

BRIEFING NOTE

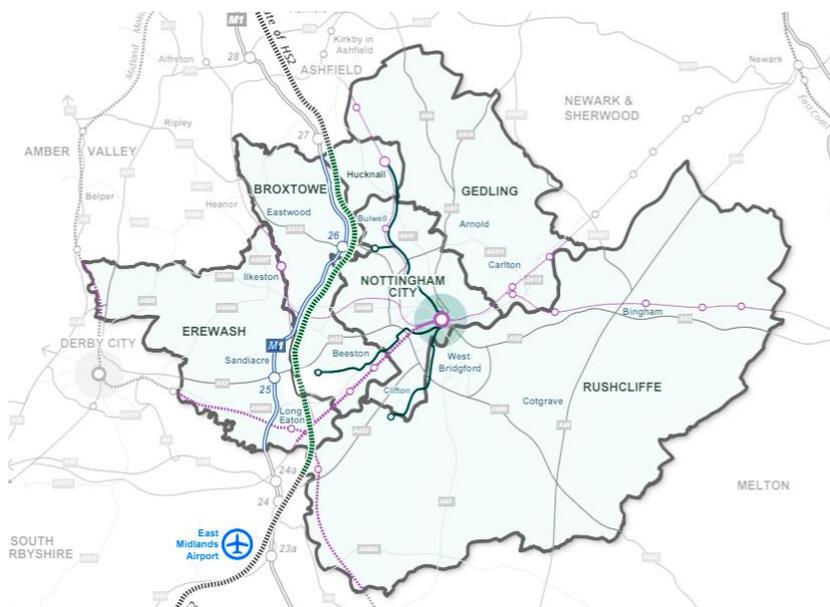
The aim of this briefing note is:

To provide a background to the work which is being undertaken in preparing Strategic Development Plans across the Greater Nottingham area.

What is the Greater Nottingham Planning Partnership?

The Greater Nottingham Planning Partnership (GNPP) was established in 2008. This included the creation of the Joint Planning Advisory Board (JPAB), formed by leading Councillors, which meets quarterly and oversees the preparation of strategic plans in the Greater Nottingham area.

The Partnership includes the Councils of Ashfield, Broxtowe, Erewash, Gedling, Nottingham City and Rushcliffe and the two associated County Councils of Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire.



The main aim of the Partnership is to prepare strategic development plans which are consistent and provide a coherent policy framework across the area. It also seeks to address the 'Duty to Cooperate' which requires councils to work together on strategic matters.

Successful past working resulted in the adoption of 2014 Local Plans (this included the Aligned Core Strategies).

Why do we work together to plan on a strategic scale?

By working as a Partnership, sustainable growth can be planned for across a sensible geography which extends beyond administrative boundaries.

The area is defined as a Housing Market Area (HMA) and a Functional Economic Market Area (FEMA). These are the areas in which people move to live and work and it is where local economies and markets operate. Whilst Ashfield District is in the Outer Nottingham HMA, along with Mansfield and Newark and Sherwood, the Hucknall part relates strongly to Greater Nottingham.

There are significant benefits from working together which include:

- Saving significant money through preparing a joint evidence base
- Sharing joint skills and expertise
- Providing homes and jobs where they are needed
- Providing infrastructure, services and facilities across the area (including schools and health centres)
- Enhancing connections between areas, particularly enhancing 'blue and green' infrastructure (including rivers, parks and open spaces).

What have we done so far?

The Councils of Broxtowe, Gedling, Nottingham City and Rushcliffe are preparing a Strategic Plan. A Growth Options Consultation was carried out in July 2020 and February 2021 which asked a range of questions relating to issues including housing, employment, climate change, infrastructure and the Green Belt.

Ashfield District Council is producing a separate plan and carried out a consultation on their Draft Local Plan between October and November 2021.

Erewash Borough Council is carrying out a review of their Core Strategy and carried out a Growth Options consultation in March 2021.

The Councils are working together to produce joint evidence documents. This has included an Employment Land Needs Study, a Housing Needs Assessment and a Blue and Green Infrastructure Strategy.

What are we trying to achieve?

The objective is to produce Strategic Plans across the Greater Nottingham area which will deliver sustainable growth including the housing, jobs and infrastructure which people need.

The Joint Planning Advisory Board has held four Councillor workshops where key principles have been supported:

- Tackling and adapting to the impacts of climate change and a focus on achieving carbon neutrality;
- Delivering environmental net gains alongside new developments and protecting and enhancing Blue and Green Infrastructure including rivers, open spaces and landscapes;
- Strategy based around urban living (but not urban intensification);
- Creating sustainable and 'beautiful' places with an enhanced quality of life for residents by promoting the '15 minute neighbourhood' approach;
- Providing the required infrastructure (including schools, health services, transport and open space) at the right time;
- Supporting Covid-19 recovery with the City and town centres having key roles; and
- Maximising the economic development potential of key sites including at Ratcliffe-upon-Soar power station, Toton/Chetwynd and the wider Broadmarsh area.

What are the next steps?

The Government has set a deadline for updated plans to be in place by the end of 2023. The draft Strategic Plan was originally intended to be published this year but has been delayed due to the uncertainties around HS2 and planning reform.

The Councils will need to consider the implications of the recent HS2 announcement on the Strategic Plan, in particular whether there are any consequences for the distribution and scale of housing and employment development to be planned for.

The Government's 'Standard Methodology' is used to calculate housing need, which is the starting point for the amount of housing the Strategic Plan will have to deliver. To meet the Standard Methodology figure, between 2021 and 2038, around 70,000 houses would need to be provided for in updated Local Plans. Most of this housing is already identified in existing Local Plans and in planning permissions. There is still a need to agree how development will be distributed.

We are currently working as a Partnership to find an acceptable solution which will allow for the area's housing needs to be fully met, and for the publication of a draft Strategic Plan for public consultation later in 2022.