minerals issues.

6. Evidence Base

Confirmed that the four Black Country authorities are continuing to work together on certain evidence including:

- Refresh to extend end date of EDNA;
- Refresh to extend end date of Centres Study – to be confirmed
- Transport Modelling work – Some of the proposed Walsall sites identified in the BCP, may have an impact on Sandwell.
- SHMA – housing / labour link – still in discussions for best way forward

7. Next Steps

PMc to circulate notes for agreement.

Sandwell to draft SoCG and circulate for agreement

Diarise further meeting, to update / discuss above.

8. AOB

None

Minutes

Meeting title:	Duty to Co-operate – City of Wolverhampton Council
Meeting date:	3 rd June 2024
Meeting time:	14.00- 15.00
Meeting venue:	Teams
Present:	Ian Culley, Michele Ross, Bart Shirm

1. Introductions

- Michele Ross – Planning Policy Manager, Wolverhampton
- Ian Culley – Lead Planning Manager, Wolverhampton
- Bart Shirm – Senior Planning Policy Officer, Sandwell

2. Sandwell Council Local Plan timetable

BS advised preparation timetable for the SLP as follows:

September/October 2024	Cabinet and Full Council approval to consult on Submission Plan (Reg19) and then submission to Secretary of State
November – December 2024	Six-week Submission Plan consultation (Reg19)
January 2025	Submit the Plan and representations to the Secretary of State
January 2025 – Summer 2025	Window for holding the Examination in Public (likely to be a 2-3 week-long hearing) followed by Inspector's report
30 th June 2025	Last date for submitting Plan under current system
Late 2025/Early 2026	Adoption at Full Council (assuming plan has been found 'sound')

3. Wolverhampton Council Local Plan Update

MR explained that Wolverhampton is preparing its Local Plan around a month behind Sandwell. The Reg.19 WLP is due to be presented to Cabinet in November, Council at the beginning of December with consultation taking place December 2024 – January 2025. The anticipated adoption date is 2026.

MR explained that the WLP sets out policies and allocations to guide the growth of the city until 2042. The WLP does not allocate sites in the City Centre. The Council intend to adopt a Supplementary Plan (under the new planning system) or an Area Action Plan to replace the existing City Centre



Area Action Plan which will provide site allocations and specific policies for the City Centre.

MR explained that the majority of development opportunities within the City Centre are already captured by the existing Area Action Plan.

4. Wolverhampton Council reps to Sandwell Local Plan / cross boundary matters

BS summarised the Wolverhampton Reg.18 representations to the Sandwell Local Plan -

- Wolverhampton recognise that Sandwell has fully explored all opportunities within the borough to maximise development capacity and that it will not be possible to meet all development need within the Borough. It is necessary for Sandwell to ask other authorities if they are able to contribute towards meeting Sandwell needs through the allocation of land in their Local Plans.
- Wolverhampton is committed to excluding any green belt land from development in the emerging Wolverhampton Local Plan.
- The Wolverhampton Local Plan is likely to generate a shortfall of around 11,500 homes and 50ha of employment land. Wolverhampton is not in a position to provide land within the emerging Wolverhampton Local Plan to meet either housing or employment development needs arising in Sandwell.
- The West Midlands Resource Technical Advisory Body has submitted responses to the Sandwell Local Plan on behalf of member authorities (including Wolverhampton) regarding strategic waste management.

IC confirmed that the overall position for Wolverhampton set out in its Reg.18 representations remain the same.

MR confirmed that Wolverhampton received Sandwell's representations to its Reg.18 (Issues and Preferred Options) consultation, however this was submitted with the caveat that it is yet to be politically endorsed by Sandwell's Members. **Action: Sandwell to confirm in writing to Wolverhampton whether its representations have been politically endorsed.**

5. DtC correspondence / matters arising / SoCG

BS discussed the need for a SoCG between the Black Country authorities for housing to include apportionment methodology and a SoCG between the FEMA (BC and S.Staffs) for employment.

IC agreed that both SoCGs are needed.

IC said that a SoCG is needed across the wider GBBCHMA explaining position on housing as well.

MR suggested that a housing SoCG look to cover Gypsy and Traveller provision as well as there is a shortfall of 19 pitches in the Reg.18 WLP which



is likely to stay the same at Reg.19.

Post meeting note: Sandwell MBC intends to draft a SoCG between Sandwell and Wolverhampton relating to housing, employment land, waste and Gypsy and Traveller provision.

IC explained that Wolverhampton is waiting for a formal response from Sandwell as to whether it intends to participate in the Strategic Growth Study Update.

Action: Sandwell to formally confirm whether it is partaking in the Strategy Growth Study Update.

BS and MR agreed that there are currently no cross-boundary infrastructure matters between the two authorities that need to be resolved outside of joint evidence base work (such as the SWECO transport model).

6. Evidence Base

It was confirmed that the four Black Country authorities are continuing to work together on certain evidence including:

- Refresh to extend end date of EDNA to 2042 – brief and costs being agreed
- Refresh to extend end date of Centres Study to 2042– Wolverhampton to confirm the scope of the update.
- Transport Modelling work
- SHMA – housing / labour link – Sandwell Stakeholder Event this Wednesday. Wolverhampton has commissioned HDH to undertake their SHMA update in parallel to Sandwell.

7. Next Steps

- BS to circulate notes for agreement.
- Sandwell to draft SoCG between Sandwell and Wolverhampton relating to housing, employment land, waste and Gypsy and Traveller provision
- Other SoCG relating to all Black Country authorities to be discussed in Planning Lead Meetings

8. AOB

BS explained that the RTPI Young Planners are organising an event at the National Brownfield Institute in Wolverhampton on 10 July and that officers are welcome to register and attend.

BCA - Minerals and Waste Duty to Cooperate Meeting

25.04.2024

Attendees: Liz Forster (Walsall MBC); Sarah Jones (Dudley MBC); Vijay Kaul (Wolverhampton CC); Mark Watkins (Sandwell MBC).

Agenda and Minutes

1. Update on individual BCA waste and mineral studies and Local Plan policies (including issues arising from Local Plan representations).
 - a. Dudley, Sandwell and Wolverhampton have concluded Regulation 18 consultations. Most significant representation received for each was from West Mids Resource Technical Advisory Body (WMRTAB). Matters raised including addressing waste capacity gaps (particularly landfill), Duty to Cooperate and use of most up to date Environment Agency Waste Data Interrogator (EA WDI) data. Dudley also received more detailed comments from Worcestershire CC including reference to Duty to Cooperate work.
 - b. Sandwell (MW) - updated policies with view to progressing to Reg 19 consultation shortly. Incorporated additional references to landfill capacity but no significant policy changes. Don't have any strategic waste movements with any other authorities at this time – undertook some correspondence with Staffordshire CC as more notable waste movements existed but no issues raised. Have addressed Dudley's comments regarding cross boundary Preferred Area for New Waste Facilities (listed area in policy).
 - c. Wolverhampton (VJ) - awaiting updated WSP evidence which will address most of WMRTAB representations and confirm up to date waste capacity requirements. Starting to review comments but no significant changes expected.
 - d. Dudley (SJ) - updated policies with view to progressing to Reg 19 later this year. Updates to policies not significant – areas for clarification mainly. Undertaking Duty to Cooperate meetings with other relevant authorities to address representations and issues raised within the waste evidence base e.g., landfill capacity. Only current strategic waste movements identified are with Sandwell (inert waste to landfill) however Sandwell have advised do not consider these to be strategic in the context of the volume of waste managed by Sandwell MBC (applying WMRTAB methodology). Evidence base- taking proportionate approach in terms of the suggestion to accommodate updated EA WDI data- not considered reasonable to update waste study on an annual basis.
 - e. Walsall (LF) - awaiting updated WSP evidence. Are progressing plan under the new planning system.
2. Cross boundary/strategic waste matters:

- a. Dudley/Sandwell- strategic inert waste movements to primarily Edwin Richards landfill (lifespan up to 2040). MW advised reference to this landfill has been included in updated Local Plan policies. Area proposed for housing allocation (delivery towards the end of the plan period) is land around the current landfill. The landfill subject to infilling is due to be restored as open space. Cross boundary Preferred Area for New Waste Facilities (Bloomfield/Budden Road)- have addressed Dudley's comments regarding cross boundary Preferred Area for New Waste Facilities (listed area in the plan).
 - b. No other strategic waste movements exist at present between the authorities. No other cross boundary matters to address at this stage. Recognised the interdependence of the Black Country area in terms of waste processing, and that the proposed individual authorities' Local Plan policies being progressed all largely took forward the approach previous proposed as part of the Draft Black Country Local Plan. Provides consistency of approach in terms of protecting existing waste sites, identifying Local Employment Areas/Preferred Areas for New Waste Facilities as appropriate locations for additional capacity and providing a positive policy context for considering appropriate new waste facility proposals.
 - c. SJ outlined that Dudley had contacted authorities where there may be an increase in exports in relation to landfill capacity (Himley Quarry only remaining landfill in the borough with current end date of 2026.) Current exports to Sandwell and Walsall. Future exports will need to be monitored to understand potential future strategic movements. Recognised that landfill capacity has been raised as a West Midlands region-wide issue, with WMRTAB producing Landfill Constraints Study (this may be updated in future). Will continue to address the matter via this forum. LF outlined that Walsall has several quarries requiring restoration via landfill at various stages of completion which may be able to assist with addressing the need throughout the plan period and beyond.
3. Cross boundary/strategic mineral matters:
 - a. West Midlands Local Aggregates Assessment- this is underway (Andy Donnelly preparing). Most recent LAA was in 2015. LF identified the Walsall data needs to be updated for this to progress. SJ advised that Andy Donnelly was due to provide an update at the next West Midlands Aggregates Working Group (WMAWG- 20th May 2024).
 - b. No specific cross boundary matters apparent at this stage. SJ outlined that the one remaining tile/brick works within Dudley is reliant on brick clay imports from a quarry in South Staffordshire (addressed via Duty to Cooperate discussions with Staffordshire CC). LF advised that some of the quarries within Walsall are not currently being worked. Brickworks within Walsall likely to become more reliant upon imports going forward. Dormant permissions will need to be reviewed. Walsall Minerals Site Allocations Document policies relatively recent (2019) and detailed.
4. Statements of Common Ground

- a. All agreed that no specific waste or minerals Statements of Common Ground were likely to be required based upon matters discussed. This may be covered as a general area within other Statements of Common Ground, but there were no specific strategic matters between the authorities to include at this stage. All authorities continue to work together as active participants of WMRTAB and the WMAWG as part of the Duty to Cooperate.
- 5. AOB
 - a. Nothing to raise.



Sandwell Council and Telford and Wrekin Council

Duty to Co-operate Meetings

2023/24/25



Protect, care and invest
to create a better borough

Duty to Cooperate (DtC)

Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council (SMBC) and Telford & Wrekin Council (TWC)

Date of meeting: 2pm Wednesday 19th April 2023

In attendance:

Andy Miller – Sandwell MBC (AM)
Patricia McCullagh – Sandwell MBC (PM)
Philippa Smith – Sandwell MBC (PS)

Gavin Ashford – Telford & Wrekin Council (GA)
Hannah Post - Telford & Wrekin Council (HP)
Harriet Broster – Telford & Wrekin Council (HB)

Notes:

TWC Local Plan Review Update

- Had a pause in TWC Local Plan review due to proposals in 'Planning for the Future' White Paper – LDS published June 2022 – working towards draft plan for Autumn 2023
- TWC wanted to get the ball rolling with setting up meetings so that constructive and on-going engagement can be evidence between all parties.
- Approach can be further discussed once we meet again in terms of an unmet need, provided progression has been made around a draft housing requirement.
- Existing migration patterns and travel to work data – would want to consider this via census data and so we would look at the same source to keep things consistent.
- TWC have not signed the Greater Birmingham and Black Country Housing Market Area Statement of Common Ground which looks to apportion unmet development needs amongst GBBCHMA LPA's. This position will be kept under review.

Sandwell Local Plan Update

- Similar point to TWC – draft plan should be out for consultation in Autumn 2023, Sandwell have just finished their I&O consultation and Call for Sites
- Pressing need for an updated plan outweighed the possibility of the local plan process changing
- Need is approx. 30,000 – Sandwell have approx. 9,000 in their housing supply so there is quite a short fall, there is also a 26ha shortfall for employment land
- Sandwell in the process of updating their SHLAA
- Since the demise of the Black Country Plan, engagement with the neighbouring Black Country authorities will continue on an individual basis. Meeting the unmet needs of the BCAs will continue to be an issue for discussion

Infrastructure

- Sandwell supportive of TWC aspiration for the electrification of railway between Wolves and Shrews. Support comes through WM regional organisations.
- Minerals and waste – TWC waste not an issue at the moment and TWC continue to be a joint minerals planning area with Shropshire.
- Letter to TWC regarding waste movements – GA to speak to TWC waste lead about this – PM assumes that the letter is general and has been sent to several local authorities – GA will look at letter and respond if necessary.
- Principle relationship on minerals is with Walsall so there are no issues at the moment.

Next Steps:

Next meeting

23rd May 2023 – 3-4pm



Telford & Wrekin
Co-operative Council

**Protect, care and invest
to create a better borough**

Duty to Cooperate (DtC)

Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council (SMBC) and Telford & Wrekin Council (TWC)

Date of meeting: 3pm Tuesday 23rd May 2023

In attendance:

Andy Miller – Sandwell MBC (AM)
Patricia McCullagh – Sandwell MBC (PM)
Philippa Smith – Sandwell MBC (PS)

Gavin Ashford – Telford & Wrekin Council (GA)
Hannah Post - Telford & Wrekin Council (HP)
Harriet Broster – Telford & Wrekin Council (HB)

Notes:

TWC Local Plan Review Update

- Elections update – Labour won more seats, Conservative lost seats – means that Labour administration now have an increased majority, next step to provide members with a briefing on LPR progress –
- TWC continue to work towards improving the evidence base for the review.

Sandwell Local Plan Update

- Slightly behind – working through their I&O responses and updating their SHLAA still
- Have a housing shortfall of approx. 20,000 out of the BCCA's 30,000 shortfall
- Elections – no real changes worth noting

Strategic DtC issues

TWC – keen for the electrification of the railway line between Shrewsbury and Wolverhampton which Wolverhampton have expressed that they are already supportive of

- Sandwell concur that they are also supportive of this

Gypsy and traveller developments – TWC working through GTAA – not in a place to share whether we are in a position to meet our own need for projected shortfall in provision.

Other

Sandwell keen to know whether TWC will be offering them any housing or employment land to assist with their shortfall – TWC not in a position to comment on this at the moment.

Next Steps:

Meeting arranged for 10am Tuesday 4th July 2023



**Protect, care and invest
to create a better borough**

Duty to Cooperate (DtC)

Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council (SMBC) and Telford & Wrekin Council (TWC)

Date of meeting: 10am Tuesday 4th July 2023

In attendance:

Patricia McCullagh – Sandwell MBC (PM)

Philippa Smith – Sandwell MBC (PS)

Gavin Ashford – Telford & Wrekin Council (GA)

Hannah Post - Telford & Wrekin Council (HP)

Notes:

TWC Local Plan Review Update

- Still on track to go to Cabinet in September. Evidence works still ongoing. Expecting to be in a better position next month to discuss evidence work and progress.

Sandwell Local Plan Update

- Sandwell in process of writing to neighbouring authorities at the moment. Likely to contact TWC in relation to growth options and contributions to the Black Country unmet needs.
- Timetable similar to TWC. Draft Plan almost there including draft policies. Currently finishing off site assessment and supply figures.

Other

GA chased agreement of previous meeting notes.

Parties agreed any unmet need contributions, if offered, would be to the Black Country and those authorities would deal with the apportionment.

Next Steps

Meeting to be arranged when both authorities have moved work along.



Telford & Wrekin
Co-operative Council

**Protect, care and invest
to create a better borough**

Duty to Cooperate (DtC)

Black Country Authorities (BCAs) and Telford & Wrekin Council (TWC)

Date of meeting: 7th November 2023

Housing

Telford

Consulting on Draft Local Plan.

Included a contribution to meeting BC unmet need - 81 dwellings/year/20 years – in line with past migration figures.

Over-allocated to account for a number of sites not coming forward.

Any early review will be determined by PINS.

Unlikely that Members will agree to any increase to this number.

Black Country

Welcome the offer. However, there are a number of issues, including the unpublished full report prepared by a consultant. Only a summary has been published.

Summary sets out the approach to identifying housing need – use of different h/h projections and census figures (2014, 2018 and 2021).

Migration and census data represent a policy-off approach which has happened in the past, whereas the level of housing need for the Met area needs a new approach that reflects a policy-on scenario.

With regard to the sites as set out in the draft plan, it would be helpful to understand the capacity to accommodate additional land in the new town – can it be expanded?

The reasons behind the figure chosen will need to be explained more clearly.

Telford Response

No longer consider themselves as a new town.

SUE sites may provide some flexibility.

Members have concerns over the level of infrastructure and will likely say no to any additional housing numbers.

Consulting on more sites than needed – some are difficult.

Discount buffer will be 5-10%.

BC Local Plans

Dudley – 10th November to 22nd Dec – shortfall of 1000.

Walsall – paused plan – awaiting planning reforms, will go through new system. 17k need, 11k capacity including green belt. Haven't decided what to do with the green belt as yet but are reviewing site selection. Looking to increase capacity in the urban area.

Wolverhampton – 9.5k supply

Cabinet in Feb 2024 – no sites in green belt – 12k shortfall (with 35% uplift).

Won't cover City Centre – will take forward in a Supplementary Plan.

BC Employment Land

Shortfall taking into account DtC offers from S.Staffs and Shropshire – 19ha.

Bromsgrove also has a specific allocation that could help to address the BC needs – therefore employment land is not considered a strategic issue with Telford.

Responding to Draft Plan Consultation

BCAs will respond to the technical questions – officer response via email.

Send in a formal response once various approvals received.



Telford & Wrekin
Co-operative Council

**Protect, care and invest
to create a better borough**

Duty to Cooperate (DtC)

Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council (SMBC) and Telford & Wrekin Council (TWC)

Date of meeting: 3pm Wednesday 21st August 2024

In attendance:

Patricia McCullagh – Sandwell MBC (PM)

Philippa Smith – Sandwell MBC (PS)

Gavin Ashford – Telford & Wrekin Council (GA)

Harriet Broster - Telford & Wrekin Council (HB)

Notes:

TWC Local Plan Review Update

- NPPF proposed changes make no significant difference to Telford and Wrekin's housing need, therefore TWC offer to the Black Country Authorities will remain the same (81 units per annum).
- Cabinet scheduled 5th September, Full Council in January 2025, followed by Regulation 19 consultation on the plan's soundness Feb/March

Sandwell Local Plan Update

- Cabinet 11th September and aiming to consult on Regulation 19 plan from 23rd September 2024
- Require response to letter sent 20th June – TWC will provide following 2nd September

Other

- Statement of Common Ground – agreed TWC would contact BCAs to understand if they would agree to a SoCG between TWC and BC on housing issues and have bilateral agreements with each BCA on other issues.

Next Steps

- TWC to respond to letter from Sandwell, following this SoCG to be agreed



Telford & Wrekin
Co-operative Council

**Protect, care and invest
to create a better borough**

Black Country Duty to Co-operate Meeting – Telford and Wrekin Council

7th November 2023

Present:

Ian Culley, Michele Ross – Wolverhampton

Vicki Popplewell, Liz Vesty – Dudley

Dave Holloway, Neville Ball – Walsall

Patricia McCullagh, Philippa Smith – Sandwell

Gavin Ashford – Telford and Wrekin

Housing

Telford

Consulting on Draft Local Plan.

Included a contribution to meeting BC unmet need - 81 dwellings/year/20 years – in line with past migration figures.

Over-allocated to account for a number of sites not coming forward.

Any early review will be determined by PINS.

Unlikely that Members will agree to any increase to this number.

Black Country

Welcome the offer. However, there are a number of issues, including the unpublished full report prepared by a consultant. Only a summary has been published.

Summary sets out the approach to identifying housing need – use of different h/h projections and census figures (2014, 2018 and 2021).

Migration and census data represent a policy-off approach which has happened in the past, whereas the level of housing need for the Met area needs a new approach that reflects a policy-on scenario.

With regard to the sites as set out in the draft plan, it would be helpful to understand the capacity to accommodate additional land in the new town – can it be expanded?

The reasons behind the figure chosen will need to be explained more clearly.

Telford Response

No longer consider themselves as a new town.

SUE sites may provide some flexibility.

Members have concerns over the level of infrastructure and will likely say no to any additional housing numbers.

Consulting on more sites than needed – some are difficult.

Discount buffer will be 5-10%.

BC Local Plans

Dudley – 10th November to 22nd Dec – shortfall of 1000.

Walsall – paused plan – awaiting planning reforms, will go through new system. 17k need, 11k capacity including green belt. Haven't decided what to do with the green belt as yet but are reviewing site selection. Looking to increase capacity in the urban area.

Wolverhampton – 9.5k supply

Cabinet in Feb 2024 – no sites in green belt – 12k shortfall (with 35% uplift).

Won't cover City Centre – will take forward in a Supplementary Plan.

BC Employment Land

Shortfall taking into account DtC offers from S.Staffs and Shropshire – 19ha.

Bromsgrove also has a specific allocation that could help to address the BC needs – therefore employment land is not considered a strategic issue with Telford.

Responding to Draft Plan Consultation

BCAs will respond to the technical questions – officer response via email.

Send in a formal response once various approvals received.



Duty to Cooperate (DtC)

Black Country Authorities (BCA's) and Telford & Wrekin Council (TWC)

Date of meeting: 4pm Tuesday 15th April 2025

In attendance:

Gavin Ashford - Telford & Wrekin Council (GA)
Vicki Popplewell - Dudley Council (VP)
Patricia McCullagh – Sandwell Council (PM)
Neville Ball – Walsall Council (NB)
Michele Ross – City of Wolverhampton Council (MR)
Harriet Broster – Telford and Wrekin Council (HB)

Apologies:

Ian Culley – City of Wolverhampton Council (IC)

Notes:

Telford Update

- 17th March started consultation of Reg 19 plan
- Consultation ends 5th May
- TWC going under the updated (December 2024) NPPF
- Objections likely to be focused on the Sustainable Communities sites but don't foresee anything major emerging issues at this moment in time, but will be reviewing responses in detail
- Aiming to submit late June / early July
- Delegated authority (via Cabinet) to submit the plan
- BCA's want TWC to make it clear that the allocations within the plan is the maximum capacity for the borough and therefore no additional capacity available – TWC confirmed this was the case and will clarify this as part of submission.
- TWC stated there was also circa 5% buffer to allow for potential under delivery during plan period.

Dudley Update

- Finished consultation in November 2024 and submitted 14 February 2025
- Reg 19 consultation received approx. 700 reps, 200 responses
- DMBC were advised minor mods won't be examined
- Advised to complete all of their topic papers before examination
- Finalising dates for hearings – likely to start in the Summer 2025

- Telford confirmed no other cross boundary issues with Dudley and have formalised this in a letter to Dudley MBC.

Sandwell Update

- End of consultation in September, submitted in December before the NPPF came out
- 46 Respondents and 376 representations
- Hearing sessions likely to start in the Summer 2025

Wolverhampton Update

- Only had 48 responses – submitted by end of March after close of consultation in January
- Look at response to Reg 19 consultation statement to see how they dealt with not recommending any minor mods
- Their inspectors have been appointed, just waiting to hear from them

Walsall Update

- Working on their timetable
- Reg 18 consultation likely for the Autumn
- Currently procuring work for their evidence base

SoCG

- May need to make some adjustments to the document TWC have amended

Other

- BCA's pointed out the recent changes in affordability ratios that will impact TWC housing need figure. TWC may be expected to update housing need figures prior to submission or as part of the examination.
- BCA's suggested that TWC may be expected to have a later plan start date for housing purposes, in accordance with the standard method, and may need to extend the Plan end date to ensure 15 years from adoption. This may result in a reduction in the global contribution from TWC to the BCA's.
- BCA's suggested that the next LPA to submit takes the lead on updating the GBBCHMA Statement of Common Ground.

Actions

- TWC to send an email to Sandwell/Walsall/Wolverhampton to agree whether there are any non-housing cross boundary issues that require a Statement of Common Ground.

**Black Country Authorities Duty to Co-operate
Meetings with Birmingham City Council, South
Staffordshire Council, Lichfield District Council
and Shropshire Council**

2022/2023

South Staffs Council, Black Country Local Authorities, Birmingham City Council

DTC Meeting 31.10.2022

Attendees:

Kelly Harris (SS) - South Staffordshire District Council (SSDC)

Ed Fox (SS) - SSDC

Patricia McCullagh (SC) – Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council (SMBC)

Michelle Ross (CWC) – City of Wolverhampton Council (CWC)

Vicki Popplewell (DC) – Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council (DMBC)

Maria Dunn (BCC) – Birmingham City Council (BCC)

Uyen-Phan Han (BCC) - BCC

Liz Forster (WC) – Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council (WMBC)

Neville Ball (WC) – WMBC

Gypsy and Traveller unmet needs:

SS – BCC has responded but Black Country authorities haven't to date

SS – Are there plots on public sites? Site options for **new** public sites, including in Green Belt?
Engaged with site promoters to see if there's opportunity for new public sites? Considered publicly owned land? This is what South Staffs have done, need to understand what others have.

DC – have recently re-examined site options; can come back in writing

SS – need to understand the process others have gone through

WC – one Council public site is full, just opened a temporary transit site with 6 pitches, haven't considered options for new sites other than a existing SAD non-GB allocation; goes towards existing needs, haven't discussed public sites with GB housing sites but have with non-GB housing sites, non-GB sites indicated it would affect viability to do so.

CWC – latest G&T assessment isn't published yet, likely to be published in January. 1) No, 2) No, 3) No – could do that during consultation on Issues and Options, 4) Yes - could do further work at



January consultation to examine this. Will examine but can't respond with any substance before January.

SC – Will be examining these four areas through Issues and Options on Sandwell plan. 1) No, 2) No, 3) No but will examine through Issues and Options and 4) have looked at some for transit sites but not any further.

Apportionment of housing contributions:

CWC – have discussed this with Bham previously but see a need to separate out housing contributions between 4 BC LPAs and BCC. May be significant for justifying Green Belt exceptional circumstances. From Shropshire examination the earlier this is sorted out the better. Most progressed offer is Shropshire (signed SoCG) and some are expressed to BC specifically (e.g. Lichfield). Others aren't attributed to any individual LPAs.

CWC- Have proposed an approach in circulated note based on net migration flows between importing and exporting authorities. Based on authorities mainly to north and west of conurbation as this is where majority of local plan activity is at this point. Based on a migration based method, % figures in Table 2 of the circulated note could be used as basis for separating out offers between four BC authorities and BCC. Would like to see this reflected in the SSDC SoCGs to provide certainty.

CWC – Might be argued that if LPA area doesn't have a shortfall then it shouldn't be receiving offers from neighbouring LPAs. CWC want to use this approach as soon as possible to allow local plans to progress.

BCC – Want to understand how lack of BC plan impacts shortfalls and want to see how contributions would be distributed across LPAs where a contribution would be given to LPA without a shortfall (e.g. if Walsall's needs are met, where does Lichfield's contribution go). What happens to individual LPAs within the Black Country which can meet their own need, but which could have a role in assisting with Bham's shortfall?

CWC – If moving to four individual local plans it pushes preparation back a year, may not be the case that some LPAs which were meeting own needs still can

WC – May not reflect people moving from Sandwell to other BC authorities, which in turn then have residents moving to shires

BCC – If we can't treat as collective HMA shortfall (Bham preference) then the % are a sensible way to go about it but does appear to make life difficult for Sandwell which has a large shortfall but no direct relationships.

CWC – Sandwell's strongest relationships are with Dudley, Wyre Forest, Bham. If Wyre Forest was more progressed then this approach would give Sandwell a stronger argument for asking them.

BCC – Should we be looking across the whole HMA then?

SS – Probably for **next** iteration of HMA SoCG if we're going down that route. Also need to be mindful that Wyre Forest isn't in HMA. Need to be mindful of what we can agree **now** for SoCG.



CWC – Would seek agreement on approach to apportionment if not number at this stage.

SS – Over the next couple of months could Bham and Black Country work together on this?

BCC – Would need the next couple of months to work this out.

CWC – Could SoCG commit to doing apportionment based on evidence of functional relationships between LPAs?

BCC – would need to check with senior management given that approach to date has been to push for singular HMA shortfall

CWC – Would like to have agreement to work together on how to apportion in areas of agreement

BCC – Agree it would be better to show we have a way forward on this

SS – If BCC can get wording to us by end of this week that would enable us to put in

AGREED – BCC to provide wording by the end of this week to put into each SoCG on way forward for apportionment

Timescales for plan-making

SS – Any update from BC LPAs on this in light of individual plans being pursued?

CWC – CWC LDS indicates consult in Spring 2023, Reg 19 Summer/Autumn 2023, examination 2024, adopt 2025

WC – WMBC LDS going to cabinet this week, going back to Reg 18, Issues and Options after elections next Summer, submit March 2026

DC – DMBC looking to incorporate Brierly Hill AAP into plan, Reg 18 plan after elections in June/July 2023, not agreed submission/adoption timescales at this stage.

BCC – Submission 2025, adoption 2026 for BCC, can't sit still and wait for new system

CWC – Apportionment will be important if plans are all operating to different timescales

SC – LDS in December 2022, looking to do one Local Plan with Issues and Options February/March 2023, adoption early 2026

Signing statements of SoCG

SS – HMA SoCG; signed copy from Bham, SSDC's likely to be signed subject to scrutiny, going to be chasing today. Individual SoCGs need to be agreed at officer level this week (prior to consultation) but any idea of timescales for formal sign off?

CWC – should education be included at this stage?

CWC – could reflect current position on school places; that each CWC and SSDC working with education authority confirm that each area can accommodate its own growth in school places

BCC – Can likely do BCCs under delegated sign off

CWC – Would sign off be delayed until submission next year?

SS – Need sign off as soon as possible to support Regulation 19. Will happily participate in updated SoCG with CWC and others at submission stage but that needs to be in addition to Regulation 19 stage SoCG, not instead of.

AGREED – Officer comments back by end of the week with aim to sign individual SSDC SoCG after this.

AGREED – Dudley, Sandwell and Walsall to confirm individual decision making processes in light of ABCA no longer being decision making signatory.

BC Duty to Co-operate Meeting - Lichfield

8th November 2023

Statement of Common Ground 2022 – included a contribution of 2000 homes for the BC

BCA Concerns:

- Not a sufficient contribution.
- Push housing into less sustainable locations.
- 4500 is considered to be a more appropriate number (as per PO document);
- decrease has not been justified.
- 13,306 capacity with 9,727 to be delivered – buffer is too big and could contribute more to unmet need.

Lichfield – starting again. Will take into account the existing capacity of 13,306 plus any new capacity in new settlements.

Lichfield Update

Cabinet decision – 23rd September 2023:

- Recommend withdrawal from EiP – Full Council will ratify.
- Produce withdrawal notice.
- Letters going out this week.
- Documents removed from the website
- 6 week legal challenge period.

Unsure as to what happens next.

Uncertainty around plan-making.

Reasons for withdrawal:

- Concern over the appropriateness of the strategy.
- Location of proposed new development.
- PINS raised a number of issues.

Will need to do a new Reg18 consultation as the Plan has been withdrawn.

SoCG – won't be ready to commit to a new SoCG. Will be planning under at the new system which has no commitment for DtC.

SoCG signed in 2021

1500 dwellings – 3 sites

30ha employment land – Shifnal Ind Estate

Shropshire

Operational issues – how will the council meet the requirement.

PINS asked for specific sites to be identified that will meet the needs of the BC rather than just subsume the numbers into the Plan.

One developer sent in a protocol letter stating that continuing with the EiP would be unlawful

PINS also had concerns on soundness and are seeking clarification on 11 points, including reasonable alternatives to meeting the BC need (SA).

May have another year of the EiP and may need to update the SoCG

BC FEMA

- Numbers and supply have been updated to 2041
- Shropshire and S.Staffs contribution taken into account.
- Left with 19ha shortfall.
- Potential for a contribution from Bromsgrove

BC Duty to Co-operate Meeting - Shropshire**9th November 2023**

SoCG signed in 2021

1500 dwellings – 3 sites

30ha employment land – Shifnal Ind Estate

Shropshire

Operational issues – how will the council meet the requirement.

PINS asked for specific sites to be identified that will meet the needs of the BC rather than just subsume the numbers into the Plan.

One developer sent in a protocol letter stating that continuing with the EiP would be unlawful

PINS also had concerns on soundness and are seeking clarification on 11 points, including reasonable alternatives to meeting the BC need (SA).

May have another year of the EiP and may need to update the SoCG

BC FEMA

- Numbers and supply have been updated to 2041
- Shropshire and S.Staffs contribution taken into account;
- Left with 19ha shortfall;
- Potential for a contribution from Bromsgrove



West Midlands Aggregates Working Party

Notes of Meetings

2022-2024

Minutes of West Midlands Aggregates Working Party (WMAWP) meeting. - 3 December 2024

- 1.1 VE welcomed participants to the meeting. Each attendee introduced themselves, providing their name and organisation.

2. Minutes of last meeting (20 May 2024) and Actions arising

2.1

[REDACTED]

2.2

[REDACTED]

2.3

[REDACTED]

2.4

[REDACTED]

2.5

[REDACTED]

2.6

[REDACTED]

2.7

2.8

2.9

3. Local Aggregate Assessments

3.1

■

■

3.4

■

3.6

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

3.12

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

3.16

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

3.19 Birmingham (Andrew Donnelly, AD): West Midlands Conurbation now have a good working brief for the LAA, yet still with 2022 dates. Once the missing 2023 data issue is resolved, this will be added in.

3.20 AD: There are two quarries, but it showed that as of 2022 we have only got a land bank of 6.3 years. One quarry previously sterilized by HS2. Not much chance of anything else coming forward, because it's built up.

3.21 AD: Subject to filling in the last few gaps hopefully can issue a draft LAA in the new year.

3.22 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

3.25 [REDACTED]

4. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

4.3

[REDACTED]

■

[REDACTED]

■

[REDACTED]

■

[REDACTED]

4.7

[REDACTED]

■

[REDACTED]

■

[REDACTED]

■

[REDACTED]

■

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

4.18

[REDACTED]

4.19

[REDACTED]

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5.

5.1

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■

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5.7

■

5.9

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

5.14 Sandwell (Mark Watkins, MW): Stated that Sandwell recently concluded its Regulation 19 consultation and plans to submit its draft local plan by the end of 2024. Examination is expected in early 2025.

5.15

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

5.20

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

5.26

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

6.1

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

6.13

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

7.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

■

[REDACTED]

■

[REDACTED]

■

[REDACTED]

9.7

[REDACTED]

■

[REDACTED]

10.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Minutes of West Midlands Aggregates Working Party – 20th May 2024

1. Introductions and apologies

1.1

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

2.4

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

3.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

3.7

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

3.10 Andrew Donnely (AD) gave an update on West Midlands Conurbation's progress that covers seven authorities, they started gathering data from the Conurbation and are currently in the process of presenting the data, the drafting of the LAA should progress soon. Maurice Barlow (MB) agreed to help AD fill any gaps in their LAA when needed.

3.11

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

4. MPAs Update on Local Plans

4.1

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

4.7

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

4.10 MW gave an update on Sandwell's Local Plan. Completed Reg18 consultation last December. Currently working towards Reg19 consultation and hoping to launch that in the latter part of the year. This could change according to the general elections and get delayed to next year.

4.11 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

5.4

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

6.5

[REDACTED]

6.6

[REDACTED]

7.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Minutes of West Midlands Aggregates Working Party – 13th November 2023

11. Introductions and apologies

11.1

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

13.2

[REDACTED]

14. Local Aggregate Assessments

14.1

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] a

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

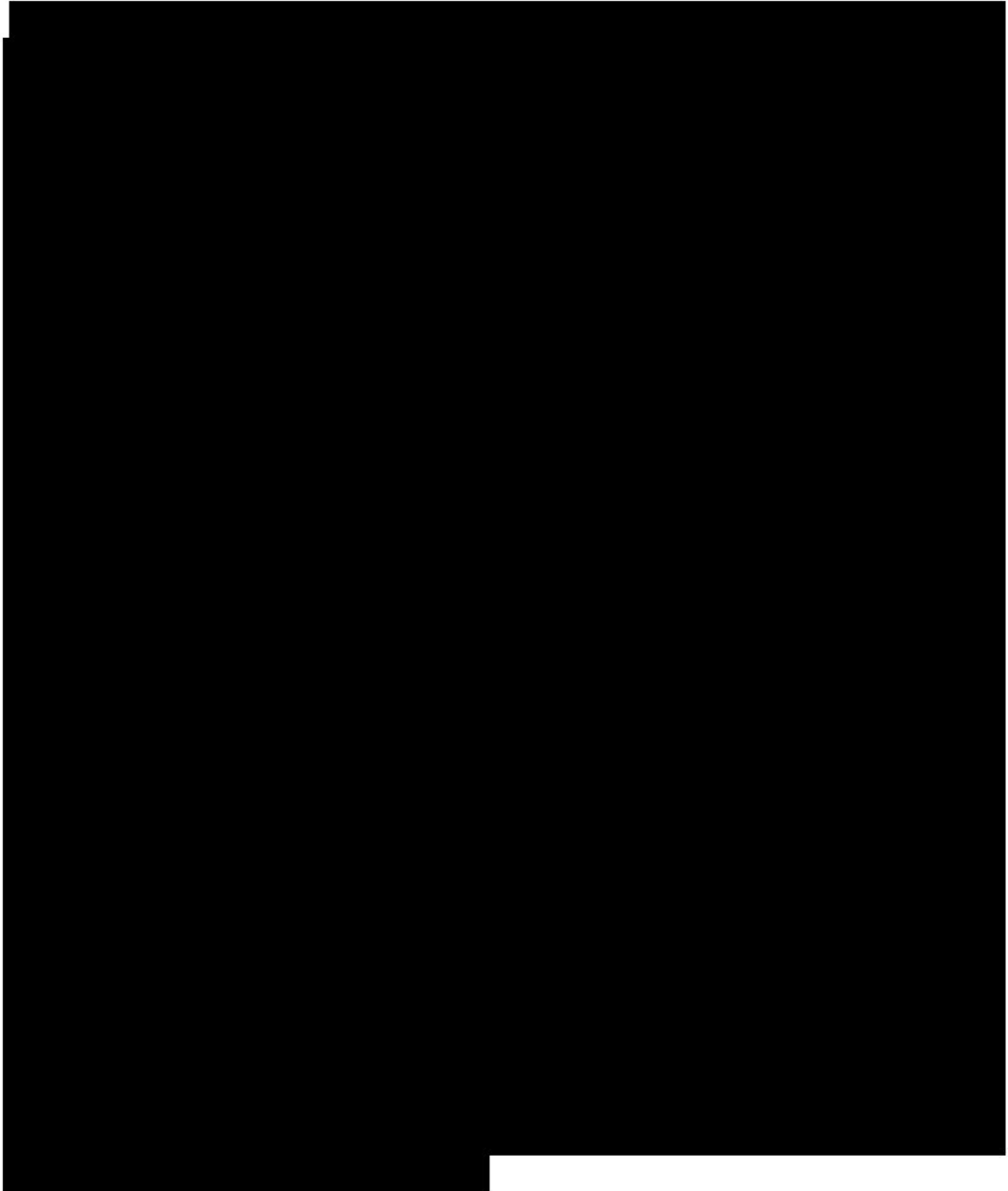
[REDACTED]

14.6 Andrew Donnely gave an update on West Midlands Conurbation's progress that covers seven authorities, they started gathering data from the Conurbation, and are currently in the process of presenting the data, the drafting of the LAA should progress soon.

14.7



14.8



15. MPAs Update on Local Plans

15.1



[REDACTED]

15.2 [REDACTED]

15.5 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

15.8 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

15.10 Mark Watkins (MW) gave an update on Sandwell's Local Plan, Regulation 18 consultation started on 6 November until 18 December, the plan incorporates waste and minerals, and an update of the evidence based as well. The minerals policies concentrate mainly on the secondary aggregate production, saying that Sandwell is not a primary producer of minerals.

15.11

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

15.13

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

16.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

16.3 [REDACTED]

17. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

17.2

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

18.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

19.1

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Minutes of West Midlands Aggregates Working Party – 27th April 2023

21. Introductions and apologies

21.1 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

23. Local Aggregate Assessments

23.1 Andrew Donnelly is responsible for the seven metropolitan areas of Birmingham, Sandwell, Solihull, Coventry, Dudley, Walsall, Wolverhampton. He has got the data and has started drafting a report. Birmingham is a net importer of aggregates. The last 10 years sales figure is 0.456mt, which gives a landbank of 7 years. AD hopes to get the draft ready in the next few weeks. AD flagged that he's struggling with the Waste Data Interrogator (WDI), DF offered to send information on how to calculate recycled aggregates.

23.2 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

23.6 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

24. MPAs Update on Local Plans

24.1 [REDACTED]

24.2 Mark Watkins (MW) from Sandwell Council said that despite the Black Country plan being stopped and the four local authorities going separate ways, they are still doing joint work on waste and minerals and the consultants who produced the waste and minerals studies for the Black Country plan are now looking at reviewing those and to see how far they can take it down to an individual local authority level. Sandwell went out to issues and options consultation in February – March 2023. Didn't receive any representations on minerals. Looking to produce the draft document in the summer and then go out for Reg18 consultation in the autumn later this year.

24.3

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

24.5

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

24.7

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

24.10

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

25.3

[REDACTED]

25.4

[REDACTED]

25.5

[REDACTED]

25.6

[REDACTED]

25.7

[REDACTED]

26.

[REDACTED]

26.1

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

26.2

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

27.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

27.3

[REDACTED]

■

[REDACTED]

■

[REDACTED]

■

[REDACTED]

27.7

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

■

■

■

[REDACTED]

■

[REDACTED]

■

[REDACTED]

Minutes of West Midlands Aggregates Working Party – 24th November 2022

30. Introductions and apologies

30.1 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

32. Local Aggregate Assessments

32.1

[REDACTED]

32.2

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

32.5

[REDACTED]

32.6

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

33. MPAs Update (progress on Local Plans)

33.1

[REDACTED]

33.2

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

33.5

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

33.9 Mark Watkins (MW) said at Sandwell they will take a cabinet report next week to get approval to go out to issues and options consultation February 2023.

33.10

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

34.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

34.4

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

35.4

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

36.

[REDACTED]

36.1

[REDACTED]

37.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



Minutes of West Midlands Aggregates Working Party – 23th June 2022

1. Introductions and apologies

1.1

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

3. Local Aggregate Assessments

3.1

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

3.3



■



3.5



■



3.7

[REDACTED]

■

[REDACTED]

■

[REDACTED]

■

[REDACTED]

■

[REDACTED]

3.12

[REDACTED]

■

[REDACTED]

3.14

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

4. MPAs Update

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

4.2

[REDACTED]

4.3

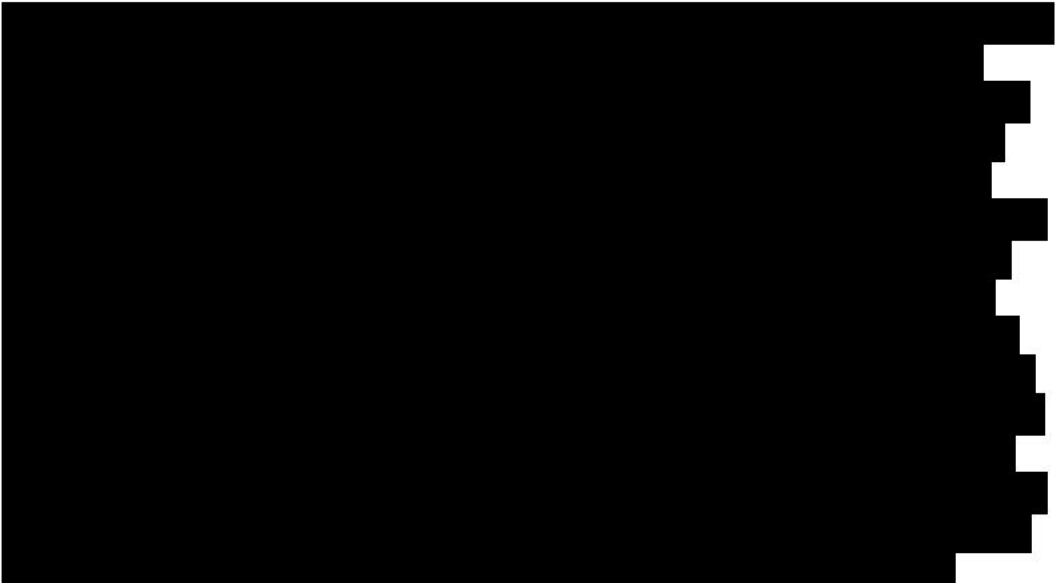
[REDACTED]

4.5 [REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

4.8 [REDACTED]

5. [REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

6.1

[REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

■ [REDACTED]

6.5

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
7. [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

8.

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8.3

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■

8.10

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

8.14

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

10. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

West Midlands Resource Technical Advisory Body (RTAB)

Notes of Meetings 2018-2024

Notes of WMRTAB Meeting: Wednesday 4th December 2024

1. [REDACTED]
2. [REDACTED]
3. Member Updates:
 - Coventry: Going to cabinet with Reg 19 in December with a view to go out for consultation in January 2025.
 - Shropshire: Still in EIP for Local Plan Review. Recently hearing sessions have been paused until further notice.
 - Dudley: Reg 19 consultation finished at the end of November with a view to submit in early 2025.
 - Stoke: New Local Plan timetable recently agreed. Reg 18 consultation anticipated end of 2025, not sure if it will include waste at that point.
 - Solihull: Local Plan has been withdrawn. Call for sites underway. New scheme published.
 - Walsall: Revision to LDS going to cabinet in December. Aiming for December 2026 submission. Call for sites included waste sites.
 - Birmingham: Reg 18 consultation finished in August. Aiming for October for Reg 19 consultation.
 - Staffordshire – a closure notice had been issued to Whalley's Quarry landfill. Noted this site has a capacity 400ktpa.
 - Warwickshire County Council: No update on local plan at the moment – waiting for new plan making system.
 - Worcestershire County Council: Position has not changed - they have paused to ensure sound evidence base and not aiming to meet the 2026 deadline.
 - Telford & Wrekin – Aiming for Reg 19 consultation in February 2025.

Action: Responses to these Local Plan consultations will be prepared by WMRTAB in due course

 - General comment about need for training on preparation of waste needs assessments. IB noted that similar training being sought in the South East. **Action: IB to provide update on this when training in South East has been arranged.**
4. [REDACTED]



5. [REDACTED]

6. [REDACTED]

7. [REDACTED]

8. Next meeting: 5th June 2025 10.00-13.00.



[REDACTED]

9.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



Sandwell

Metropolitan Borough Council

Notes of WMRTAB Meeting: Wednesday 12th June 2024

1. Introductions made. Apologies received from:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- 2.

[REDACTED]

3. Member Updates: most authorities had provided updates for the table - other updates:

- Coventry: no further updates to previous position.
- Shropshire: still in EIP for Local Plan Review. Recently completed main modifications/additional evidence consultation. Potential hearing sessions in Autumn with potential adoption mid-2025. Waste matters addressed in early part of EIP- Inspectors haven't sought any further evidence on this matter - will await Inspectors report.
- Stoke: New Local Plan timetable recently agreed. Reg 18 consultation anticipated end of 2025, not sure if will include waste at that point.
- Solihull: TBC (no attendee).
- Walsall: No further updates to previous position. Awaiting details of new Local Plan system.

Action: LF to send on ref number for Sandown Quarry landfill application.

Potential additional Local Plan consultations including waste matters before or around next RTAB meeting December are Dudley, Sandwell, Coventry, Wolverhampton (all Reg 19 stage).

Action: Responses to these Local Plan consultations will be prepared by WMRTAB in due course

- 4.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

6.

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

7.

[REDACTED]

8.

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

9.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

12. AOB:

[REDACTED]

Notes of WMRTAB Meeting: Wednesday 6th December 2023

1. Introductions made. Apologies received from:

[REDACTED]

2.

[REDACTED]

3. Member Updates: most authorities had provided updates for the table - other updates:

- Coventry: no further updates to previous position on Local Plan. Completed Reg 18 consultation and moving towards Reg 19 in line with LDS at present.
- Shropshire: Local Plan under Examination still. Minerals and Waste sessions held in May 2023. Inspector feedback received with some modifications to be agreed on range of matters- minerals and waste generally ok.
- Stoke on Trent: no further updates to previous position on Local Plan. Still working towards Reg 18 consultation.
- Telford and Wrekin: TBC (no attendee). IB has drafted WMRTAB response to current Local Plan consultation – on agenda for discussion.
- Walsall: will be working under the new Local Plan system. Sandown Quarry EIA – has now come in as a full application- will confirm progress with case officer.
- Warwickshire: no further updates to previous position on Local Plan. Planning applications also still being processed.
- Wolverhampton: Local Plan timetable was paused but Issues and Options consultation now expected early in 2024.

Potential additional consultations before next RTAB meeting in June include Wolverhampton Local Plan, but this is TBC (**Action: IB to confirm with Wolverhampton officers (subsequently confirmed – VK to notify IB when consultation starts)**).

4.

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

6. [REDACTED]

7. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

10.

[REDACTED]

11.

[REDACTED]

12.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



Sandwell

Metropolitan Borough Council

Notes of WMRTAB Meeting: Wednesday 21st June 2023

Apologies:

[REDACTED]

Member Updates:

- Herefordshire is to commence consultation on main modifications to its minerals and waste Local Plan
- The Environment Agency is preparing an e-learning package relating to the use of the waste data interrogator. It is also recruiting more planners.
- Telford local development scheme published that sets out the timetable for its Local Plan which will include policies on waste management
- Walsall was intending to issue issues and options in June but this has been delayed. This will include matters relating to waste management
- Staffordshire has been grappling with the deposit of inert waste related to the construction of a nine hole golf course at Stafford Castle. IB to circulate the SEWPAG Joint Position Statement on the permanent deposit of inert waste

WMRTAB Approach to Duty to Cooperate:

IB to organise session to discuss approach to the Duty to Cooperate

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



Notes of Meeting 6th December 2022

1.0 Discussion of Minute Taking for Meetings

1.1

[REDACTED]

2.0

[REDACTED]

3.0

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

4.0

[REDACTED]

4.1

[REDACTED]

4.2

[REDACTED]

5.0

[REDACTED]

5.1

[REDACTED]

5.2

[REDACTED]

6.0

[REDACTED]

6.1

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

6.2

[REDACTED]

6.3

[REDACTED]

7.0

[REDACTED]

7.1

[REDACTED]

8.0	[REDACTED]
8.1	[REDACTED]
9.0	[REDACTED]
9.1	[REDACTED]
10.0	[REDACTED]
10.1	[REDACTED]
10.2	[REDACTED]
10.3	[REDACTED]
10.4	[REDACTED]
11.0	[REDACTED]
11.1	[REDACTED]

12.0 WMRTAB Member Updates

- 12.1** IB thanked those members that had provided updates and asked for any others.
- 12.2** RH updated on Coventry – Not a lot going on due to Local Plan work. Formal request to cabinet last week for a review of their local plan. Due to start next spring with formal consultations.
- 12.3** Written update from VE – Herefordshire had had their hearing sessions and VE to update at next meeting after Inspector's Report.
- 12.4** TS – Shropshire Local plan continuing with the first set of hearings due to start in January 2023. Three Inspectors now appointed with one specifically for Minerals and Waste issues.
- 12.5**



[REDACTED]

12.6

[REDACTED]

12.7

[REDACTED]

12.8

[REDACTED]

12.9

[REDACTED]

12.10

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

12.11

[REDACTED]

13.0

WMRTAB Statement of Common Ground

13.1

A Statement of Common Ground for WMRTAB had been prepared by IB and was circulated for comments. Following comments, The SCG had been finalised and now required sign off by those members who had not yet done so.

14.0

West Midlands Landfill Location Study

14.1

[REDACTED]

14.2

[REDACTED]



14.3

15.0

15.1

15.2

15.3

16.0

Feedback from National Waste TAB Chairs Group

16.1

16.2

17.0

Central/Local Announcements/Consultations

17.2

Draft Cheshire East and Hampshire Minerals and Waste plans. IB had asked for comments and didn't receive any. A response from WMTRAB has not been submitted as yet.

17.3

Discussion on whether WMRTAB should comment on plans outside of the West Midlands? RS made the point that Worcestershire had commented on these plans because they met their DTC thresholds, but questioned whether they warranted a regional response?

17.4

BW added that Derbyshire had commented on Cheshire East as they have a fair amount of waste movement between the two authorities.



RS made the point at what point does waste movement between authorities become a strategic regional issue?

17.5

BW – Authorities tend to respond to other waste planning authorities on a an individual basis, because they've identified that they think that there's a particular issue that they want to bottom out in terms of DTC with that particular authority. There may be wider regional implications, but it's not clear how that's presented and at what stage?

17.6

IB and BW – Up to the authority first and foremost to raise the flag and say we think that this is a wider issue than something that we can just deal with individually.

17.7

RS – Maybe a standard response based on the Landfill study could be used? An evidence based approach may work best?

17.8

General discussion on whether this has any value

17.9

BW – “Landfill Tourism” is an issue in Derbyshire as other authorities realise it has capacity. Issue is a national one that has been discussed before and needs to be considered carefully going forward.

17.10

RS – A regional response may help at Examination as it would help demonstrate a joined up approach.

17.11

BW – What happens in the future if the Inspector says what is the region doing if landfill is running low? It could then fall on the authority that is being examined to demonstrate this.

17.12

IB – do we address this proactively or wait for an Inspector to ask the question?

17.13

Agreed that IB would draft something for Cheshire East and circulate to the group for approval/comments.

18.0

[REDACTED]

18.1

[REDACTED]

19.0

[REDACTED]

19.1

[REDACTED]

20.0

[REDACTED]

20.1



20.2

21.0

21.1

22.0

22.1

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23.1

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25.1

26.0

26.1

26.2



27.0	
27.1	
28.0	
29.0	
29.1	
30.0	
30.1	

Virtual meeting using Microsoft Teams

1.

3.

- No specific need for WMRTAB response to draft waste planning policy was identified before the next meeting in December.
- TL reported Warwicks had two appeals against two non-determinations for two borrow pits that weren't in accordance with the HS2 act. ME: Queried details - what will be used to fill it back in? TL: Drilling/tunnelling slurry from Birmingham extension will be used to backfill; 3rd parties inc. EA will be consulted.



[REDACTED]

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5.

[REDACTED]

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Anaerobic digestion has lots of negative externalities, needs to be managed.

[REDACTED]

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Sandwell
Metropolitan Borough Council

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Draft Notes of WMRTAB Meeting, Thursday 9th December 2021

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Figure 1 | **Flowchart of the study design.** The flowchart illustrates the study design, starting with 1000 patients who were screened for the presence of a specific genetic mutation. 500 patients were found to have the mutation, and 250 patients were found to have the mutation in the presence of a specific clinical condition. The flowchart shows the progression of the study, including the identification of the mutation, the identification of the clinical condition, and the final outcome of the study.

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the majority of the page content, starting from the top left and extending to the bottom right. The only visible text is a small, partially cut-off word at the top left corner, which appears to be "The".

■ [REDACTED]

from Worcestershire CC. How do we, as an RTAB, provide our thoughts to Government?

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

8.2 No comments on the guide from the group at this time.

9. [REDACTED]

[illegible]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[illegible]

4.

[REDACTED]

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5. Draft 'waste planning Duty to Cooperate national practice guide'

IB reported that the National Waste TAB Chairs had agreed it would be useful to prepare a guide for all WPAs on how and when to initiate DtC engagement with each other. This was with the view of achieving a consistent approach and reducing the paperchase. It would also act as guidance for authorities who were starting out on

reviewing their Waste Local Plans and were less familiar with DtC. A draft guide had been prepared and IB had circulated this to WMRTAB members before the meeting.

There was a discussion about the following waste movement thresholds or guideline values above which DtC engagement might be needed included in the document:

- Non-hazardous waste – 5,000 tonnes per annum
- Hazardous waste 100t per annum
- Inert waste - 10,000t inert per annum

It was generally agreed that the hazardous waste value was too low. In the West Midlands a value of 1000 tonnes had been used the past and this had not caused issues. There are many hazardous waste management facilities in the West Midlands and using such a low value would result in a large increase in exchanges between WPAs. The other thresholds relate well to the WMRTAB 2013/14 agreed threshold of 5,000tpa for non-hazardous waste streams.

In addition, it was noted that the group had agreed an approach of identifying the need for consultation based on percentage quantities of movements and the national guide should reference this as a more nuanced way of establishing whether engagement was needed. It was noted that either way, these levels were guidelines and each WPA might choose to engage with another authority for specific reasons.

BD questioned the need for a WPA to contact all other WPAs at the outset of plan preparation and IB explained the intention was that this would be a simple notification to inform each WPA that plan making had commenced and the authority would be in touch if it considered engagement was needed under the DtC. This then left it open to the notified WPA to raise anything even it wasn't contacted again. This was intended to act as a 'safety net' in light of the increases to the guideline values made by the south east, east of England and London Waste TABs. A list of generic WPA email addresses was being collated to facilitate this activity. In addition it was considered that a template 'notification' email could be prepared and included with the guidance.

Action: IB to feedback comments on the guidance to the National Waste TAB Chairs.

Action: All WPAs to confirm generic WPA email addresses

[REDACTED]

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4. Duty to Co-operate – Revised Protocol

4.1 The Chair reported that the meeting of National RTAB chairs had supported an increase in the thresholds and had agreed to prepare a model ‘phraseology’ to be included in consultation letters, setting out the reason for the consultation.

4.2 It was agreed

- a) To adopt the methodology for determining whether it is necessary to initiate, or respond to, a consultation and incorporate it into the DtC Protocol.
- b) To keep the methodology under review, sharing experience of its operation through Sharepoint.

5. Developing Guidance on Preparing Waste Needs Assessments

Chair: Ian Blake (ian.blake@cpresources.co.uk)

5.1 The Chair advised that further amendments had been made to the draft in response to comments, and after discussion, it was agreed

- a) To adopt the Guidance as suggested best practice for use by WPAs, and for use by RTAB when considering Plans under the DtC Protocol.
- b) To keep the Guidance under review in the light of experience in its application and changing circumstances.

[REDACTED]

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9. Progress on Plans and Developments

Worcestershire – no progress to report.

Staffordshire – now starting to consider review, including the possibility of joint work with Stoke on Trent.

Stoke on Trent – consulting on their draft Local Plan.

Warwickshire – Emphasis on minerals but will need to give consideration to the 5-year review.

Black Country – drafting waste policies for the Review; Waste Study not yet completed. Consultation in Autumn. Minerals Study has been completed. Additional recycling capacity requirement identified as a key implication of circular economy.

Shropshire – Delays as a result of housing and other controversial issues. Consultation on the pre-submission plan now scheduled for June/ July with formal submission in September. Regarding waste, there is adequate capacity for both municipal and other wastes in terms of equivalent self-sufficiency, though issues regarding hazardous waste in relation to Telford and Wrekin and landfill are identified. Policies will address climate change and the significant role that waste management has to play in responding to it.

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5. Duty to Co-operate – Revised Protocol

5.1 The Chair invited views on the proposed methodology for determining whether consultation on strategic waste movements is necessary, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

5.2 Mike Tregent referred to thresholds relating to different waste streams which have been adopted in the South East Region to trigger consultation, and to a Statement of Common Ground relating to inert waste also adopted in the South East. He agreed to share this information via the newsletter.

5.3 It was agreed that a consistent approach such as now proposed would help to demonstrate compliance to the Planning Inspectorate. It was also agreed to combine the proposed consultation methodology with the previously agreed protocol, suitably updated to reflect Statements of Common Ground, and circulate the revised document for comment before final agreement and endorsement by constituent organisations. Once finalised, the possibility of securing wider support to the methodology could be pursued via the Planning Officers Group and possibly ESA.

[REDACTED]

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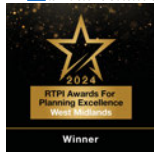
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
 To: [REDACTED]
 Subject: HEC Historic England representations - Sandwell Local Plan
 Date: 02 June 2025 12:46:33
 Attachments: [REDACTED]

Samantha Holder
 Senior Planning Policy Officer
 Directorate of Place



Click [here](#) to find out more about the pipeline.



From: Taylerson, Kezia [REDACTED] >
 Sent: 16 May 2024 19:12
 To: Patricia McCullagh [REDACTED] >
 Cc: Mark Watkins [REDACTED] >; Samantha Holder [REDACTED] >; Philippa1 Smith [REDACTED] >; Mark Stretton [REDACTED] >
 Subject: RE: Historic England representations - Sandwell Local Plan

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Hi Patricia,

Many thanks for these examples.

Please find our comments attached.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Kind regards

Kezia

Kezia Taylerson
 Historic Environment Planning Adviser
 Midlands



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From: Patricia McCullagh [REDACTED] >
 Sent: 17 April 2024 12:06
 To: Taylerson, Kezia [REDACTED] >
 Cc: Mark Watkins [REDACTED] >; Samantha Holder [REDACTED] >; Philippa1 Smith [REDACTED] >; Mark Stretton [REDACTED] >
 Subject: RE: Historic England representations - Sandwell Local Plan

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Hello Kezia

Further to our meeting in March where we discussed your response to the Local Plan consultation, policy wording and Heritage Impact Site Assessments.

As we proposed we have reviewed the Tamworth Heritage Impact Assessment and used it as an example. As discussed we have reviewed our proposed allocations and applied a site selection criteria, to determine which sites need a full Heritage impact assessment and which need a light touch review, based on the Tamworth example. As agreed we have filtered out the following types of sites and so do not require a HIA:

- Sites that have a recent planning permission;
- Sites that were allocated in the current Local Plan and are carried forward for the same proposed use in the Sandwell Local Plan;
- Sites where the allocation has changed i.e. from residential in current plan to employment use in the new plan but where the site was and is occupied by existing employment use – therefore safeguarding the existing use and not looking to propose a different use to that in place.

The sites that remained were then assessed to understand if a full HIA was needed or a brief assessment, using Tamworth as an example. We have looked to see if the sites contain, are adjacent to or are near to any of the following, if the answer was yes to any then a full HIA is deemed appropriate, where the answer is no to all then a brief assessment is deemed appropriate:

- Area of Potential Archaeological Importance
- Conservation Area
- Listed Building
- Locally Listed
- Area of High Historic Townscape Value
- Area of High Historic Landscape Value
- Archaeological Priority Area
- Designed Landscape of High Historic Value

As a result we have determined that 15 proposed housing allocations will need a full HIA; 16 proposed housing allocations will need a brief assessment; 4 proposed employment allocations will need a full HIA. Attached is a spreadsheet that details which sites need and an assessment and of those which needs a full HIA.

Also attached is an example of a full HIA and a brief assessment of two of our sites that need to be assessed.

I hope that this meets with your requirements.

Regards

Patricia McCullagh
 Team Leader Planning Policy

My working days are Mon – Thurs

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For visitors to Council House the satnav post code is B69 3DB

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From: Taylerson, Kezia <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 06 February 2024 14:01
To: Samantha Holder <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Patricia Mccullagh <[REDACTED]>; Mark Stretton <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: Historic England representations - Sandwell Local Plan

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Hi Samantha,

Many thanks for your email. Unfortunately, my diary is already fully booked for February but if you send some dates for March, I will have a look at my availability.

I have not yet had an opportunity to look at the sites; it would be helpful to have sight of any heritage evidence work that has been undertaken. We would not support an approach that uses a 100m buffer around proposed allocation sites as do not consider that would be a reasonable distance with which to assess if there was any likelihood of harm. We do not recommend a buffer zone approach yet recognise it can be a useful starting point, whereby additional considerations can be brought in if needed. In which case, if a buffer zone were to be included as an initial assessment, then 500m would be more appropriate.

I attach a link to our Historic Environment Advice Note 3: Site Allocations and Local Plans which sets out our recommendations of how Council's can undertake appropriate evidence base of their proposed allocations to ensure that they are appropriate and justified.

<https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/historic-environment-and-site-allocations-in-local-plans/>

If you would like any advice on coming up with a methodology to assess your sites, then I am available to advise.

I do not have any specific wording suggestions to raise regarding the policies, at this time. If the Council wishes to consider how they may respond to our representation, then we can discuss more specifics at this time. If you wish to prepare amended policies, then we are available to comment on these outside of the formal consultation periods.

Many thanks

Kezia

Kezia Taylerson
Historic Environment Planning Adviser
Midlands



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From: Samantha Holder <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 26 January 2024 10:41
To: Taylerson, Kezia <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Patricia Mccullagh <[REDACTED]>; Mark Stretton <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: Historic England representations - Sandwell Local Plan
Importance: High

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Hi Kezia, all

Apologies – the 7th Feb may be difficult as I've been made aware of a family funeral that is possibly taking place sometime on the 7th. We also have the 12th Feb available.

Please can you all let me know your availability for those dates?
Thanks.

Regards,
Sam

Samantha Holder
Senior Planning Policy Officer



From: Samantha Holder
Sent: 24 January 2024 12:54
To: Taylerson, Kezia <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Patricia Mccullagh <[REDACTED]>; Mark Stretton <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Historic England representations - Sandwell Local Plan
Importance: High

Hello Kezia

I am writing in respect of the representations made by Historic England to the recent public consultation on the draft Sandwell Local Plan. Thank you for your comments and for the offer of a meeting to discuss them. We would like to take you up on this offer, as we are starting to analyse all the representations we received, and think about potential amendments to the draft plan.

Would you be available on either the 5th pm, 7th am or 12th February? If you can let me have your preferred date / time, I will send out invitations.

Among the things it would be helpful to discuss would be those representations where Historic England would like to see the wording of policies or justification text amended – it would be very useful if you were able to give some guidance on what revised wording you are looking for – and also on the sites proposed for allocation in the Plan. Your representation suggested that you hadn't had the opportunity to look at the sites at the time but it would be really helpful to get some input on them if you have now done so. I understand we have undertaken some preliminary work by drawing a 100m buffer around each of the sites and identifying any heritage assets within that area.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards,

Samantha Holder
Senior Planning Policy Officer



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Council House,

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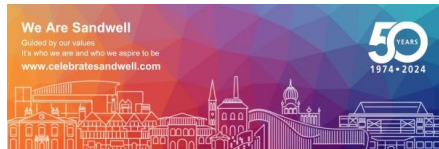
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From: [REDACTED]
 To: [REDACTED]
 Subject: POC: Historic environment policies - Sandwell Local Plan (confidential)
 Date: 02 June 2025 12:45:01
 Attachments: [REDACTED]
 Importance: High
 Sensitivity: Confidential

Samantha Holder
 Senior Planning Policy Officer
 Directorate of Place



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From: Taylerson, Kezia [REDACTED] >
 Sent: 16 May 2024 18:43
 To: Samantha Holder [REDACTED] >
 Subject: RE: Historic environment policies - Sandwell Local Plan (confidential)
 Importance: High
 Sensitivity: Confidential

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Hi Samantha,

Brief comments on the heritage policies attached. As it was a PDF, I have just used the text box option to make some comments for you. Overall, there is some really useful information for the historic environment of Sandwell and a good mix of policies. We consider that it needs to be more explicit about protecting the significance of heritage assets, including their setting and where proposals that cause harm will be refused.

Any questions re: these comments, please let me know.

Thanks

Kezia

Kezia Taylerson
 Historic Environment Planning Adviser
 Midlands



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From: Samantha Holder [REDACTED] >
 Sent: 22 April 2024 10:36
 To: Taylerson, Kezia [REDACTED] >
 Cc: Patricia McCullagh [REDACTED] >; Mark Stretton [REDACTED] >
 Subject: Historic environment policies - Sandwell Local Plan (confidential)
 Importance: High
 Sensitivity: Confidential

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Hello Kezia
 Hope all is well with you.

Further to our meeting earlier this year, we discussed sharing with you a copy of our revised draft policies on the historic environment, before we move to the next stage in the local plan process. As such, please find attached a confidential copy of the draft policies as they currently appear.

Other changes to policy and text relating to the historic environment have also been included across the local plan as appropriate, based on the comments made by Historic England during the Regulation 18 consultation.

We would welcome your informal thoughts / comments on the draft policies, especially on whether they address some of the issues you raised previously during the consultation process.

Please do get in touch if you have any further questions.

Regards
 Sam

Samantha Holder
 Senior Planning Policy Officer



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From: [REDACTED]
 To: [REDACTED]
 Subject: RE: HE Meeting
 Date: 02 June 2022 12:39:00
 Attachments: [REDACTED]

Samantha Holder
 Senior Planning Policy Officer
 Directorate of Place



Click [here](#) to find out more about the pipeline.



From: Taylerson, Kezia [REDACTED] >
 Sent: 16 June 2022 14:56
 To: Samantha Holder [REDACTED] >
 Cc: Patricia McCullagh [REDACTED] >; Mark Stretton [REDACTED] >; Kalliegh Lowe (Planning) [REDACTED] >
 Subject: RE: HE Meeting

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Hi Samantha,

The 1km buffer was discussed in our meeting with Walsall Council on Tuesday. I am not sure the origins or who has or has not applied this. If you try and find out what everyone has done and gain a consistent approach and then by all means share with us so we understand what assessment process has been undertaken. We are not suggesting a 1km buffer but are trying to respond to the information we have received from the local authorities.

In terms of the proforma discussed from Dudley Council it was Jayne Pilkington I believe who mentioned it as a piece of work they had undertaken for their AAP and something that would be useful now. Again you will need to check to ensure a consistent approach.

There are many ways to undertake assessment to justify the inclusion of your site allocations. Historic England need to be clear about what process the local authorities have undertaken so that we are able to assess if we have any concerns with the sites proposed or any advice relating to suitable mitigation and enhancement measures etc.

Happy to chat again.

Thanks

Kezia

From: Samantha Holder [REDACTED] >
 Sent: 16 June 2022 13:43
 To: Taylerson, Kezia [REDACTED] >
 Cc: Patricia McCullagh [REDACTED] >; mark_stretton [REDACTED] >; Kalliegh Lowe (Planning) [REDACTED] >
 Subject: RE: HE Meeting
 Importance: High

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Hi Kezia

Thanks for your time this morning, it was nice to speak to you.

What I took away from the meeting is that there needs to be a greater degree of consistency between the four authorities – the fact that we had not included sufficient details of historic environment impacts in our site assessment pro formas needs to be addressed in Sandwell. We will, as discussed, look to scope out those sites where we feel there may be potential impacts and try and identify potential mitigation as far as we can – this will necessarily be fairly broad brush at this stage as we won't have precise details of what's proposed until an application is submitted.

As we mentioned, we will be using the newly accessible HER to try and identify those sites with potential heritage impacts. I managed to catch up with Kalliegh after the meeting (in her role as Environment Group lead) and asked her about some of the issues we considered in the meeting with you. She confirmed that she didn't think there was a separate pro forma to the general site assessment version we had all used during the site selection process, so Dudley weren't clear about t your reference to their pro forma.

In addition, there was no recollection of a 1km buffer / radius around sites (within which heritage impacts were to be identified) coming out of that previous meeting – are you able to throw any more light on where the figure came from?

In the meantime we will start looking at the sites as a matter of urgency.

Regards

Samantha Holder
 Senior Planning Policy Officer



From: Taylerson, Kezia [REDACTED] >
 Sent: 16 June 2022 10:23
 To: Samantha Holder [REDACTED] >
 Subject: HE Meeting

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Hi Samantha,

Just a follow on from our meeting this morning. It was good to meet you all and to discuss the heritage issues.

I understand from the meeting that due to internal issues there had been no access to the Historic Environment Record and as such an assessment of the historic environment impacts for the sites has yet to be undertaken.

I would recommend that you discuss the assessment process with the other Black Country Local Authorities in the first instance, to ensure that the process that is undertaken is a consistent approach and they will be best placed to set out what they have done and for you to find the areas in which you may require additional assessment.

Our concern is to ensure that the sites that are allocated for development within the Local Plan are sound and that they have been evidenced, justified and are in conformity with the National Planning Policy Framework. Whilst we accept that the level of detail will be limited at planning policy stage we would expect the principal of development to have been fully considered and sites to have been assessed from a heritage perspective and how they may contribute to the significance of heritage assets within the vicinity. Once this evidence is available it will then be possible to assess whether sites are suitable for development from a historic environment perspective and if any avoidance/ mitigation/ enhancement measures will need to be cited in the Local Plan for when the future planning applications are received.

I attach a link to Historic Environment Advice Note 3 Site Allocations and Local Plans which sets out a little more detail and may be a helpful read.

<https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/historic-environment-and-site-allocations-in-local-plans/heag074-he-and-site-allocation-local-plans/>

I also attach a link to a heritage evidence document that was completed using the above advice. It is now a few years old but hopefully sets out an example of how this can be achieved.

https://www.tamworth.gov.uk/sites/default/files/planning_docs/1.Pautump2014/K9%20Heritage%20IA%20pre-sub.pdf

Historic England do not support the use of buffer zones as they can be arbitrary and it is possible for impacts to exist wider than the buffer zone set, however, we do acknowledge that they can be a useful starting point to consider what impacts development sites may have for heritage and depending on the nature of the development and the heritage asset, additional assessment may be required.

I understand that Dudley Council shared a proforma with the other Black Country Authorities on how to consider the impacts for heritage and this may be useful to access.

We also raised with the other three authorities how they were going to consider heritage issues relating to development sites, within the Local Plan, and the importance of citing mitigation/ enhancement measures etc. within the Plan and the need for a consistent approach in a Joint Local Plan.

I hope the meeting was helpful and if you have any further questions do come back to me. I am happy to receive additional information outside of the formal consultation process and to provide commentary on this, if this is helpful to the Council.

Many thanks for your time.

Kind regards

Kezia

Kezia Taylerson
Historic Environment Planning Adviser
Midlands



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Meeting Minutes: NE HRA AQ meeting

To	Gillian Driver, Natural England Michele Ross, City of Wolverhampton Council Kaliegh Lowe, Dudley Council Patricia Mccullagh, Sandwell Council Neil Davidson, Lepus Consulting
From	Samantha Cheater, Lepus Consulting
Subject	Meeting to discuss the approach to the consideration of air quality issues in the Dudley, Sandwell and Wolverhampton Local Plan HRAs
Code	LC-1223
Date	11 th September 2024
Attendees	Gillian Driver, Natural England (GD) Michele Ross, City of Wolverhampton Council (MR) Kaliegh Lowe, Dudley Council (KL) Patricia Mccullagh, Sandwell Council (PM) Samantha Cheater, Lepus Consulting (SC) Mia Stukins, Lepus Consulting (MS)



1. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the approach that has been taken to the consideration of air quality issues in the Dudley, Sandwell and Wolverhampton Local Plan HRAs.
2. The Councils outlined the stage and progress of their Local Plans. These will go out to consultation at Regulation 19 in Autumn / Winter 2024. Lepus (SC) explained how outputs from the joint partnership strategic air quality commission has been taken into consideration in the HRA work given these timescales.
3. SC set out the approach taken to the consideration of air quality issues in each HRA and outlined the scope of each assessment in terms of European sites considered and the methodology for selection of an air quality study area. All attendees acknowledged that the final air quality modelling work from the joint commission is unlikely to be available for Regulation 19 consultation but that the HRA work would take into consideration preliminary outputs as far as possible.
4. SC agreed to extract the air quality assessment sections from each HRA report and send this information to Natural England (GD) for review and comment. **ACTION 1: SC extract air quality information and send to GD.**

5. Following Natural England's review, SC is to arrange a follow up meeting with NE to discuss any comments / questions they may have. **ACTION 2: SC Schedule follow up meeting with NE if required.**
6. The preparation of a Statement of Common Ground was discussed and will be followed up at the next meeting.