

31 March 2023

The Delivery of Infrastructure to Support Growth in Leicestershire

I am writing to you as a landowner/promoter in Leicestershire to inform you of changes to the way the County Council will be approaching the delivery of infrastructure (in particular roads and schools) which may affect the way the Council works with you in the future. The new approach has been approved by the Council's Cabinet and is summarised below.

The financial circumstances of the County Council (as set out in the latest Medium Term Financial Strategy approved by the County Council on 22nd February 2023) and wider economic conditions mean that the Council's previous approach to supporting and delivering growth and infrastructure is no longer sustainable.

The County Council remains committed to supporting the delivery of inclusive and well-planned growth, but in order to continue to do so in the current budgetary and economic climate it will be necessary for developers, landowners and local planning authorities to work with the County Council in implementing the new approach. In particular:

- Local planning authorities are requested to support the County Council's requirements through the Local Plan process, including through early engagement with the Council, identifying the need for forward-funding, sharing evidence bases, and disclosing key policies and viability assessments;
- Local planning authorities are further requested to integrate the County Council's requirements relating to the delivery of road infrastructure and schools into their Local Plans;
- Developers taking forward schemes are asked to refresh their road infrastructure and schools project costs and share these with the County Council at appropriate, regular frequencies on an 'open book' basis and the Council's project teams will liaise, as appropriate, with developers on this point;
- The entire cost of all road infrastructure and school projects associated with development proposals must be secured or received from developers (and other appropriate sources) and sufficient contributions secured so that the provision of infrastructure can be phased and delivered in an appropriate and financially sustainable way before the County Council can commit to the scheme's delivery.

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I wanted to write to you directly on this matter because of its importance for growth and infrastructure delivery in the county and to ensure there is a shared understanding of the current position.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'NR' with a stylized flourish.

Nicholas Rushton CC
Leader of the Council