

Council 21st June 2021

Item 7a refers

Recommendation (1) from the Cabinet meeting of 10 May 2021

LEICESTER AND LEICESTERSHIRE STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND (SOCG) RELATING TO HOUSING AND EMPLOYMENT LAND (MARCH 2021)

The Cabinet considered the report relating to the Leicester and Leicestershire Statement Of Common Ground (SoCG) relating to Housing And Employment Land (March 2021). The SoCG is a non-legally binding document which shows commitment to joint working and has been prepared by each of the authorities within Leicester and Leicestershire working in collaboration. Its purpose is to set out how the Duty to Cooperate has been met in relation to the following strategic issues: Leicester and Leicestershire housing and employment needs to 2036; unmet need to 2036 and the process of apportioning unmet need to 2036, in order to demonstrate that all the authorities are working together to meet the requirements of the Duty to Cooperate. The SoCG is being considered by each of the Leicester and Leicestershire authorities for signing.

The SoCG sets out that the Leicester and Leicestershire local authorities all agree that the only authority within Leicester and Leicestershire to have declared and quantified an unmet need (with evidence) is Leicester City.

The SoCG does not set out the apportionment of Leicester's unmet need and instead sets out the ongoing commitment to a programme of further evidence work being undertaken in order to help inform the future apportionment of unmet need. The SoCG commits authorities to carry out the following programme of work: Housing and Economic Needs Assessment; Strategic Growth Options and Constraints Mapping; Strategic Transport Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal.

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL:

- i. **That Council notes the Leicester and Leicestershire Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) Relating to Housing and Employment Land (March 2021).**
- ii. **That the Council becomes a signatory to the Statement of Common Ground (as detailed in Appendix A to the report)**

The associated Report and appendices to the Cabinet meeting on 10 May 2021 are attached.