



<b>Policy, Finance and Development Committee</b>	<b>Tuesday, 16 June 2026</b>	<b>Matter for Decision</b>
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**Report Title:** **Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Warehousing  
Statement of Common Ground (2026)**

**Report Author(s):** **Ed Morgan (Senior Planning Policy Officer)**

<b>Purpose of Report:</b>	The purpose of this report is to seek Committee's approval of the Leicester and Leicestershire Statement of Common Ground relating to Strategic Warehousing Need that has been jointly prepared by Local Authorities within the Leicester and Leicestershire (L&L) Housing Market Area (HMA) and Functional Economic Area (FEMA) at Appendix 1 to this report. It represents an up-to-date factual statement of the current position in Leicester and Leicestershire.
<b>Report Summary:</b>	This report provides information on a Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) which has been prepared by the Leicester and Leicestershire authorities to demonstrate co-operation in plan making. The key strategic matter covered is Leicester and Leicestershire strategic warehousing floorspace need to 2046 and the apportionment of strategic warehousing need up to 2046.
<b>Recommendation(s):</b>	<b>That the Committee approves the signing of the Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) which has been prepared by the Leicester and Leicestershire authorities.</b>
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<b>Strategic Objectives:</b>	<p>Our Council (SO1)</p> <p>Our Communities (SO2)</p> <p>Our Economy (SO3)</p> <p>Our Environment (SO4)</p> <p>Our Partners (SO5)</p>
<b>Vision and Values:</b>	<p>"Our Borough - The place to be" (Vision)</p> <p>Customer Focused - We do the best for our customers (V4)</p>
<b>Report Implications:-</b>	

Legal:	The implications are as set out at paragraph 1.2 of this report.
Financial:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Corporate Risk Management:	Political Dynamics (CR3) Reputation Damage (CR4) Key Supplier / Partnership Failure (CR2) Economy / Regeneration (CR9)
Equalities and Equalities Assessment (EA):	There are no implications arising from this report. EA not applicable
Human Rights:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Health and Safety:	There are no implications arising from this report.
<b>Statutory Officers' Comments:-</b>	
Head of Paid Service:	The report is satisfactory.
Chief Finance Officer:	The report is satisfactory.
Monitoring Officer:	The report is satisfactory.
<b>Consultees:</b>	None.
<b>Background Papers:</b>	<a href="#">Leicester &amp; Leicestershire: Strategic Distribution Floorspace Needs Update and Apportionment (Oct 2025)</a>
<b>Appendices:</b>	<b>1.</b> Leicester & Leicestershire Authorities - Statement of Common Ground Relating to Strategic Warehousing Need (2026)

## 1. Information

- 1.1 As part of the Local Plan process, local planning authorities must cooperate with their neighbouring local authority areas on strategic matters, including strategic warehousing growth. A Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) is one of the mechanisms available to evidence that this has been achieved. Across Leicester and Leicestershire (L&L), the local planning authorities are progressing their respective plans, although each is currently at a different stage of development.
- 1.2 It should be noted that whilst the Minister of State for Housing and Planning wrote to Local Planning Authorities on 27th November 2025 stating the intention that the Duty to Co-operate is to be removed from Legislation the letter also says that 'LPAs should continue to collaborate across their boundaries, including on unmet development needs from neighbouring areas' and therefore this SoCG meets that requirement.
- 1.3 Members will be aware that a SoCG was produced in 2021 relating to Strategic Warehousing & Logistics Need. The 2021 SoCG set out the L&L need for strategic warehousing at the time and next steps to ensure the needs of the sector are appropriately planned for, including the following: "*The Authorities remain committed to cooperating on strategic cross boundary matters, including agreeing the distribution of large warehousing need.*"
- 1.4 This SoCG (2026) replaces the previous SoCG (2021) capturing the outcomes of the further joint work and agrees the apportionment of strategic warehousing need across

L&L for further testing through plan-making. This Statement will be reconfirmed and updated as necessary. The full text of the SoCG 2026 is included in Appendix A.

### **Key Strategic Matters on which the Authorities Agree**

- 1.5 The authorities agree that there is a long-established and effective track record of joint working on cross-boundary strategic matters across L&L. This collaborative approach has consistently encompassed the key strategic issues identified in this statement. The authorities have maintained ongoing engagement with one another on these matters throughout the preparation of Local Plans across the HMA and FEMA.
- 1.6 The authorities agree the Leicester & Leicestershire: Strategic Distribution Floorspace Needs Update and Apportionment (Oct 2025) is the most up-to-date cooperatively produced evidence on the needs of the strategic warehousing need to 2046 to inform planning across L&L.
- 1.7 The authorities agree that in the case of Oadby and Wigston Borough Council (OWBC), the Borough will be apportioned 0 (zero) sqm of strategic warehousing floorspace to 2046.

## **2. Conclusion**

- 2.1 L&L Officers have been working with their counterparts from the other local planning authorities within the L&L HMA and FEMA in the apportionment and management of strategic warehousing floorspace for the period 2023-2046.
- 2.2 It is therefore important that Councils sign the SoCG to enable continued progression of Local Plan work.
- 2.3 The SoCG is also being considered by all other local authorities in L&L with the same recommendation for approval.