



Birmingham Development Plan 2031 Examination

Wyre Forest District Council's Written Statement

**Matter F: The Duty to Co-operate in respect
of strategic matters.**

Matter F – The Duty to Co-operate in respect of Strategic Matters.**1. Have the Council complied with the requirements of section 33A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004?**

1.1 Wyre Forest District Council signed an agreement under the Duty to Co-operate with Birmingham City Council with regard to the emerging Birmingham Development Plan in May 2014. (As set out in Appendix 19 of the Birmingham Development Plan Duty to Co-operate Statement (Ref DC2). In this statement we agreed the following with Birmingham City Council:

“The major issues concern the scale of the housing requirement, the extent to which capacity exists or can be identified within Birmingham’s boundary and then the scale and distribution of any resultant shortfall. The Birmingham Development Plan sets out Birmingham City Council’s position in respect of these matters and it is envisaged by the parties’ signatory to this document that the satisfactory resolution of these issues will be achieved through:

- 1) Completion of the GBSLEP Strategic Housing Needs Study
- 2) Distribution of the overall housing need and the resultant overspill housing through the second iteration of the GBSLEP Strategic Spatial Framework Plan and through arrangements negotiated with other authorities beyond the GBSLEP as justified by the evidence
- 3) Subsequent accommodation of the overspill growth in the review of Local Plans in adjoining areas. This approach is accepted by the parties signatory to this document”

1.2 There is no common boundary between Wyre Forest District and Birmingham City Council. However, Wyre Forest is one of the nine local authorities covered by the Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership (GBSLEP). The Council is therefore actively

involved in the current strategic housing needs study and the development of the GBSLEP Strategic Spatial Framework Plan. It is considered that through our involvement in these groups, the Council has been able to gain a thorough understanding of the potential implications arising from Birmingham's future growth requirements as well as being able to put our views forward under the Duty to Co-operate Requirements.

- 1.3 Evidence suggests that Wyre Forest District has weaker links with the Birmingham Housing Market Area, although it does have stronger flows with the Black Country authorities.
- 1.4 Wyre Forest District Council will commence its Local Plan Review in summer 2015, which will include a review of the current Adopted Core Strategy (December 2010). The timetable of the review will allow full consideration of the above mentioned common evidence base following the publication of the GBSLEP Housing Needs Assessment work and the emerging Spatial Plan for Recovery and Growth.
- 1.5 The District Council therefore considers that with respect to engagement with our authority, Birmingham City Council has fully complied with the requirements of section 33A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

Rebecca Mayman
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12th September 2014.