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Sent: 21 January 2025 10:22
To: LBC Local Plan
Cc: Gill Cowie; Kim Wilson
Subject: Luton Local Plan - Issues and Options

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Good morning,

Please find below our responses to your questions on the Duty to Co-operate paper.

1. Do you agree that the correct strategic matters have been identified? Yes – see question 2 also.

2. Should any additional strategic matters be added to the list? The green belt review - whilst Bedford Borough does not have any green belt within its boundaries, there are potentially direct implications for Bedford resulting from the outcomes of the study were it to show that CBC and / or LBC could not meet their growth requirements without seeking to export housing and / or employment requirements to Bedford Borough. If there is any likelihood that LBC will be asking BBC to take growth from Luton then BBC must be involved in the study.

It would be beneficial to keep Green Infrastructure as a strategic matter due to the preparation and implementation of the LNRS.

At the first duty to cooperate meeting we agreed that we would not include provision of Gypsy and Traveller accommodation as a strategic matter but Luton to flag ASAP if the situation changes.

3. Do you agree that the council has identified the correct relevant authorities and bodies to cooperate with on each strategic matter? Yes

4. Do you agree with the proposed methods of engagement for your organisation? Table 4 identifies the stages where DtC bodies will be consulted. The document does not clarify the precise forms of engagement however we are happy to meet face to face or on Teams.

5. Do you have any suggestions for how the council could encourage or improve cooperation on strategic matters? Perhaps more topic based meetings would be effective where there are matters that concern a number of different authorities such as highways. Instead of or perhaps in addition to meeting individually.

Please contact us if you require any further clarification.

Many thanks

Sonia Gallaher
Senior Planner

Planning Policy

Bedford Borough Council



Borough Hall



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