

## **CABINET – 14TH DECEMBER 2017**

### **Report of the Head of Planning & Regeneration Lead Member: Councillor E. Vardy**

#### **PART A**

#### **ITEM 6     LEICESTER AND LEICESTERSHIRE STRATEGIC GROWTH PLAN**

##### Purpose of Report

To advise Cabinet of the work undertaken so far in the development of a Strategic Growth Plan for Leicester and Leicestershire.

##### Recommendations

That:

1. Cabinet note and endorse the process which has been undertaken to develop a Strategic Growth Plan for Leicester and Leicestershire
2. Cabinet notes the draft document for consultation has been endorsed by the Members Advisory Group (MAG).
3. The consultation process and timetable is approved.
4. A further report is brought back to Cabinet to consider the consultation responses and approve the final version of the plan.

##### Reasons

1. To demonstrate support for the collaborative working that has taken place across the 7 Districts/Borough Councils, Leicestershire County Council, Leicester City Council and the Leicester and Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership.
2. To note that MAG has been engaged in and supports the proposed document.
3. To ensure that all partners are in support of the process and that it is consistent across the County, and that all residents and stakeholders have an opportunity to make comments on the proposals.
4. To ensure that there is an opportunity to consider the final version of the plan before it is agreed.

## Policy Justification and Previous Decisions

The proposals for a Strategic Growth Plan support the Corporate plan objective to create a strong and lasting economy specifically by encouraging new jobs and growth in homes and infrastructure, improved community infrastructure and, affordable housing.

Cabinet considered a report at its meeting on 7 July 2016 that set out the programme for working jointly with partners on the Strategic Growth Plan (minute 20 16/17 refers). The programme indicated that a draft plan would be prepared and subject to public consultation in the summer of 2017.

## Implementation Timetable including Future Decisions and Scrutiny

The ten partner organisations are being invited to approve the process for the consultation for the Draft Strategic Growth Plan through their respective governance processes. A further report will be brought to Cabinet, most likely in March 2018 and in time to allow a response on the proposals to be submitted from this Council within the consultation period. The consultation responses will inform the preparation of a final Strategic Growth Plan, which is expected to be completed in the summer of 2018. It will then be subject to further consideration through each partner's governance processes.

## Report Implications

The following implications have been identified for this report:

### *Financial Implications*

There are no resource implications arising from this report. Officer time and funding for consultancy work have been contributed by all partners

### *Risk Management*

The risks associated with the decision Cabinet is asked to make and proposed actions to mitigate those risks are set out in the table below.

<b>Risk Identified</b>	<b>Likelihood</b>	<b>Impact</b>	<b>Risk Management Actions Planned</b>
Any of the constituent authorities within Leicester and Leicestershire may not agree to the publish the draft Plan for consultation	Unlikely	Major	The Strategic Growth plan is being prepared in a project managed environment led by the Strategic Planning Group in consultation with the Member Advisory Group
The proposals may elicit a strong response to proposals during the	possible	minor	The Cabinet are not being asked to approve the draft Strategic Growth Plan at

consultation period with consequential reputational impacts for the Council			this stage. A communication plan has been agreed
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*Equality and Diversity*

There are no equality and human rights implications arising from the recommendations in this report. An Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment (EHRIA) has been undertaken on the Strategic Growth Statement and again to test the emerging options for the Strategic Growth Plan the outcomes of that exercise will be available to view alongside the draft plan during consultation.

*Sustainability*

A Sustainability Appraisal/ Strategic Environmental Assessment/ Habitats Regulation Assessment has also been undertaken on the emerging options for the draft Strategic Growth Plan and will also be available to view during the consultation.

Key Decision: Yes

Background Papers: Strategic Growth Statement

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## **Part B**

### **1. Background**

- 1.1 The Council has played an active role in the preparation of the Consultation Draft of the Leicester & Leicestershire Strategic Growth Plan since its inception; the Consultation Draft Plan is attached as an Appendix to this report. The process so far has included Cabinet endorsement of the Strategic Growth Statement, in July 2016, which set out the key challenges, opportunities, and reasons to prepare the Statement, and outlined future work that would be undertaken. The Strategic Growth Statement was the subject of public consultation in August/September 2016 and responses have been taken into account in the preparation of the Consultation Draft Plan.
- 1.2 In preparing this plan, the Council has been working with Leicester City Council, Leicestershire County Council, the other six boroughs and districts and the Leicester & Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership.
- 1.3 The exercise is being overseen by MAG, comprising representatives from each of the local authorities, together with the LLEP whose representative attends as an observer. The MAG is supported by a Strategic Planning Group, made up of senior officers from the local authorities. The Members' Advisory Group is responsible for assisting in the proper execution of the statutory Duty to Co-operate, by which local planning authorities and other key stakeholders, including the County Council, are required to co-operate on strategic planning issues, including employment and housing land provision, affecting local plans. A key role for the MAG is overseeing the preparation of the Strategic Growth Plan.
- 1.4 On 6<sup>th</sup> November 2017, MAG endorsed the Draft Strategic Growth Plan and a consultation process and timetable. The LLEP Board will also receive a report on the Draft Plan. The LLEP, which is not a local planning authority, has participated as an observer in the process of preparing the Draft Plan

### **2. The process that was followed**

- 2.1 Until 2010, the strategic planning framework for Leicester and Leicestershire was set out in the East Midlands Regional Plan (2009), the regional spatial strategy for the East Midlands. In 2010, however, regional spatial strategies were abolished by Government and local planning authorities were encouraged to consider strategic planning within the context of the 'duty to co-operate' imposed by the Localism Act 2011.
- 2.2 In Leicester and Leicestershire, recognising that the strategy of the East of England Plan would be implemented through proposals in the current round of Local Plans in that area, the local planning authorities decided that strategic planning for the longer term would be more effective if undertaken across the City and County as a whole. Responding to the important role of the Leicester & Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership (LLEP) in the delivery of infrastructure and economic growth, the LLEP became an additional partner in the process.

2.3 The Strategic Growth Plan has, therefore, been prepared jointly and on a collaborative basis by the ten partner organisations in Leicester and Leicestershire i.e. all eight of the local planning authorities, the County Council as highway authority, the City Council as a unitary authority with combined planning, highway responsibilities, and the local enterprise partnership. Leicester and Leicestershire is fortunate in that the Housing Market Area, the Functional Economic Market Area and the area covered by the LLEP are the same: having the same geographical boundaries for these areas means that it is easier to plan for the future. Although there is a need to collaborate with authorities outside Leicester and Leicestershire, the intention is that provision for housing and economic development needs will be met from within the area.

2.4 The ten partner organisations have agreed that the Strategic Growth Plan will be:

- clear about the opportunities and challenges that we face;
- provide an agreed scale and direction for future growth, reflecting the evidence available to us and the will of the partners;
- create a single consistent strategic framework for Local Plans, economic investment plans, transport and other infrastructure plans;
- ensure that Leicester and Leicestershire is positively positioned to take advantage of private sector inward investment opportunities and national programmes for investment;
- provide the right conditions for the growth of indigenous businesses; and
- at the same time, protect our natural resources, our environment and historic assets.

The Consultation Draft Plan takes forward this work. It sets out the strategy for the growth and development of Leicester and Leicestershire in the period to 2050. This time period allows the partners to think about the longer term needs of the area and to consider opportunities which might extend beyond the conventional timeframe of a Local Plan. Within this longer time period, however, the distribution of housing and employment land for the periods 2011-2031 and 2011-2036 has been considered by MAG so that the partners have a more detailed framework for the preparation of Local Plans.

2.5 The Strategic Growth Statement was the first stage in the preparation of the Plan. This was the subject of public consultation in August/September 2016 and stated that the ambition of partners was to overcome the problems that are experienced by existing communities and to accommodate growth in new developments that have a real sense of place and purpose. It explained that the partners wanted to raise the bar in terms of the quality of development so the focus has been on how the City and the County can be improved for local people and businesses, and, therefore, how growth can be delivered at the right time, in the right place, with the essential infrastructure that it needs.

2.6 Throughout the discussions on the Strategic Growth Plan, the focus has been on defining a long term future for Leicester and Leicestershire, looking as far

ahead as 2050. This end date was chosen, in part, to provide additional flexibility in terms of the potential solutions that might be considered but also because other stakeholders were known to be planning for, and trying to secure funding for, projects with end dates which extended well beyond the timeframe of a Local Plan.

- 2.7 Since work started on the Strategic Growth Plan, other organisations have progressed their own work at different speeds (e.g. Network Rail, Highways England, the Midlands Connect Partnership) but there has been a constant dialogue to ensure an awareness of their emerging policies and proposals, and that projects considered to be vital to the future of Leicester and Leicestershire were incorporated in emerging plans, strategies and funding programmes.
- 2.8 As the consultation draft plan has been developed, a number of events have been held for Members to keep them advised of progress. There was an initial technical briefing on the Strategic Growth Plan in January 2017 for all members and a further technical briefing on 16 May 2017, which was supported by the Joint Strategic Planning Manager and centred on the spatial strategy.
- 2.9 A final briefing for members was held on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2017 which gave an overview of the proposals that are contained within the draft document.
- 2.10 In addition the Lead member for Planning and Regeneration has attended a number of MAG meetings as the Council representative, where the shape and structure of the draft strategy was discussed.

### 3 Proposed Consultation process

3.1 With the Consultation Draft Strategic Growth Plan having been endorsed by MAG, a period of public consultation now needs to take place. The detail and the extent of consultation that is to take place will vary between the partner organisations, to provide flexibility for each to reflect their own practices and is yet to be finalised. In practice, however, there needs to be an 'agreed minimum' which each local authority will adopt. It is recognised that the LLEP has a different role in this process.

3.2 The following will provide the basis of the public consultation:

- The Consultation Draft Plan, Sustainability Appraisal and Equalities Impact Assessment;
- A short, simple consultation leaflet. It is anticipated that this would constitute an A3 sheet of paper folded in such a way that the reasons for preparing the plan are set out on the front page, the strategy diagram with explanatory notations are set out on the centre spread and the final page should provide details of proposed housing numbers and ways in which consultation responses can be submitted;
- Copies of all supporting documentation;
- A standard presentation, with notes, to be used by individual organisations to ensure that a consistent message is conveyed;
- A consultation questionnaire;
- One or more joint press releases.

- 3.3 The consultation process will be managed, primarily, through the websites for both the Strategic Growth Plan and partner organisations. It is anticipated that all material will be held on the website for the Strategic Growth Plan with a link from partner organisations. Arrangements will also be made for comments to be submitted by post.
- 3.4 It is proposed that consultation should start during week commencing 8 January 2018 and continue for twelve weeks (thereby ending around the end of March 2018, depending on the start date). Details about the nature of any consultation events in Charnwood and other districts is yet to be confirmed by the Strategic Planning Group.
- 3.5 All consultation responses will be reviewed and reported, in the first instance, to MAG. At the same time, consideration will be given to whether amendments to the Draft Plan will need to be made.
- 3.6 It is anticipated that the final version of the Strategic Growth Plan will be presented to MAG for consideration in summer/early autumn 2018. If agreed, it will proceed through the governance arrangements of the partner organisations

#### Appendices

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|------------|---|
| Appendix 1 | Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Growth Plan Consultation Draft |
| Appendix 2 | Strategic Growth Plan – Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment   |

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LEICESTER &  
LEICESTERSHIRE  
2050:  
OUR VISION  
FOR GROWTH

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**CONSULTATION  
DRAFT**

# FOREWORD

The Strategic Growth Plan is being prepared by ten partner organisations in Leicester & Leicestershire. We want to prepare a long term plan to address the challenges that we face and the opportunities that are presented to us. It will be a non-statutory plan but, in its final form, it will set out our agreed strategy for the period to 2050. We will deliver the strategy through our Local Plans.

This document has been prepared for the purpose of public consultation. It explains the approach that we have taken in preparing the Draft Plan, identifies broad locations where we think that development might take place and the infrastructure needed to deliver it. We encourage local people, businesses, developers, landowners and statutory organisations to work with us and to comment on the Draft Plan. Details of how to comment are available on our web site [strategicgrowthplan.org.uk](http://strategicgrowthplan.org.uk). The feedback will be used to inform the final version of the plan.

**Cllr Trevor Pendleton**

*Chair, Members' Advisory Group for the Strategic Growth Plan*

## Our Partners:



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

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# CONTENTS

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01

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LEICESTER &  
LEICESTERSHIRE  
TODAY

02

---

PLANNING FOR  
OUR FUTURE

03

---

ACCOMMODATING  
OUR GROWTH

04

---

THE BUILDING BLOCKS  
FOR OUR DRAFT PLAN

05

---

OUR DRAFT STRATEGY

06

---

OUR PROPOSED  
GROWTH AREAS

07

---

OUR COMMITMENT  
TO DELIVERY

08

---

NEXT STEPS

APP

---

APPENDIX A  
APPENDIX B

# LEICESTER & LEICESTERSHIRE TODAY

## OUR STRENGTHS:

### Great location and connectivity

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

### Growing and diverse economy

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

### Distinctive environmental, historic and other assets

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

### A diverse and multi-cultural city

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

### Three outstanding universities

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

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

## OUR WEAKNESSES:

### Congestion on our roads and railways

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

### Gaps in the road and rail network

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

### Poor economic productivity per head of population

- lower than the national and regional averages

### Low pay structure

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

### High levels of commuting

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

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

### Pressures on existing communities

from new development, lack of infrastructure and services such as education and health

# PLANNING FOR OUR FUTURE

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

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

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

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



The Strategic Growth Plan is the opportunity for the ten partner organisations - the City Council, the County Council, the seven boroughs and districts, and the Leicester & Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership - to prepare a plan which will shape the future of Leicester and Leicestershire. This will be a 'non-statutory' plan, covering the period to 2050. It will provide an agreed framework for Local Plans prepared by individual authorities.

The Strategic Growth Plan will focus on four key matters:

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

We are not starting with a blank sheet. Government, local and regional agencies are also making plans. Given that these documents already have a measure of support, we have used them as a basis for our work. In this Draft Plan, we explain how these have influenced our work.

**GREAT  
LOCATION AND  
CONNECTIVITY  
- AT THE HEART  
OF THE UK**

# ACCOMMODATING OUR GROWTH

## OUR NEED FOR NEW HOMES AND EMPLOYMENT LAND: 2011-31

We have recently concluded a study of our need for new homes and employment land.\* This is based on current information on population growth and changes in the numbers of households, and economic forecasts. It concludes that, across Leicester & Leicestershire, we need 96,580 new homes and 367-423 hectares of employment land in the period 2011-2031 (See Appendix A). Additional land will be required for strategic distribution facilities.

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

MUCH OF OUR HOUSING AND EMPLOYMENT LAND IS ALREADY PROVIDED FOR IN THIS PERIOD 2011 - 31. BEYOND 2031, ADDITIONAL NEEDS WILL BE SATISFIED PRIMARILY IN STRATEGIC LOCATIONS

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

The agreed distribution will be set out in a Memorandum of Understanding which will be published in early 2018. This will be used as the basis for preparing or reviewing Local Plans in future.

## OUR NEED FOR NEW HOMES AND EMPLOYMENT LAND: 2011-36

Our study of the need for new homes and employment land also covers the period 2011-36. It concludes that, across Leicester & Leicestershire, we need 117,900 new homes and 459-497 hectares of employment land during this period. Additional land will be required for strategic distribution facilities.

Again, we have analysed the amount of development that has already been built, has planning permission or is allocated in adopted or emerging local plans that have been published. This demonstrates that, whilst much of our need for new homes and employment land during this period can be met from these sources, there is likely to be a shortfall.

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

The agreed distribution for the period 2011-36 will be set out in a Memorandum of Understanding which will be published in early 2018. This will be used as the basis for preparing or reviewing Local Plans with 2036 as an end date.

\* Reference: Leicester & Leicestershire Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment (January 2017)

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

## LONGER TERM GROWTH: 2031-50

### PLANNING FOR THE LONGER TERM

The conclusions of our current work indicate that, beyond 2031, decisions on the distribution of development will need to be agreed between the authorities in Leicester & Leicestershire as a whole, hence the need for a Strategic Growth Plan. The longer term strategy of the Draft Strategic Growth Plan, therefore, focuses on the period 2031-50.

### ESTIMATING THE SCALE OF GROWTH

For the period beyond 2036, there are no reliable estimates of population growth or household change, nor economic forecasts, but we need to have some understanding of how much growth we might be expected to accommodate in future. Having this information allows us to consider a wider range of options than if we were to focus only on shorter term needs.

We have estimated our 'notional' housing needs for the period 2031-50 by projecting forward the annual figures given in our current study. This is considered to be a reasonable basis on which to proceed given that the current study uses reliable data. Any resulting figures will be revised as new, authoritative, information becomes available.

### RE-DISTRIBUTING OUR GROWTH BEYOND 2031

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

### ALIGNING GROWTH, INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

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

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

Through the Draft Strategic Growth Plan we can maximise the benefits of this investment by focusing growth in areas close to new infrastructure proposals. But, on our own, we cannot deliver growth on this scale, or at the speed required. Government, statutory agencies, landowners, developers and local authorities all have an important role to play in this process. The partnership approach that we have achieved to date provides a secure foundation on which to move forward with other organisations. Without additional infrastructure we will be unable to deliver long term growth on this scale, or in the timescale proposed.

# THE BUILDING BLOCKS FOR OUR DRAFT PLAN

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

## THE EXISTING SETTLEMENT PATTERN

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

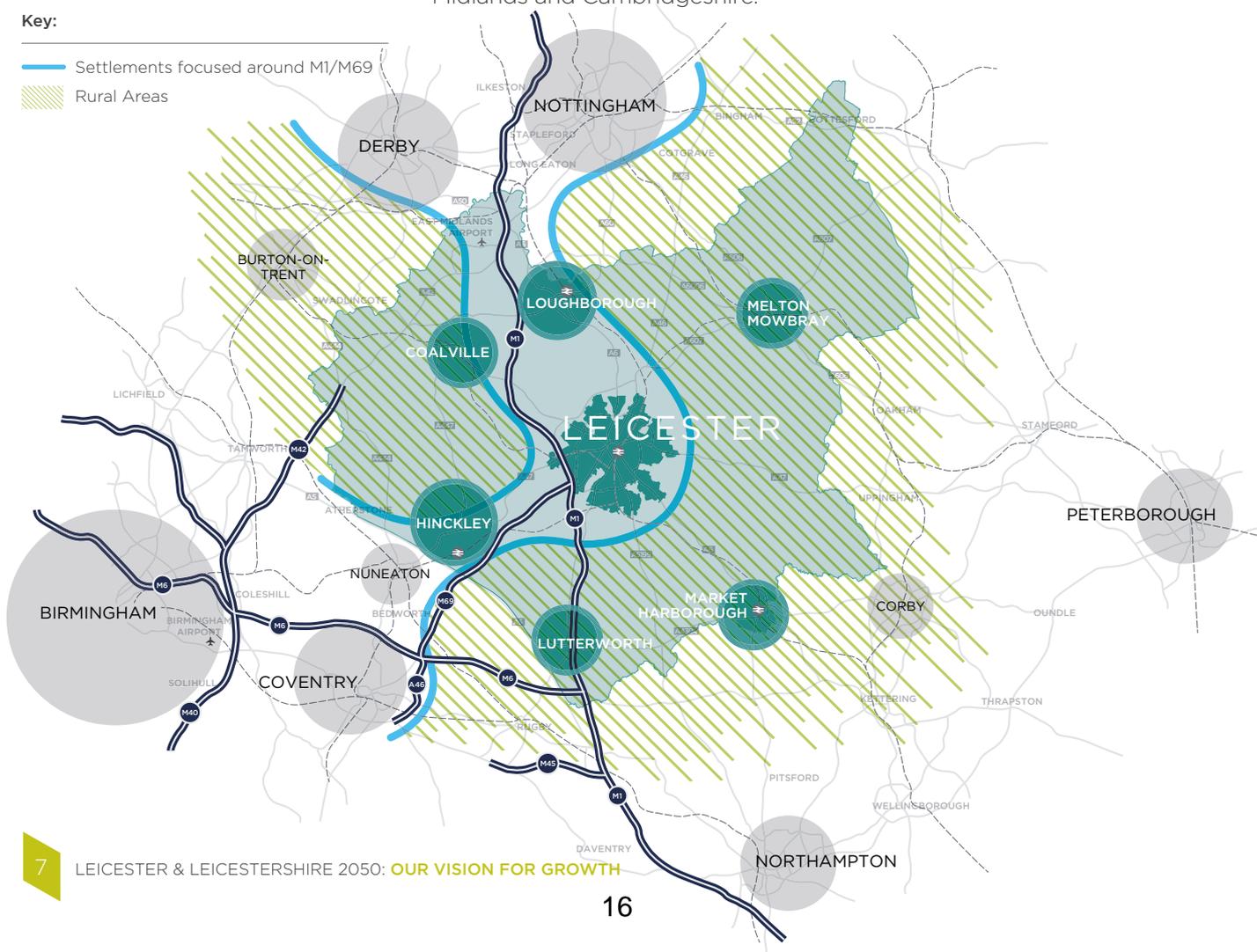
Within Leicester & Leicestershire the settlement pattern is quite distinctive:

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

**FIGURE 2:**  
SETTLEMENT PATTERN

Key:

- Settlements focused around M1/M69
- ▨ Rural Areas



## NATIONAL POLICIES

- **A ring of strong, independent and characterful market towns** each connected to Leicester by radial routes and with strong physical, functional, social and economic ties to the City. The market towns contribute much to the character of Leicestershire, are economically buoyant in their own right and are an important focus for local communities.
- **Extensive rural areas** encircling the City and the market towns, villages and hamlets. The landscape is beautiful and varied, and has an economy of its own, from nationally significant agriculture and food production to a growing professional services sector.

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

The second building block of our Draft Plan is an understanding of national policies. These influence what we can do, particularly in relation to our priority areas: housing, the economy, infrastructure and the environment. We want to be ready to take advantage of opportunities that will bring benefits to our area, yet able to control excessive development pressures.

A key influence is the Government's emerging industrial strategy which will set the framework for improving productivity, and enhancing the UK's prospects for economic growth. The national industrial strategy will provide a framework for our own Local Industrial Strategy and investment by the LLEP. The Strategic Growth Plan will consider how existing employment areas can be supported and where new growth should be directed.

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

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



## OUR ECONOMY AND THE MIDLANDS ENGINE STRATEGY

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

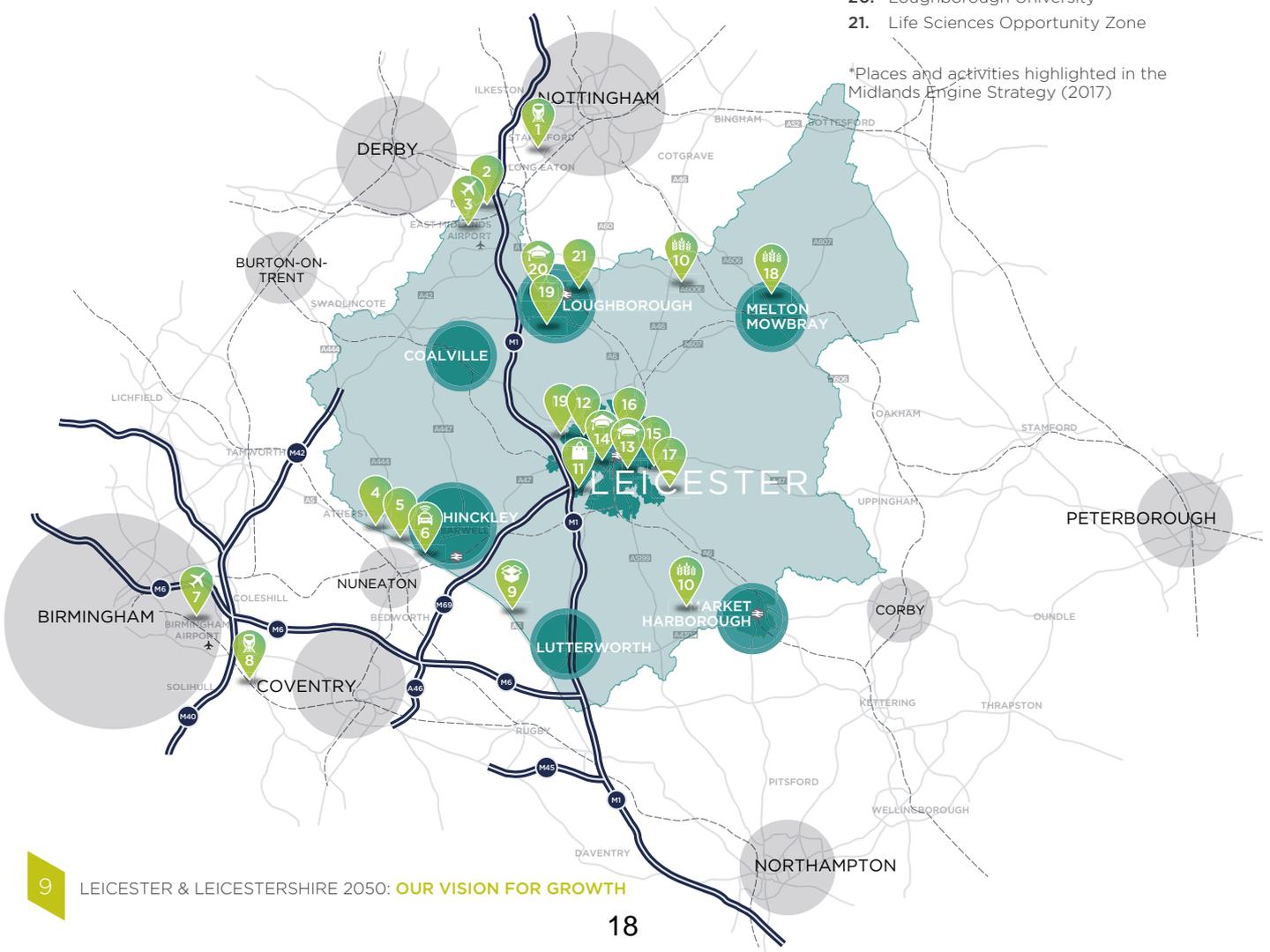
The Midlands Engine Strategy has been prepared by Government and sets out a collective ambition for economic growth and prosperity. It describes how the government's emerging industrial strategy can be applied at the regional level and builds upon existing business sectors and areas of opportunity. It highlights many of our key industries, universities and employment areas as places of national, and even global, significance.

**FIGURE 3:**  
ECONOMIC GROWTH AREAS\*

**Key:**

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

\*Places and activities highlighted in the Midlands Engine Strategy (2017)



# INFRASTRUCTURE AND THE MIDLANDS CONNECT STRATEGY

The Midlands Engine Strategy also recognises the growth potential of major employment areas such as East Midlands Airport, East Midlands Gateway, the two enterprise zones - MIRA Technology Park near Hinckley and the Loughborough and Leicester Enterprise Zone - the logistics and distribution industry and the potential of Leicester City Centre. The strategy also confirms that government funding will be put in place for key projects.

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

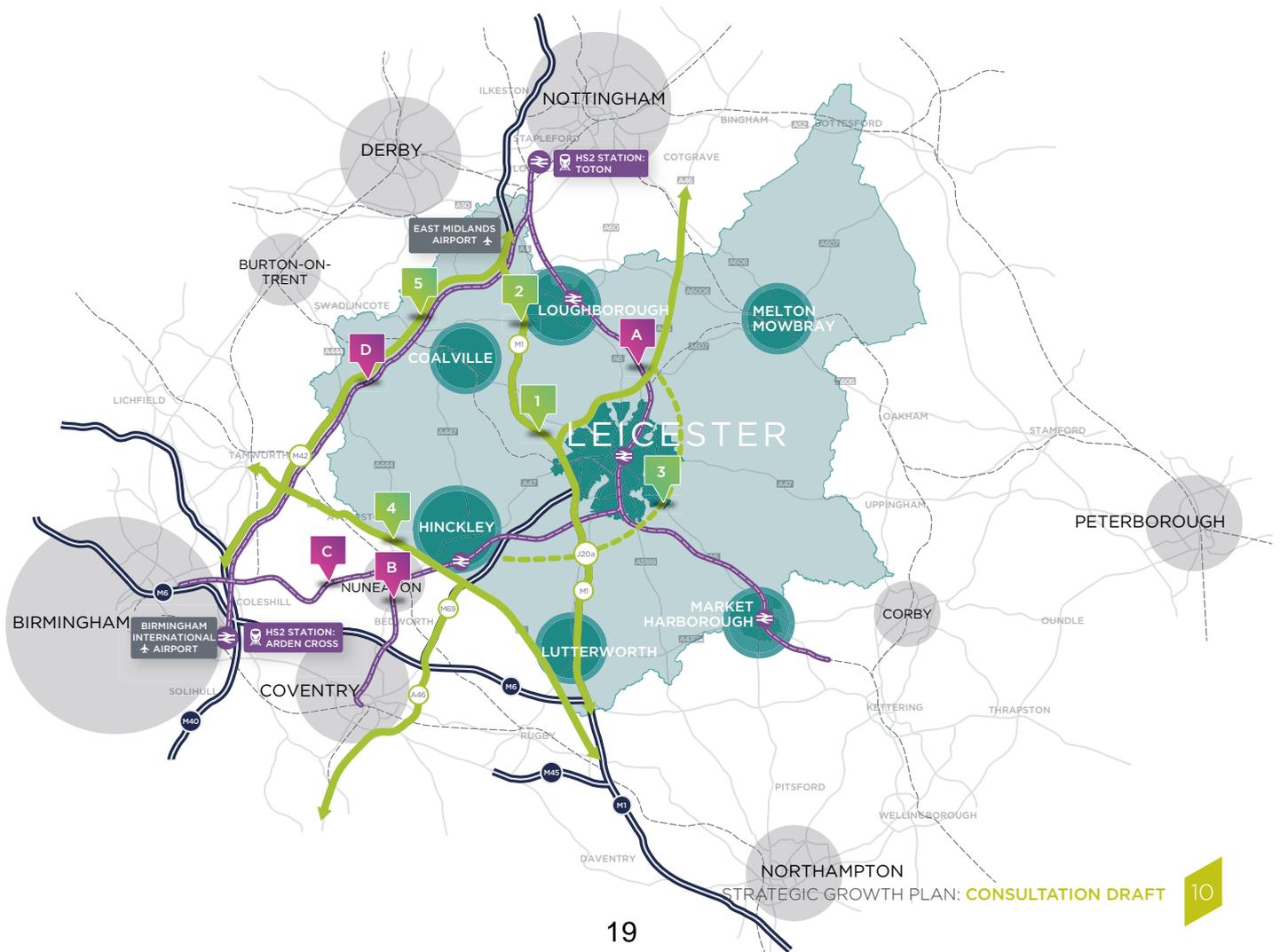
**FIGURE 4:**  
**ROAD AND RAIL IMPROVEMENTS**

(referenced in Midlands Connect Strategy)

**Key:**

- ROAD IMPROVEMENTS**
1. Smart Motorway M1 J19-23a
  2. M1 J23/A512 improvements
  3. A46 Expressway
  4. A5 Expressway
  5. M42/A42 Expressway

- RAIL IMPROVEMENTS**
- A. Midland Main Line Upgrade and Electrification
  - B. Leicester-Coventry Upgrade
  - C. Leicester-Birmingham Upgrade
  - D. High Speed 2



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

The Strategy endorses a number of key rail projects in Leicester & Leicestershire, including the Midland Mainline upgrade and electrification, and improved rail services between Leicester, Coventry and Birmingham. Key road projects include improving the A5, M42/A42 and A46 to expressway standard, including a new road to the south and east of Leicester linking into the M69 to the west.

Whilst government has announced its intention to cancel the proposed electrification of the Midland Mainline north of Kettering, arguments in favour of its reinstatement continue to be made.

## PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENTAL, HISTORIC AND OTHER ASSETS

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

KEY FEATURES IMPORTANT TO LEICESTER AND LEICESTERSHIRE....  
THE NATIONAL FOREST,  
CHARNWOOD FOREST,  
BOSWORTH BATTLEFIELD,  
OUR 'GREEN WEDGES',  
VALUABLE LANDSCAPE, LOCAL NATURE, CIVIC HERITAGE, CONSERVATION AREAS, ETC.

# OUR DRAFT STRATEGY

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

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

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

THIS IS OUR OPPORTUNITY FOR CHANGE

## OUR PRIORITIES

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

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

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

## SHIFTING THE FOCUS OF DEVELOPMENT

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

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

## OUR VISION\*

Our vision is that:

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

*\* Reference: Strategic Growth Statement (2016)*

Our draft strategy proposes to build more development in major strategic locations and to reduce the amount that takes place in existing towns, villages and rural areas. This will allow us to plan for new housing and employment together with new and improved roads, public transport, schools, health services, local shops and open space. Development on major sites has been slow but we are working with developers to increase the speed at which this will be built. We will continue to seek funding for essential infrastructure to support development.

Our analysis has demonstrated that, through our existing and emerging Local Plans, and planning permissions, we can make provision for the amount of new homes and jobs we need in the period up to 2031. This will be achieved through a mixture of major strategic sites already identified in Local Plans (about 40%) and smaller scale growth on non-strategic sites (about 60%). The Draft Strategic Growth Plan, therefore, does not need to focus on this time period.

Beyond 2031, we propose to make provision for more of our growth in strategic locations. To do this, we need new strategic infrastructure which will open up sites for development. The Midlands Connect Strategy lays the foundations for this.

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

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



# OUR PROPOSED GROWTH AREAS

## THE PRIMARY GROWTH AREAS

### THE A46 GROWTH CORRIDOR

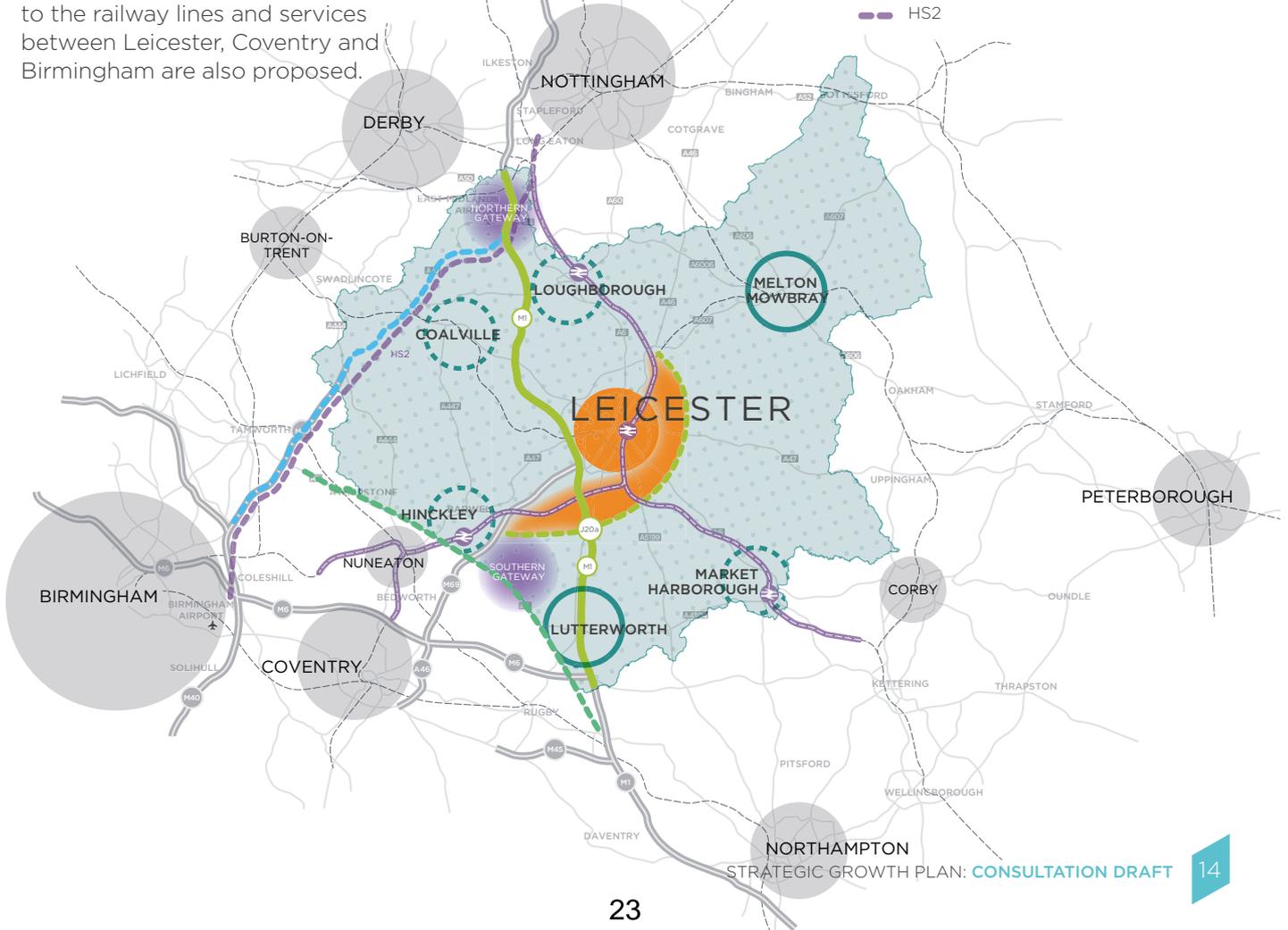
One piece of infrastructure is absolutely critical to our draft strategy - the 'expressway' proposal for the A46. This is included in the Midlands Connect Strategy and proposes a new road extending from a new or improved junction on the M69, and continuing to the south and east of Leicester, with a new junction on the M1 (J20a). The new road would rejoin the existing A46 near Syston. Improvements to the railway lines and services between Leicester, Coventry and Birmingham are also proposed.

Together with the proposals to create an expressway along the A5 - also proposed in the Midlands Connect Strategy - the combination of new and improved roads and railways in this area creates the opportunity for major development along a corridor extending from the M69 to the north-eastern fringes of Leicester. The proposed new road is of national and regional significance but it also provides the opportunity for strategic development in Leicester & Leicestershire. We estimate that this corridor has the potential to accommodate about 40,000 new homes and additional new jobs.

FIGURE 5: STRATEGY PLAN

Key:

- PRIMARY GROWTH AREAS:**
  - Leicester
  - A46 Corridor
- SECONDARY GROWTH AREAS:**
  - Northern / Southern Gateways
- GROWTH POINTS:**
  - Key Centres
  - Managed Growth in Local Plans
  - Growth to support local needs only
- ESSENTIAL INFRASTRUCTURE:**
  - Road Improvements
  - A46 Expressway
  - A5 Expressway
  - M42/A42 Expressway
  - Rail improvements
  - HS2



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

## LEICESTER: OUR 'CENTRAL CITY'

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

The population of the urban area, in and around Leicester City, is about 650,000 and increasing rapidly. We are working collaboratively to accommodate all of the homes that the City needs in places that are well-connected to it. The A46 Growth Corridor is critical to the future success of Leicester & Leicestershire because it would allow the City to grow in such a way that we can make full use of existing services and infrastructure. We could also provide more homes close to jobs in the City Centre and other employment centres, and relieve development pressures in other parts of the surrounding authorities.

Given the scale of development on the fringes of Leicester, proposals to build the A46 Expressway would need to be accompanied by measures to increase capacity on the radial roads and improve public transport.

## THE SECONDARY GROWTH AREAS

### THE NORTHERN GATEWAY

The Northern Gateway is focused around the northern parts of the A42 and the M1. Major employment centres are located on the edges of the county and in Loughborough nearby. A significant amount of development has planning permission but has not yet been implemented. We propose to provide new homes close to jobs, and we estimate that the area has the potential to accommodate about 10,000 new homes. Improvements to the A42, the M1, railway lines and services – all set out in the Midlands Connect Strategy – support this opportunity.

### THE SOUTHERN GATEWAY

The Southern Gateway is focused around the A5, and the proposed new link between the M69 and the M1 (part of the A46 Growth Corridor). Expressway proposals for both the A5 and the new section of the A46 will create opportunities for development in areas well-located relative to employment opportunities, not least the MIRA Technology Park and nationally significant logistics and distribution centres. Substantial provision for growth has already been made within and on the edge of Hinckley but much of this has still to be built. Further development in this area should be consistent with the need to support local growth.

## KEY CENTRES

### MELTON MOWBRAY

Melton Mowbray sits at the centre of a large, agricultural area in the north east of the county, somewhat distant from other centres, strategic road and rail routes. Accessibility will be improved to a degree with the completion of the A46 Expressway, and would be enhanced by more localised improvements and better connectivity. Strategic growth, facilitated by the proposed Melton Mowbray Distributor Road, is already planned but there is scope for further strategic development in the town to support economic growth and regeneration of the town centre.

### LUTTERWORTH

The character of Lutterworth has changed markedly in the last twenty years or so as locations close to the M1 and the A5 have increasingly become a focus for the logistics and distribution industry. New development to the east of the M1, together with new infrastructure to relieve congestion in the town, is already planned. Further new growth would enable better services to be provided. More homes would allow employees to live closer to their places of work and reduce the high-levels of out-commuting from Leicester.

**TABLE A: NOTIONAL CAPACITY OF STRATEGIC GROWTH AREAS (DWELLINGS)**

Growth area	Notional capacity (dwellings)
A46 Growth Corridor (including the Southern Gateway)	40,000
Northern Gateway	10,000
Melton Mowbray and Lutterworth	5,000
Total	55,000

\* Reference: *Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment (2017)*

## AREAS OF MANAGED GROWTH IN LOCAL PLANS

### COALVILLE, HINCKLEY LOUGHBOROUGH AND MARKET HARBOROUGH

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

### OUR VILLAGES AND RURAL AREAS

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

## NOTIONAL CAPACITY (DWELLINGS)

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

## NOTIONAL CAPACITY (EMPLOYMENT LAND)

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

Longer term requirements are not quantified. The need for employment land is subject to considerably greater market variability than the need for new homes. It is, therefore, unrealistic to anticipate what these might be so far ahead. In principle, however, it is considered that the spatial distribution of new employment will need to reflect the overall strategy of the Plan, enable homes and jobs to be located in close proximity, and take advantage of opportunities for commuting by public transport. The need for new employment land will be monitored and reviewed on a regular basis.

## A COMMON AGENDA: DELIVERING 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY GARDEN TOWNS, VILLAGES AND SUBURBS

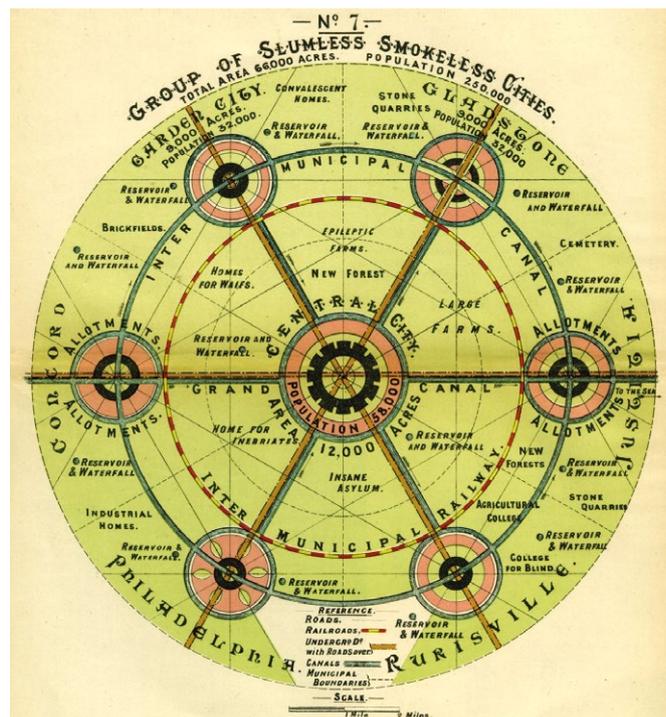
The scale of opportunity in Leicester & Leicestershire gives us choices. This draft strategy proposes to focus development along transportation corridors and close to important employment centres. At a local level, we could expand existing settlements or create new ones. We could plan for some new development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

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

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

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

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



*Credit: Town And Country Planning Association*

# OUR COMMITMENT TO DELIVERY

## A PARTNERSHIP APPROACH

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

## STATUTORY VS NON-STATUTORY PLANS

We are aware of government's recent consultation document '*Planning for the Right Homes in the Right Places*'. This states a preference for statutory plans, makes recommendations on a standard methodology for calculating housing need, and sets out the requirements for a '*Statement of Common Ground*'. The work on our three strategic plans, however, has reached an advanced stage. To pause and re-work the Draft Strategic Growth Plan in a different format would cause significant delay at a time when there are significant issues to resolve and opportunities to grasp.

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

## ALIGNING INFRASTRUCTURE AND GROWTH

It is clear, however, that we will need support from government if we are to achieve the step change in the amount and speed of housing and economic growth that we propose.

We started our work with a shared commitment to deliver the homes and jobs that Leicestershire needs over the period 2011-50 and our proposed strategy is set out in this Draft Plan. We wish to take full advantage of the opportunities that are presented by the Midlands Engine and Midlands Connect strategies. Our proposals will, therefore, maximise the benefits that are delivered by the infrastructure investment proposed in these documents. We value the government's stated commitment to the region.

## DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY

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

## OUR OFFER TO GOVERNMENT

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

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

# NEXT STEPS

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The consultation on the Strategic Growth Statement (August 2016) started the discussion about the long term future of Leicester & Leicestershire. Since that time, we have undertaken a considerable amount of work and commissioned studies to inform our analysis.

This document explains the building blocks that we have used in preparing the Plan and sets out our proposed strategy in the form of a Consultation Draft Plan. As a strategic plan, it focuses on the high level strategy that would be used to guide more detailed work in Local Plans. It identifies broad locations where development might take place and what infrastructure might be needed to support it. If this is agreed, much more detailed work would be undertaken at the local level but decisions would be made in line with the final version of the Plan

In terms of transportation, a considerable amount of work is already in progress and is summarised in the County Council's recent publication '*Prospectus for Growth*' (September 2017). This identifies a number of road and rail improvement projects on which work is already far advanced.

At this stage, we invite comments on our Draft Plan from as wide an audience as possible: local residents, businesses, developers, landowners and statutory organisations. Details of how to comment are available on our web site [llstrategicgrowthplan.org.uk](http://llstrategicgrowthplan.org.uk).

At the end of the consultation period, responses on the Draft Plan will be considered and a final version of the Plan will be prepared during 2018. The final version of the Plan will be used as a framework for preparing Local Plans. Together with the Strategic Transport Plan and Local Industrial Strategy, the Strategic Growth Plan will be used as a bidding document to secure funding for essential infrastructure and services in our area.

WE INVITE COMMENTS ON OUR DRAFT PLAN FROM AS WIDE AN AUDIENCE AS POSSIBLE: LOCAL RESIDENTS, BUSINESSES, DEVELOPERS, LANDOWNERS AND STATUTORY ORGANISATIONS. DETAILS OF HOW TO COMMENT ARE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEB SITE [LLSTRATEGICGROWTHPLAN.ORG.UK](http://LLSTRATEGICGROWTHPLAN.ORG.UK)

# APPENDIX A

## HOUSING NEEDS 2011-31 AND 2011-36

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

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

Beyond, 2031, provision will be made in Local Plans in accordance with the framework set out in the final version of the Strategic Growth Statement. A Joint Statement of Co-operation was produced in January 2017 to explain how this work would be taken forward. The Joint Statement of Co-operation was updated in November 2017. A Memorandum of Understanding on housing needs will be produced in early 2018.

**TABLE 1: HOUSING NEED 2011-31**

Authority	Housing Need <sup>1</sup>	
	Number of dwellings per annum	Total number of dwellings
Blaby DC	370	7,400
Charnwood BC	1,031	20,620
Harborough DC	532	10,640
Hinckley & Bosworth BC	471	9,420
Leicester City Council	1,692	33,840
Melton BC	186	3,720
North West Leicestershire DC	481	9,620
Oadby & Wigston BC	148	2,960
<b>Total (Leicester &amp; Leicestershire)</b>	<b>4,829<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>96,580<sup>2</sup></b>

**TABLE 2: HOUSING NEED 2011-36**

Authority	Housing Need <sup>1</sup>	
	Number of dwellings per annum	Total number of dwellings
Blaby DC	361	9,025
Charnwood BC	994	24,850
Harborough DC	514	12,850
Hinckley & Bosworth BC	454	11,350
Leicester City Council	1,668	41,700
Melton BC	170	4,250
North West Leicestershire DC	448	11,200
Oadby & Wigston BC	155	3,875
<b>Total (Leicester &amp; Leicestershire)</b>	<b>4,716<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>117,900<sup>2</sup></b>

Notes:

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

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

## EMPLOYMENT LAND NEEDS 2011-31 AND 2011-36

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

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

	2031-31			2011-36		
	B1a/b	B1c/B2	Small B8	B1a/b	B1c/B2	Small B8
Blaby DC	37-45	15	10	47-48	19	12
Charnwood BC	14-37	21	11	17-40	26	13
Harborough DC	14-21	22	8	17-24	28	9
Hinckley & Bosworth BC	11-32	14	16	13-34	17	20
Leicester City Council	2-6	36	15	3-7	45	19
Melton BC	10-18	21	14	10-23	26	17
North West Leicestershire DC	45-46	3	17	50-56	4	21
Oadby & Wigston BC	1	0	4	2	0	5
<b>Totals</b>	<b>142-198</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>177-215</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>117</b>

**Notes:**

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

Local Plans will make provision for these needs in the period 2011-36. A Memorandum of Understanding will be prepared in early 2018.

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

# APPENDIX B

## NOTIONAL HOUSING NEEDS AND SUPPLY 2031-50

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

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

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

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

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

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

Pending the outcome of consultation on this Draft Plan, the authorities in Leicester & Leicestershire propose that the distribution in Table 4 will be used as the basis for future Local Plans. The process by which this work will be taken forward is set out in the Joint Statement of Co-operation.

**TABLE 4: NOTIONAL HOUSING NEED AND SUPPLY 2031-50**

Authority	Notional Housing Needs 2031-50		Delivery on Non-Strategic Sites		Delivery on Strategic Sites	Total Delivery	
	dpa	Total	dpa	Total	Total	dpa	Total
Blaby DC	361	6,859	110	2,060	15,500	924	17,560
Charnwood BC	994	18,886	470	8,890	10,000	994	18,890
Harborough DC	514	9,766	150	2,930	15,000	944	17,930
Hinckley & Bosworth BC	454	8,626	140	2,590	7,500	531	10,090
Leicester City	1,668	31,692	550	10,450	0	550	10,450
Melton BC	170	3,230	80	1,520	3,000	238	4,520
North West Leicestershire DC	448	8,512	240	4,520	4,000	448	8,520
Oadby & Wigston BC	155	2,945	60	1,140	1,500	139	2,640
<b>Total (Leicester &amp; Leicestershire) (%)</b>	<b>4,764</b>	<b>90,516</b>	<b>1,800</b>	<b>34,100 (38%)</b>	<b>56,500 (62%)</b>	<b>4,768</b>	<b>90,600</b>

**Notes:**

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

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

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

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

5 Delivery on strategic sites rounded to the nearest '500'.



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

[llstrategicgrowthplan.org.uk](http://llstrategicgrowthplan.org.uk)

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

**STRATEGIC GROWTH PLAN**  
**EQUALITY & HUMAN RIGHTS IMPACT ASSESSMENT**  
**(EHRIA)**  
**September 2017**

<b>Key Details</b>	
<b>Name of policy being assessed:</b>	Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Growth Plan
<b>Date Started:</b>	June 2016
<b>Date Completed:</b>	September 2017
<b>Project Sponsor:</b>	Eileen Mallon (Charnwood Borough Council)
<b>Lead Officer:</b>	Head of Planning and Regeneration (Charnwood Borough Council)
<b>Team Members:</b>	Principal Planning Officer (Charnwood Borough Council)  Planning Policy Manager (Leicester City Council)  Corporate Improvement & Policy Officer (Charnwood Borough Council)  Policy Officer- Equalities (Leicestershire County Council)

## Introduction

This is the Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment of the Strategic Growth Plan.

All partner organisations involved in the development and implementation of the Strategic Growth Plan have a legal responsibility (as set out in the Equality Act 2010) to ensure that we can demonstrate having paid due regard to the need to (referred to as the 'General Public Sector Equality Duty'):

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act;
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not;
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

There are certain characteristics that equalities legislation refers to. These 'protected characteristics' include:

1. Age
2. Disability
3. Gender Re-assignment
4. Marriage & Civil Partnership
5. Pregnancy & Maternity
6. Race
7. Religion or Belief
8. Sex
9. Sexual Orientation

Such equalities legislation does not allow the following:

- Direct discrimination, including by association and perception
- Indirect discrimination
- Pregnancy & maternity discrimination
- Harassment
- Third party harassment
- Discrimination arising from disability

Such equalities legislation does allow the following:

- Duty to make reasonable adjustments

Additionally, all partner organisations involved in the development and implementation of the Strategic Growth Plan understand the importance of valuing human rights and are committed to ensuring that the human rights of individuals are maintained and respected. It is for this reason that we have chosen to additionally assess any human rights implications of the Strategic Growth Plan and also consider opportunities to promote or protect any of the relevant human rights within the EHRIA process. These include:

## **HUMAN RIGHTS ACT PART 1: The Convention – Rights and Freedoms**

### **Article 2: Right to life**

**Article 3:** Prohibition of torture, inhuman or degrading treatment  
**Article 4:** Prohibition of slavery/ forced labour  
**Article 5:** Right to liberty and security of person  
**Article 6:** Right to a fair trial (applies to criminal and civil issues)  
**Article 7:** No punishment without law  
**Article 8:** Right to respect for private and family life  
**Article 9:** Freedom of thought, conscience and religion  
**Article 10:** Freedom of expression  
**Article 11:** Freedom of Assembly and Association  
**Article 12:** Right to Marry  
**Article 14:** Prohibition of Discrimination (linked to a convention right i.e. equal access to convention rights)

## **HUMAN RIGHTS ACT PART 2: The First Protocol**

**Article 1: Protection of property/ peaceful enjoyment**  
**Article 2: Right to education**  
**Article 3: Right to free elections**

This is the first stage of the Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment to be conducted and further assessment of equalities and human right implications will be carried out as a continual process in the preparation of the Strategic Growth Plan. This will be in the form of Equality Impact Assessments/Equality & Human Rights Impact Assessments which will be produced for different aspects of the Strategic Growth Plan and consulted upon at different stages.

This document explains what steps have been taken to understand the potential implications of planning policies on those in our community with the protected characteristics, what steps have been taken to address any differential impacts upon each of the characteristics and human rights articles, and draws upon any recommendations and conclusions.

These points have been covered in the step-by-step approach outlined below.

## Section 1: Defining the policy

This assessment should begin by defining and outlining the scope of this policy. You should consider the impact or likely impact of the policy in relation to all areas of equality, diversity and human rights.

1	<b>What is new or changed in this policy? <i>What has changed and why?</i></b>			
<p>The Strategic Growth Plan is a new policy which will set the vision and strategy for future growth in Leicester and Leicestershire. Its main purpose is to distribute housing and jobs and supporting strategic infrastructure within the Housing Market Area between 2031 and 2050. The Strategic Growth Plan will be a locus for agreement between Local Authorities concerned demonstrating the Duty To Cooperate as well as setting the policy framework for the preparation of individual Local Plans.</p>				
2	<b>Does this relate to any other policy within your department, the Council or with other partner organisations? <i>If yes, please reference the relevant policy or EHRIA. If unknown, further investigation may be required.</i></b>			
<p>The Strategic Growth Plan will provide an over-arching strategic policy framework for the development plan documents produced by the various authorities that form the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing Market Area. These development plans will each have their own Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment as part of the process of producing the plans.</p>				
3	<b>Who are the people/ groups (target groups) affected and what is the intended change or outcome for them?</b>			
<p>The Strategic Growth Plan will provide a framework for delivering growth, guiding new developments, and, to overcoming the problems that are experienced by existing communities. On that basis it will affect the whole community and is intended to deliver the right growth, at the right time, in the right locations, creating successful residential and business communities that are well-served by essential infrastructure and services, in a landscape where environmental resources are protected and enhanced.</p>				
4	<b>Will this policy meet the Equality Act 2010 requirements to have due regard to the need to meet any of the following aspects? (Please tick and explain how)</b>			
		<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>How?</b>
Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation		✓		All approved projects, procured activity and partners will comply with equalities and human rights legislation through having appropriate policies and practices in place.
Advance equality of opportunity between different groups		✓		The way in which the Strategic Growth Plan is developed, in terms of providing housing, employment and other infrastructure, will support the advancement of equality between different groups.
Foster good relations between different groups		✓		The way in which the Strategic Growth Plan is developed, in terms of providing housing, employment and other infrastructure, will support the fostering of good relations between different groups.

## Section 2: Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment (EHRIA) Screening

The purpose of this section of the assessment is to help decide if a full EHRIA is required. If it has already been identified that a full EHRIA is needed for this policy, either via service planning processes or other means, then please go straight to Section 3 of this document.

### Section 2

#### A: Research and Consultation

5	Have the target groups been consulted about the following?	Yes	No*
	a) their current needs and aspirations and what is important to them;		X
	b) any potential impact of this change on them (positive and negative, intended and unintended);		X
	c) potential barriers they may face		X
6	If the target groups have not been consulted directly, have representatives been consulted or research explored (e.g. Equality Mapping)?	X	
7	Have other stakeholder groups/ secondary groups (e.g. carers of service users) been explored in terms of potential unintended impacts?		X
8	<p>*If you answered 'no' to the question above, please use the space below to outline what consultation you are planning to undertake, or why you do not consider it to be necessary.</p> <p>At this initial stage of the Strategic Growth Plan, research has been undertaken on the demographics of Leicester and Leicestershire to identify trend and gaps in data in order to identify and mitigate any adverse impact upon individuals or community groups based on the protected characteristics.</p> <p>Specific consultation and engagement will be carried out on the Strategic Growth Plan, when it has been endorsed for consultation by the partner authorities. This is expected before the end of 2017. All issues and barriers raised throughout this process will be considered and mitigating action will be taken where reasonable and proportionate.</p>		

### Section 2

#### B: Monitoring Impact

9	Are there systems set up to:	Yes	No
	a) monitor impact (positive and negative, intended and unintended) for different groups;	X	
	b) enable open feedback and suggestions from different communities	X	

**Note: If no to Question 9, you will need to ensure that monitoring systems are established to check for impact on the protected characteristics.**

**Section 2**  
**C: Potential Impact**

<b>10</b>	Use the table below to specify if any individuals or community groups who identify with any of the protected characteristics may <u>potentially</u> be affected by this policy and describe any positive and negative impacts, including any barriers.			
		<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Comments</b>
	<b>Age</b>	<b>X</b>		<p>At this stage, the Strategic Growth Plan has the potential to impact upon age as barriers may be faced by this community group if effective due consideration is not given in the planning and consultation stages.</p> <p>Specific infrastructure and services will need to be planned effectively to ensure it is appropriate for the age demographic of the community (i.e. specific to older people, young people etc.)</p>
	<b>Disability</b>	<b>X</b>		<p>At this stage, the Strategic Growth Plan has the potential to impact upon disability as barriers may be faced by individuals and community groups with physical disabilities, visual impairments, hearing impairments etc. within this community group if effective due consideration is not given in the planning and consultation stages.</p>
	<b>Gender Reassignment</b>		<b>X</b>	<p>At this stage of the Strategic Growth Plan, the likely impacts upon the protected characteristic of gender reassignment are neutral.</p> <p>It is predicted that potential barriers are unlikely to be faced by this protected characteristic.</p> <p>However, as there are no accurate statistics available regarding the profile of the transgender population within Leicestershire or the UK as a whole, the lack of knowledge for this protected characteristic may be a barrier in itself.</p>
	<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>		<b>X</b>	<p>At this stage of the Strategic Growth Plan, the likely impacts upon the protected characteristic of marriage and civil partnership reassignment</p>

			<p>are neutral.</p> <p>It is predicted that potential barriers are unlikely to be faced by this protected characteristic.</p>
	<b>Pregnancy and Maternity</b>		<p><b>X</b></p> <p>At this stage of the Strategic Growth Plan, the likely impacts upon the protected characteristic of pregnancy and maternity are neutral.</p> <p>It is predicted that potential barriers are unlikely to be faced by this protected characteristic.</p>
	<b>Race</b>	<b>X</b>	<p>At this stage, the Strategic Growth Plan has the potential to impact upon race as barriers may be faced by specific community groups if effective due consideration is not given in the planning and consultation stages.</p> <p>Specific infrastructure and services will need to be planned effectively to ensure they are appropriate for the demographic of the community (i.e. BME Residents; the gypsy and traveller community).</p>
	<b>Religion or Belief</b>	<b>X</b>	<p>At this stage, the Strategic Growth Plan has the potential to impact upon religion and belief as barriers may be faced by members of specific religious communities if effective due consideration is not given in the planning and consultation stages.</p> <p>Specific infrastructure and services will need to be planned effectively to ensure they are appropriate for the demographic of the community (i.e. appropriate places of worship to meet the needs of the community).</p>
	<b>Sex</b>		<p><b>X</b></p> <p>At this stage of the Strategic Growth Plan, the likely impacts upon the protected characteristic of sex are neutral.</p> <p>It is predicted that potential barriers are unlikely to be faced by this protected characteristic.</p>

	<b>Sexual Orientation</b>		<b>X</b>	<p>At this stage of the Strategic Growth Plan, the likely impacts upon the protected characteristic of sexual orientation are neutral.</p> <p>It is predicted that potential barriers are unlikely to be faced by this protected characteristic.</p> <p>However, as there are no accurate statistics available regarding the profile of the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual (LGB) population within Leicestershire or the UK as a whole, the lack of knowledge for this protected characteristic may be a barrier in itself.</p>
<b>11.</b>	<p>Are the human rights of individuals <u>potentially</u> affected by this proposal? Could there be an impact on human rights for any of the protected characteristics? <b>(Please tick)</b></p> <p>Explain why you consider that any particular article in the Human Rights Act may apply to the policy and how the human rights of individuals are likely to be affected below: [NB. Include positive and negative impacts as well as barriers in benefiting from the above proposal]</p>			
	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Comments</b>	
<b>Part 1: The Convention- Rights and Freedoms</b>				
		<b>X</b>		
	<b>X</b>		<p>This may potentially have an impact upon the human rights of individuals, particularly when considering:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The right to make representations against decisions affecting people's rights within the planning process.</li> <li>2. In relation to any enforcement proceeding surrounding planning activity.</li> </ol>	

			It will therefore be necessary to build in the necessary procedures to any process of awards, appeals or decisions.
<b>Article 7: No punishment without law</b>		<b>X</b>	
<b>Article 8: Right to respect for private and family life</b>	<b>X</b>		This may potentially have an impact upon the human rights of individuals, particularly when considering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Handling environmental issues such as pollution.</li> <li>▪ Cultural and religious needs of service users- particularly when scheduling consultation activity etc. with service users</li> <li>▪ Immigration/ asylum issues</li> <li>▪ Gypsy &amp; traveller rights with the Strategic Growth Plan</li> </ul>
<b>Article 9: Right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion</b>	<b>X</b>		This may potentially have an impact upon the human rights of individuals, particularly when considering the timetabling/ scheduling of events for any consultation activity.  It will therefore be necessary for awareness to avoid holding events/ timings within the Plan which clash.
<b>Article 10: Right to freedom of expression</b>	<b>X</b>		This may potentially have an impact upon the human rights of individuals, particularly when considering consultation on planning/ housing decisions etc. All individuals must have a right to freedom of expression surrounding the Strategic Growth Plan.
<b>Article 11: Right to freedom of assembly and association</b>		<b>X</b>	
<b>Article 12: Right to marry</b>		<b>X</b>	
<b>Article 14: Right not to be discriminated against</b>	<b>X</b>		This may potentially have an impact upon the human rights of individuals. All individuals must have a right not to be discriminated against throughout the development and implementation of the Strategic Growth Plan.
<b>Part 2: The First Protocol</b>			
<b>Article 1: Protection of property/ peaceful enjoyment</b>	<b>X</b>		This may potentially have an impact upon the human rights of individuals, when planning decisions are made. Where possible a public authority should try to ensure that policies or decisions do not interfere with peaceful enjoyment of property of possessions.

	<b>Article 2: Right to education</b>		<b>X</b>	
	<b>Article 3: Right to free elections</b>		<b>X</b>	

<b>Section 2</b>				
<b>D: Decision</b>				
<b>12.</b>	Is there evidence or any other reason to suggest that:	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Unknown</b>
	a) this policy could have a different affect or adverse impact on any section of the community;			<b>X</b>
	b) any section of the community may face barriers in benefiting from the proposal			<b>X</b>
<b>13.</b>	Based on the answers to the questions above, what is the likely impact of this policy?			
	No Impact <input type="checkbox"/>	Positive Impact <input type="checkbox"/>	Neutral Impact <input type="checkbox"/>	Negative Impact or Impact Unknown <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Note: If the decision is 'Negative Impact' or 'Impact Not Known' an EHRIA Report is required.</b>				
<b>14.</b>	Is an EHRIA report required?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	

## Section 3: Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment (EHRIA) Report

This part of the assessment is to think thoroughly about the impact of this policy and to critically examine whether it is likely to have a positive or negative impact on different groups within our diverse community. It is also to identify any barriers that may detrimentally affect under-represented communities or groups, who may be disadvantaged by the way in which we carry out our business.

Using the information gathered either within the EHRIA Screening or independently of this process, this EHRIA Report should be used to consider the impact or likely impact of the policy in relation to all areas of equality and human rights.

### Section 3

#### A: Research and Consultation

When considering the target groups it is important to think about whether new data needs to be collected or whether there is any existing research that can be utilised.

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| <b>15.</b> | <p>Based on the gaps identified either in the EHRIA Screening or independently of this process, <u>how</u> have you now explored the following and <u>what</u> does this information/data tell you about each of the diverse groups?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) current needs and aspirations and what is important to individuals and community groups (including human rights);</li> <li>b) likely impacts (positive and negative, intended and unintended) to individuals and community groups (including human rights);</li> <li>c) likely barriers that individuals and community groups may face (including human rights)</li> </ul> |
|------------|---|

Research has been undertaken on the demographics of Leicester and Leicestershire to identify trend and gaps in data in order to identify and mitigate any adverse impact upon individuals or community groups based on the protected characteristics.

Utilising the demographic information collected for the Leicester & Leicestershire area, a working group considered this alongside the proposed options to determine areas of inequality or where barriers may occur in certain circumstances (see Appendix A for further details on the diverse groups).

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| <b>16.</b> | <p>Is any further research, data collection or evidence required to fill any gaps in your understanding of the potential or known affects of the policy on target groups?</p> |
|------------|---|

Specific research, data collection or evidence will be carried out on the Strategic Growth Plan when it has been endorsed for consultation by the partner authorities. This is expected before the end of 2017. All issues and barriers raised throughout this process will be considered and mitigating action will be taken where reasonable and proportionate.

When considering who is affected by this proposed policy, it is important to think about consulting with and involving a range of service users, staff or other stakeholders who may be affected as part of the proposal.

<b>17.</b>	Based on the gaps identified either in the EHRIA Screening or independently of this process, <u>how</u> have you further consulted with those affected on the likely impact and <u>what</u> does this consultation tell you about each of the diverse groups?
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Specific consultation and engagement will be carried out on the Strategic Growth Plan when it has been endorsed for consultation by the partner authorities. This is expected before the end of 2017. All issues and barriers raised throughout this process will be considered and mitigating action will be taken where reasonable and proportionate.

<b>18.</b>	Is any further consultation required to fill any gaps in your understanding of the potential or known effects of the policy on target groups?
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It will be important to ensure that wherever new development is focused that potential or actual barriers are given due consideration is given in the planning and consultation stages of local plans.

**Section 3**  
**B: Recognised Impact**

<b>19.</b>	Based on any evidence and findings, use the table below to specify if any individuals or community groups who identify with any 'protected characteristics' are <u>likely</u> be affected by this policy. Describe any positive and negative impacts, including what barriers these individuals or groups may face.	
		<b>Comments</b>
	<b>Age</b>	<p>The Strategic Growth Plan has the potential to impact negatively upon age in most of the scenarios tested and it will be important to ensure that specific infrastructure and services are planned effectively to ensure they are appropriate for the age demographic of the community (i.e. specific to older people, young people etc.) - this is likely to be an issue for subsequent local plans.</p> <p>Of the options tested, only options 4 and 5 presented a neutral outcome. For option 4, the potential for a 'sense of community' to be developed over time was seen as a positive way to plan for all from the outset.</p> <p>For option 5, a dispersed strategy would provide more affordable housing in rural communities but recognises this is only an advantage if there is access to motorised transport to access higher order services elsewhere.</p>
	<b>Disability</b>	The Strategic Growth Plan has the potential to impact positively upon disability in most of the options tested with neutral effects recorded in

		<p>option 4 and neutral/negative effects in option 5.</p> <p>Depending on the option selected, different spatial options may focus development in areas that favour disabled people by virtue of access to jobs, services and facilities where their needs can be met. It will be important to ensure that wherever new development is focused that barriers may be faced by this community group if effective due consideration is not given in the planning and consultation stages of local plans.</p>
	<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	<p>At this stage of the Strategic Growth Plan, the effects upon the protected characteristic of gender reassignment are not considered likely to have an impact.</p> <p>It is predicted that potential barriers are unlikely to be faced by this protected characteristic.</p> <p>However, as there are no accurate statistics available regarding the profile of the transgender population within Leicestershire or the UK as a whole, the lack of knowledge for this protected characteristic may be a barrier in itself.</p>
	<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership</b>	<p>At this stage of the Strategic Growth Plan, the effects upon the protected characteristic of marriage and civil partnership are not considered likely to have an impact.</p> <p>It is predicted that potential barriers are unlikely to be faced by this protected characteristic.</p>
	<b>Pregnancy and Maternity</b>	<p>At this stage of the Strategic Growth Plan, the likely impacts upon the protected characteristic of pregnancy and maternity are neutral.</p> <p>The assessment identified marginal positive effects for option 1 and option 6 as they seek to concentrate growth in areas that already benefit from higher order services and facilities that is likely to offer greatest support for this group.</p>
	<b>Race</b>	<p>The Strategic Growth Plan has the potential to impact upon race as barriers may be faced by specific community groups if effective due consideration is not given to the specific infrastructure and services required to create</p>

	<p>mixed and balanced communities.</p> <p>This is a negative effect for option 4 and 5 although positive effects are recorded in option 1, 3 and 7. It will be necessary to plan effectively in local plans to ensure new developments have appropriate community infrastructure for the demographic of the community (i.e. BME Residents; the gypsy and traveller community).</p>
<b>Religion or Belief</b>	<p>The assessment of options presents a mixed outcome for this characteristic. It reflects the reality that areas of higher population are more likely to be able to support a wider range of faith communities and buildings compared to lower populated areas.</p> <p>Specific infrastructure and services will need to be planned effectively to ensure that the needs of faith groups are addressed in local plans.</p>
<b>Sex</b>	<p>The assessment records that the impacts upon the protected characteristic of sex for each of the options is neutral.</p> <p>It is predicted that potential barriers are unlikely to be faced by this protected characteristic.</p>
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	<p>The assessment records that the impacts upon the protected characteristic of sexual orientation for each of the options is neutral.</p> <p>It is predicted that potential barriers are unlikely to be faced by this protected characteristic.</p> <p>However, as there are no accurate statistics available regarding the profile of the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual (LGB) population within Leicestershire or the UK as a whole, the lack of knowledge for this protected characteristic may be a barrier in itself.</p>
<b>Other groups e.g. rural isolation, deprivation, health inequality, carers, asylum seeker and refugee communities, looked after children, deprived or disadvantaged communities, community cohesion</b>	<p>The assessment records that the impacts upon the protected characteristic of other groups for each of the options is neutral.</p> <p>It is predicted that potential barriers are unlikely to be faced by this protected characteristic.</p>

<b>20.</b>	Based on any evidence and findings, use the table below to specify if any particular Articles in the Human Rights Act are <u>likely</u> apply to your policy. Are the human rights of any individuals or community groups affected by this proposal? Is there an impact on human rights for any of the protected characteristics?	
		<b>Comments</b>
	<b>Part 1: The Convention- Rights and Freedoms</b>	
	<b>Article 2: Right to life</b>	<b>No Impact</b>
	<b>Article 3: Right not to be tortured or treated in an inhuman or degrading way</b>	<b>No Impact</b>
	<b>Article 4: Right not to be subjected to slavery/ forced labour</b>	<b>No Impact</b>
	<b>Article 5: Right to liberty and security</b>	<b>No Impact</b>
	<b>Article 6: Right to a fair trial</b>	Neutral impact - the plan-making process has been carried out in consultation with the public and stakeholders. It will be important to ensure that the subsequent local plans are prepared in a transparent and equitable way and are subject to Examination in Public.
	<b>Article 7: No punishment without law</b>	<b>No Impact</b>
	<b>Article 8: Right to respect for private and family life</b>	Positive effect - this option may potentially have an impact upon the human rights of individuals, particularly Gypsy & Traveller rights.
	<b>Article 9: Right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion</b>	This may potentially have an impact upon the human rights of individuals, particularly when considering the timetabling/ scheduling of events for any consultation activity.  It will therefore be necessary for awareness to avoid holding events/ timings within the Plan which clash.
	<b>Article 10: Right to freedom of expression</b>	Neutral impact – the plan-making process has been carried out in consultation with the public and stakeholders. It will be important to ensure that the subsequent local plans are prepared in a transparent and equitable way and are subject to Examination in Public.
	<b>Article 11: Right to freedom of assembly and association</b>	<b>No Impact</b>
	<b>Article 12: Right to marry</b>	<b>No Impact</b>
<b>Article 14: Right not to be discriminated against</b>	This may potentially have an impact upon the human rights of individuals. All individuals must have a right not to be discriminated against throughout the development and implementation of the Strategic Growth Plan.	
<b>Part 2: The First Protocol</b>		

	<b>Article 1: Protection of property/ peaceful enjoyment</b>	This may potentially have an impact upon the human rights of individuals when planning decisions are made. New development may require the use of compulsory purchase powers. Where possible a public authority should try to ensure that policies or decisions do not interfere with peaceful enjoyment of property of possessions.
	<b>Article 2: Right to education</b>	<b>No Impact</b>
	<b>Article 3: Right to free elections</b>	<b>No Impact</b>
<b>Section 3</b>		
<b>C: Mitigating and Assessing the Impact</b>		
Taking into account the research, data, consultation and information you have reviewed and/or carried out as part of this EHRIA, it is now essential to assess the impact of the policy.		
<b>21.</b>	If you consider there to be actual or potential adverse impact or discrimination, please outline this below. State whether it is justifiable or legitimate and give reasons.	
<p>A) The Strategic Growth Plan has the potential to impact negatively upon age in most of the scenarios tested and it will be important to ensure that specific infrastructure and services are planned effectively to ensure they are appropriate for the age demographic of the community (i.e. specific to older people, young people etc.) this is likely to be an issue for subsequent local plans.</p> <p>B) The Strategic Growth Plan has the potential to impact upon race as barriers may be faced by specific community groups if effective due consideration is not given to the specific infrastructure and services required to create mixed and balanced communities. This is a negative effect for option 4 and 5 although positive effects are recorded in option 1, 3 and 7. It will be necessary to plan effectively in local plans to ensure new developments have appropriate community infrastructure for the demographic of the community (i.e. BME Residents; the gypsy and traveller community).</p> <p>C) The assessment of options presents a mixed outcome for religion and belief. It reflects the reality that areas of higher population are more likely to be able to support a wider range of faith communities and buildings compared to lower populated areas. Specific infrastructure and services will need to be planned effectively to ensure that the needs of faith groups are addressed in local plans.</p>		
N.B.		
<p>i) If you have identified adverse impact or discrimination that is <u>illegal</u>, you are required to take action to remedy this immediately.</p> <p>ii) If you have identified adverse impact or discrimination that is <u>justifiable</u> or <u>legitimate</u>, you will need to consider what actions can be taken to mitigate its effect on those groups of people.</p>		
<b>22.</b>	Where there are potential barriers, negative impacts identified and/or barriers or impacts are unknown, please outline how you propose to minimise all negative impact	

	<p>or discrimination.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) include any relevant research and consultations findings which highlight the best way in which to minimise negative impact or discrimination</li> <li>b) consider what barriers you can remove, whether reasonable adjustments may be necessary, and how any unmet needs that you have identified can be addressed</li> <li>c) if you are not addressing any negative impacts (including human rights) or potential barriers identified for a particular group, please explain why</li> </ul>
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As described in section 21 above.

**Section 3**  
**D: Making a decision**

<b>23.</b>	Summarise your findings and give an overview as to whether the policy will meet all responsibilities in relation to equality, diversity, community cohesion and human rights.
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It is the opinion that the Strategic Growth Plan will comply with equality, diversity and human rights responsibilities. Where potential barriers are identified at this stage, it is recognised that it will be necessary to plan effectively in local plans to ensure new developments have appropriate community infrastructure for the demographics of the community.

We will continue to undertake analysis and monitoring to ensure discrimination and adverse impact does not occur.

**Section 3**  
**E: Monitoring, evaluation & review of your policy**

<b>24.</b>	Are there processes in place to review the findings of this EHRIA and make appropriate changes? In particular, how will you monitor potential barriers and any positive/ negative impact?
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The findings of this EHRIA will be reviewed by the Strategic Planning Group when considering the proposals to take forward and endorse. It is expected that all recommendations made by this Board will be addressed in relevant local plans and monitored by the relevant local authority, as appropriate.

<b>25.</b>	How will the recommendations of this assessment be built into wider planning and review processes? <i>e.g. policy reviews, annual plans and use of performance management systems</i>
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All recommendations made by this Board will be addressed in relevant local plans and monitored by the relevant local authority, as appropriate.

**Section 3:  
F: Equality and human rights improvement plan**

Please list all the equality objectives, actions and targets that result from the Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment (EHRIA) (continue on separate sheets as necessary). These now need to be included in the relevant service plan for mainstreaming and performance management purposes.

<b>Action</b>	<b>Officer Responsible</b>	<b>By when</b>
EHRIA to be considered by the Strategic Planning Group when determining the preferred options proposal and in further consultation.	Strategic Planning Group.	November 2017.
EHRIA to be reviewed by the Project Group in light of responses arising from consultation on the draft plan and submitted to the Strategic Planning Group for consideration when determining the final version of the Strategic Growth Plan.	Project Group	Spring 2018
Recommendations made within the assessment by the Strategic Planning Group to be addressed in relevant local plans.	Planning leads in all Local Authorities.	As appropriate.
All equalities impact to be monitored by the relevant local authority, as appropriate.	Planning leads in all Local Authorities.	As appropriate.

## Section 4: Sign off and scrutiny

Upon completion, the Lead Officer completing this assessment is required to sign the document in the section below.

It is required that this Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment (EHRIA) is also signed off by the project sponsor.

Once scrutiny and sign off has taken place, a depersonalised version of this EHRIA should be published on the Councils' website.

### Section 4

#### A: Sign Off and Scrutiny

Confirm, as appropriate, which elements of the EHRIA have been completed and are required for sign off and scrutiny.

**Equality and Human Rights Assessment Screening**

**Equality and Human Rights Assessment Report**

1<sup>st</sup> Authorised Signature (EHRIA Lead Officer): *Richard Bennett* Date:  
.....

2<sup>nd</sup> Authorised Signature (Project Sponsor): *Eileen Mallon*

Date: .....

## Appendix A – Appraisal Matrix

	Potential differential Negative effect		Potential differential positive effect	○	There is no relationship or no significant relationship between the policy and the protected characteristic				
<b>Strategic Growth Plan - Equalities Impact Assessment Summary</b>									
Option	Age	Disability	Gender Reassignment	Pregnancy & Maternity	Race	Religion/ Belief	Sex	Sexual Orientation	Other groups*
1. Emphasise growth in and immediately around the built framework of Leicester, with growth elsewhere constrained			○	○/ 			○	○	○
2. Emphasise development in and immediately around the five market towns, with growth elsewhere constrained			○	○	○	○/ 	○	○	○
3. Emphasise development in the vicinity of known economic growth areas and associated infrastructure investment, with growth elsewhere constrained			○	○		○/ 	○	○	○
4. Emphasise growth within new and expanded settlements, with constraints on growth in other key settlements and the urban area of Leicester	○	○	○	○			○	○	○
5. Dispersed growth	○	○/ 	○	○			○	○	○
6. Continuation of established trends			○	○/ 	○	○/ 	○	○	○
7. preferred strategy (text tbc)			○	○		○/ 	○	○	○

	Potential differential Negative effect		Potential differential positive effect	○	There is no relationship or no significant relationship between the policy and the protected characteristic
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## Strategic Growth Plan Equality & Human Rights Impact Assessment

### 1) Emphasise development in and immediately around the built framework of Leicester, with growth elsewhere constrained.

This alternative would involve a focus on the options of urban intensification and urban concentration; it would require the provision of housing on underused sites, but also on some sites currently in employment use and other sites that are undeveloped, including open spaces within the urban area. There should be an assumption that the density of development will increase, both within but also adjacent to the built framework of the city. The option would look to expand existing Sustainable Urban Extensions (SUEs) and/or to introduce new SUEs on the edge of the built area.

The housing growth to be dispersed elsewhere would be numerically less than that planned for over the period 2011-2031. The amount of housing growth at the market towns, at other key settlements and in the rural area would be constrained. The option of providing a new settlement would not be pursued. However, the emphasis on housing in and around Leicester would make it necessary to accommodate a greater proportion of employment growth in other locations, with the potential for job growth most likely to arise in the market towns or on new or expanded freestanding employment sites.

Broad assumptions:

- ) At least 20% of homes provided within the urban area of Leicester
- ) At least 40% of homes provided on the periphery of Leicester
- ) Up to 20% of homes provided in/adjacent to the 5 main market towns
- ) Up to 20% of homes provided in smaller settlements

Age	Disability	Gender Reassignment	Pregnancy & Maternity	Race	Religion/ Belief	Sex	Sexual Orientation	Other groups*
		○	○/↑		○↑	○	○	○

<p>The strategy will reduce the supply of housing in rural communities and as a consequence may raise house prices, possibly disadvantaging young people from accessing the housing market in their communities of birth.</p> <p>An increase in population focused towards urban areas will provide greater access to new homes close to services and facilities which will benefit all age groups.</p> <p>The needs of all age groups should be taken into account to ensure they are met. For example, there is a potential impact relating to age and the type of housing required; however, it is</p>	<p>Urban concentration provides for greater opportunity of access for future residents to main services and facilities. Much will depend on the type of housing provided through local plans.</p>	<p>No impact</p>	<p>Access to services and facilities and support networks is likely to be improved on the periphery of the city although the level of growth expected in market towns and other settlements is not likely to substantially increase and the impact is therefore likely to be neutral in this respect.</p>	<p>It is acknowledged that the city has a high population of ethnic minorities and there is a recognised conveyor of families out to the suburbs. This option provides further opportunity for people living in the city to move out to the suburbs/edge of Leicester.</p>	<p>Urban areas will have a wider range of faith communities and related buildings / facilities compared to elsewhere, Placing housing within proximity to these is likely to have a positive impact due to ease of access.</p>	<p>No Impact</p>	<p>No Impact</p>	
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acknowledged this will be assessed through local plans								
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\* Rural isolation, deprivation, health inequality, carers, asylum seeker and refugee communities, looked after children, deprived or disadvantaged communities, community cohesion

# Strategic Growth Plan Equality & Human Rights Impact Assessment

## 2) Emphasise development in and immediately around the market towns of Coalville, Hinckley, Loughborough, Market Harborough and Melton Mowbray, with growth elsewhere constrained.

This alternative would involve a focus on the option of concentration on key settlements, namely the established market town settlements. The availability of redevelopment sites within these towns is very unlikely to meet the level of growth required, although delivery on any sites identified should be assumed at an increased density (an element of urban intensification). The assumption must be that most development would be delivered via a number of SUEs around the market towns.

The housing growth within Leicester itself would proceed at a level beneath that currently identified as representing the likely development capacity. Housing growth beyond the built-up area of the city and in the rural areas would be limited. The option of providing a new settlement would not be pursued. Under this alternative there would be scope to emphasise the employment-generating potential of Leicester, with the growth in jobs being significantly greater than that possible under alternative 1. The potential for job growth on new or expanded freestanding employment sites would remain.

Broad assumptions:

- ) Up to 10% of homes provided within the urban area of Leicester
- ) Up to 15% of homes provided on the periphery of Leicester
- ) At least 60% of homes provided in/adjacent to the 5 main market towns
- ) Up to 15% of homes provided in smaller settlements

Age	Disability	Gender Reassignment	Pregnancy & Maternity	Race	Religion/ Belief	Sex	Sexual Orientation	Other groups*
↓	↑	○	○	○	○/↓	○	○	○
The strategy will increase the supply of housing in market towns and as a consequence it	Concentrating growth in market towns provides for greater opportunity of access for future residents to	No impact	This option will provide greater opportunity to improve services and	It is acknowledged that the city has a high population of ethnic minorities and there is a	The faith communities in market towns are likely to be less well represented than the city, which may	No Impact	No Impact	Neutral

<p>may raise house prices in the city and in rural areas possibly disadvantaging young people from accessing the housing market in these communities.</p> <p>An increase in population focused towards market towns will provide greater access to new homes close to services and facilities which will benefit all age groups.</p> <p>The needs of all age groups should be taken into account to ensure they are met. For example, there is a potential impact relating to age and the type of housing required; however, it is acknowledged this will be assessed through local plans</p>	<p>services and facilities. However, access to main services such as hospitals is diminished. Much will depend on the type of housing provided through local plans</p>		<p>facilities and support networks in market towns although the level of access in rural areas are unlikely to gain such a positive impact. The impact on the city is likely to remain neutral.</p>	<p>recognised conveyor of families out to the suburbs. This option may limit the choice of people to relocate to these and adjoining areas of Leicester and instead directs them to market towns, potentially affecting support networks of communities and families.</p>	<p>impact on the ability for people to access specific places of worship.</p>			
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<p>A particular focus will be required on ensuring an appropriate range of services and facilities are planned for through local plans to support the growth in market towns.</p>								
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\* Rural isolation, deprivation, health inequality, carers, asylum seeker and refugee communities, looked after children, deprived or disadvantaged communities, community cohesion

# Strategic Growth Plan Equality & Human Rights Impact Assessment

## 3) Emphasise development in the vicinity of known economic growth areas and associated infrastructure investment, with growth elsewhere constrained.

This alternative would involve a focus on the option of employment-led growth, linked to the option of growth corridors where there are employment areas that are well served by public transport. The acknowledged major economic generators include East Midlands Airport, the wider East Midlands Enterprise Gateway, Loughborough Science and Enterprise Park, Charnwood Bio Medical Campus, Leicester Science Park, Leicester city centre, and the MIRA Horiba Enterprise Zone. Magna Park is an additional generator and may become more so assuming known plans for its expansion are realised prior to 2031. Given these growth locations, this alternative may include the option of providing one or more new settlements or the option of pursuing a growth corridor associated with major infrastructure investment.

The housing growth within Leicester should be assumed to proceed at the level currently identified as representing the likely development capacity. This would enable continued job growth within the city area. With the exceptions of Loughborough and Hinckley, both housing and job growth at the market towns would be constrained. Conversely, there could be significant housing growth at other key settlements that are closely associated with an economic growth point or in locations within a planned infrastructure investment corridor.

Broad assumptions:

- ) At least 10% of homes provided within the urban area of Leicester
- ) At least 30% of homes provided on the periphery of Leicester
- ) At least 30% of homes provided in/adjacent to Hinckley, Coalville and Loughborough
- ) Up to 15% of homes provided in/adjacent to Market Harborough and Melton Mowbray
- ) Up to 15% of homes provided in smaller settlements

Age	Disability	Gender Reassignment	Pregnancy & Maternity	Race	Religion/ Belief	Sex	Sexual Orientation	Other groups*
↓	↑	○	○	○/↑	○/↑	○	○	○

<p>The strategy favours those of working age in linking new homes to areas of employment growth. There is a possibility that the needs of older people and their choices of location will be limited.</p> <p>There is potential for impact relating to age and the type of housing required; its acknowledged this will be assessed through local plans</p>	<p>Concentrating growth in employment areas provides the best opportunity to live close to jobs, which will provide additional advantage for some people. However, it is recognised the strategy works against a minority of those with a disability who cannot work or whose ability to work is limited.</p> <p>Much will depend on the type of housing provided through local plans</p>	<p>No impact</p>	<p>This option will provide greater opportunity to improve services and facilities and support networks in identified areas of growth although the level of access in rural areas are unlikely to gain such a positive impact. The impact on the city, Market Harborough and Melton is likely to remain neutral.</p>	<p>It is acknowledged that the city has a high population of ethnic minorities and there is a recognised conveyor of families out to the suburbs. This option provides further opportunity for people living in the city to move out to the suburbs/edge of Leicester.</p>	<p>This option presents an opportunity to realise reasonable access to faith community and related facilities to a wider sector of the population and enabling greater access to the support networks within those communities.</p>	<p>No Impact</p>	<p>No Impact</p>	<p>Neutral</p>
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\* Rural isolation, deprivation, health inequality, carers, asylum seeker and refugee communities, looked after children, deprived or disadvantaged communities, community cohesion

# Strategic Growth Plan Equality & Human Rights Impact Assessment

## 4) Emphasise the option of growth being accommodated via new and expanded settlements, with constraints on growth in other key settlements and the urban area of Leicester.

This alternative would involve a focus on the option of delivering growth via the significant expansion of existing smaller scale settlements or the creation of entirely new settlements. For the purpose of assessing this alternative it should be assumed that four new or expanded settlements are to be brought forward, one each in the areas generally to the north, south, east and west of the City of Leicester. Each new settlement would make provision for job growth.

The housing growth within Leicester should be assumed to proceed at or below the level currently identified as representing the likely development capacity. This would enable continued job growth within the city area. Housing and job growth at the market towns and elsewhere across the rural areas would be more constrained.

Broad assumptions:

- ) At least 50% of homes provided in new/expanded settlements
- ) Up to 10% of homes provided within the urban area of Leicester
- ) Up to 15% of homes provided on the periphery of Leicester
- ) Up to 15% of homes provided in/adjacent to the 5 main market towns
- Up to 10% of homes provided in smaller settlements

Age	Disability	Gender Reassignment	Pregnancy & Maternity	Race	Religion/ Belief	Sex	Sexual Orientation	Other groups*
○	○	○	○	↓	↓	○	○	○
The impact of the strategy on this factor is dependent on the location and size of the new	The impact of the strategy on this factor is dependent on the location and size of the new settlements. There	No impact	The impact of the strategy on this factor is dependent on the location and size of the	It is acknowledged that the city has a high population of ethnic minorities and there is a	access to places of worship may be reduced particularly in the early stages of developing the new communities. This is	No Impact	No Impact	Neutral

<p>settlements. There is potential to cater for all age groups in a sustainably planned scheme; however, communities grow over time and there is a risk that the new settlements don't fulfil their full potential for some years leaving some groups disadvantaged. The more limited growth in the city under this option could also affect access to major services.</p>	<p>is potential to cater for disabled people in a sustainably planned scheme; however, communities grow over time and there is a risk that the new settlements don't fulfil their full potential for some years leaving some groups disadvantaged. The more limited growth in the city under this option could also affect access to major services.</p> <p>Much will depend on the type of housing provided through local plans</p>		<p>new settlements. There is potential for sustainably planned schemes to incorporate health services; however, communities grow over time and there is a risk that the new settlements don't fulfil their full potential for some years leaving some groups disadvantage. The more limited growth in the city under this option could also affect access to major services.</p>	<p>recognised conveyor of families out to the suburbs. This option limits the opportunity for people living in the city to move out to the suburbs/edge of Leicester. New settlements provide an opportunity to cater for people's needs irrespective of background in a sustainably planned scheme; however, communities grow over time and there is a risk that the new settlements don't fulfil their full potential for some years leaving some groups disadvantaged.</p>	<p>an issue that should be addressed in local plans.</p>			
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# Strategic Growth Plan Equality & Human Rights Impact Assessment

## 5) Dispersed growth

This alternative would involve a much less focused pattern of growth, involving in particular a higher proportion of development in the smaller settlements. A higher proportion of new homes would be provided on medium and small scale sites and many of the smaller settlements would be likely to grow at a rate in excess of that experienced historically. There would be less likelihood that new homes and job opportunities would be created via mixed-use developments. A lower proportion of development is likely to be delivered on previously used land.

Broad assumptions:

- ) Up to 10% of homes provided within the urban area of Leicester
- ) Up to 20% of homes provided on the periphery of Leicester
- ) Up to 30% of homes provided in/adjacent to the 5 main market towns
- ) Up to 40% of homes provided in smaller settlements

Age	Disability	Gender Reassignment	Pregnancy & Maternity	Race	Religion/ Belief	Sex	Sexual Orientation	Other groups*
○	○/↓	○	○	↓	↓	○	○	○
The strategy will increase the supply of housing in rural communities and as a consequence it will give opportunity of access to the housing market in these communities.	There is potential for some disabled people to become isolated as a consequence of this option. Access to personal transport or suitable public transport services will be important.	No impact	The impact on this factor is dependent on the scale of distribution to smaller settlements and the range of support networks already in place.	It is acknowledged that the city has a high population of ethnic minorities and there is a recognised conveyor of families out to the suburbs. This option limits the opportunity for people living in	The dispersal of development would limit access to existing faith buildings and the support of existing faith communities.	No Impact	No Impact	Neutral

<p>However, this is only an advantage if you are working or have access to personal transport.</p> <p>There is potential for impact relating to age and the type of housing required; its acknowledged this will be assessed through local plans</p>	<p>Much will depend on the type and location of housing provided through local plans.</p>		<p>The limited growth in the city under this option could also affect access to major services.</p>	<p>the city to move out to the suburbs/edge of Leicester. Smaller settlements grow over time and there is a risk that the new additions to settlements don't meet the needs of a diverse community leaving some groups disadvantaged.</p>				
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\* Rural isolation, deprivation, health inequality, carers, asylum seeker and refugee communities, looked after children, deprived or disadvantaged communities, community cohesion

# Strategic Growth Plan Equality & Human Rights Impact Assessment

## 6) Continuation of established trends

This alternative would involve a focus on the options of sustainable urban extensions (to both the main urban area of Leicester and the market towns), potentially with elements of urban intensification and more widely dispersed growth. It generally reflects the approach promoted by the RSS but subsequently influenced by speculative development proposals coming through the development management process. Housing growth within Leicester should be assumed to proceed at the level currently identified as representing the likely development capacity, enabling continued job growth within the city. Housing growth would be accommodated in and adjacent to the established market towns, through limited urban intensification but more predominantly through SUEs. A larger proportion of the housing growth would be accommodated within and around other key rural settlements and there would be some expansion on the periphery of the city. Job growth would also be more dispersed, although the likelihood of ongoing growth at and around the acknowledged major economic generators should be assumed.

Broad assumptions:

- ) Up to 25% of homes provided within the urban area of Leicester
- ) Up to 25% of homes provided on the periphery of Leicester
- ) Up to 30% of homes provided in/adjacent to the 5 main market towns
- Up to 20% of homes provided in smaller settlements

Age	Disability	Gender Reassignment	Pregnancy & Maternity	Race	Religion/ Belief	Sex	Sexual Orientation	Other groups*
↓	↑	○	○/↑	○	○/↑	○	○	○
The strategy will reduce the supply of housing in rural communities and as a consequence it will raise house prices possibly	This option provides for greater opportunity of access for future residents to main services and facilities. Much will depend on the type	No impact	Access to services and facilities and support networks is likely to be improved on the periphery	It is acknowledged that the city has a high population of ethnic minorities and there is a recognised conveyor of	Urban areas will have a wider range of faith communities and related buildings / facilities compared to elsewhere. Placing much of the housing within proximity to	No Impact	No Impact	

<p>disadvantaging young people from accessing the housing market in these communities</p> <p>An increase in population focused towards urban areas will provide greater access to new homes close to services and facilities which will benefit all age groups but this approach needs to take account of the needs of all age groups to ensure needs are met</p> <p>There is potential for impact relating to age and the type of housing required; its acknowledged this will be assessed through local plans</p>	<p>of housing provided through local plans</p>		<p>of the city and market towns although the level of growth expected in smaller settlements is not likely to substantially increase and the impact is therefore likely to be neutral in this respect.</p>	<p>families out to the suburbs. This option provides some opportunity for people living in the city to move out to the suburbs/edge of Leicester though there is a majority of development focussed beyond the urban area.</p>	<p>these is likely to have a positive impact due to access.</p>			
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# Strategic Growth Plan Equality & Human Rights Impact Assessment

## 7) Preferred Strategy

**Emphasise development in three strategic growth areas (each associated with planned employment growth and infrastructure investment) and at the key centres of Lutterworth and Melton Mowbray; managed growth in the City of Leicester and at Coalville, Loughborough and Market Harborough; growth in other locations restricted to that justified to meet local need.**

This alternative would involve a combination of the following growth options:

- ) Urban intensification
- ) Sustainable Urban Extensions
- ) Concentration on key settlements
- ) Growth 'corridors'
- ) Employment-led growth

It would require the provision of housing, potentially at increased density, on underused land, land currently in other uses and some undeveloped land within the urban area. The option would require Sustainable Urban Extensions (SUEs) and/or new freestanding settlements within the growth corridor fringing the existing southern and eastern edges of the main urban area and within the 'gateway' growth areas. It would also require SUEs at Lutterworth and Melton Mowbray.

The housing growth elsewhere would be less extensive than that planned for over the period 2011-2031. The amount of housing growth at the other market towns, at other key settlements and in the rural area would be carefully managed. The distribution of housing growth in and around Leicester and at the 'gateway' locations would be accompanied by employment growth in all these locations.

Broad assumptions:

- ) Around 15% of homes provided within the main urban area including Leicester
- ) At least 30% of homes provided in the growth corridor on the periphery of Leicester
- ) Around 30% of homes provided within the 'gateway' growth areas
- ) At least 5% of homes provided at the key centres of Lutterworth and Melton Mowbray
- ) Up to 10% of homes provided in/adjacent to the other main market towns
- ) Up to 10% of homes provided in smaller settlements

Age	Disability	Gender Reassignment	Pregnancy & Maternity	Race	Religion/ Belief	Sex	Sexual Orientation	Other groups*
↓	↑	○	○	↑	○/↑	○	○	○
<p>The strategy favours those of working age in linking new homes to areas of employment growth. Possibility that the needs of older people and their choices of location will be limited.</p> <p>There is potential for impact relating to age and the type of housing required; its acknowledged this will be assessed through local plans</p>	<p>Concentrating growth in employment areas provides the best opportunity to live close to jobs, which will provide additional advantage for some people. However, it is recognised the strategy works against a minority of those with a disability who cannot work or whose ability to work is limited.</p> <p>Much will depend on the type of housing provided through local plans</p>	No impact	<p>This option will provide greater opportunity to improve services and facilities and support networks in identified areas of growth although the level of access in rural areas are unlikely to gain such a positive impact. The impact on the city, Loughborough and Market Harborough is likely to remain neutral.</p>	<p>It is acknowledged that the city has a high population of ethnic minorities and there is a recognised conveyor of families out to the suburbs. This option provides further opportunity for people living in the city to move out to the suburbs/edge of Leicester.</p>	<p>This option presents an opportunity to realise reasonable access to faith community and related facilities to a wider sector of the population and enabling greater access to the support networks within those communities.</p>	No Impact	No Impact	Neutral

## Strategic Growth Plan Equality & Human Rights Impact Assessment

<b>Article 2: Right to life</b>	No impact
<b>Article 3: Prohibition of torture</b>	No impact
<b>Article 4: Prohibition of slavery and forced labour</b>	No impact
<b>Article 5: Right to liberty and security</b>	No impact
<b>Article 6: Right to a fair trial</b>	Neutral impact – the plan-making process has been carried out in consultation with the public and stakeholders. It will be important to ensure that the subsequent local plans are prepared in a transparent and equitable way and are subject to Examination in Public.
<b>Article 7: No punishment without law</b>	No Impact
<b>Article 8: Right to respect for private and family life</b>	Positive effect - this option may potentially have an impact upon the human rights of individuals, particularly Gypsy & Traveller rights.
<b>Article 9: Freedom of thought, conscience and religion</b>	No Impact
<b>Article 10: Freedom of expression</b>	Neutral impact – the plan-making process has been carried out in consultation with the public and stakeholders. It will be important to ensure that the subsequent local plans are prepared in a transparent and equitable way and are subject to Examination in Public.
<b>Article 11: Freedom of assembly and association</b>	No Impact
<b>Article 12: Right to marry</b>	No Impact

<b>Article 14: Prohibition of discrimination</b>	No Impact
<b>Part 2; Article 1: Protection of property</b>	Negative – new development may require the use of compulsory purchase powers.
<b>Part 2; Article 2: Right to education</b>	No Impact
<b>Part 2; Article 3: Right to free elections</b>	No Impact
<b>Comment/ how differential impact has been addressed in Strategic Growth Plan</b>	TBC