

Meeting:	<b>Joint Committee on Strategic Planning and Transport</b>
Date:	10 June 2022
From:	Joint Officer Steering Group

## **Greater Nottingham Joint Planning Advisory Board Update**

### **1 Summary**

- 1.1 The Greater Nottingham Joint Planning Advisory Board (JPAB) oversees the preparation of aligned Local Plans across Greater Nottingham, and the implementation of projects funded through the partnership. This report updates the Joint Committee on the work of JPAB, and other strategic planning matters within the remit of the Committee.

### **2 Background**

- 2.1 The last meeting of JPAB was held on 6 June 2022, given the proximity of that meeting to this Joint Committee, the latest available approved minutes are from the meeting held on 10 December 2021 are included below. The meeting agenda papers are available to view at <http://www.gnplan.org.uk/about-gnpp/joint-planning-advisory-board-meetings/>.
- 2.2 The meeting on 7 June 2022 had not happened at the time of writing this report, but the agenda includes a recommendation to progress the Strategic Plan for Broxtowe, Gedling, Nottingham City and Rushcliffe. If agreed the Strategic Plan will be prepared on the basis of each council meeting its own housing need as determined by the Government's standard method (plus appropriate locally determined buffer), except for Nottingham City. The Strategic Plan will provide for the City to meet as much of its housing need plus 35% uplift as it can, as set out in the Nottingham City Capacity Paper "The Standard Method for Assessing Housing Need in Nottingham City" which was presented to the March meeting of JPAB. It is not proposed for the City Council's remaining unmet need to be met elsewhere in Greater Nottingham.
- 2.3 The main risk associated with this approach is that an Inspector may find the Strategic Plan not sound at examination, leading to either a revised housing distribution or withdrawal of the Strategic Plan. However, the unmet housing need is part of the 35% uplift, and therefore not evidenced in terms of actual local housing need, nor in terms of delivery. The National Planning Practice Guidance also references the 35% uplift and states that "This increase in the number of homes to be delivered in urban areas is expected to be met by the cities and urban centres themselves, rather than the surrounding areas, unless it would conflict with national policy and legal obligations." Whilst the National Planning Policy Framework is national policy, and includes the need to positively prepare local plans, "so that unmet need from neighbouring

areas is accommodated where it is practical to do so and is consistent with achieving sustainable development”, provision elsewhere in Greater Nottingham would entail development in the Green Belt, which the Government has made clear can only happen in exceptional circumstances. In addition, the government’s consideration of the local housing delivery target may review the approach to the 35% uplift with greater sensitivity to local challenges and evidence

- 2.4 If this approach is agreed by JPAB, it is proposed that a ‘Preferred Approach’ version of the Strategic Plan be prepared, which would focus on the strategy, housing provision, and the strategic sites required to meet the housing provision. The aim would be to consult on the Preferred Approach in the autumn, and publish a full Pre Submission version of the Strategic Plan in the summer of 2023 prior to submission for examination later in the year.
- 2.5 Other items considered included the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill, Aligned Core Strategy Monitoring, the Joint Board’s budget for 2022/23, and updates on Homes England Capacity Funding and on the Joint Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Local Plan.

### **3 Recommendation(s)**

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Joint Committee note the contents of this report.

### **4 Background papers referred to in compiling this report**

- 4.1 JPAB Papers, 6 June 2021

### **Contact Officer**

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APPENDIX 1

<b>ITEM 3</b>	<b>MINUTES OF THE GREATER NOTTINGHAM JOINT PLANNING ADVISORY BOARD (JPAB) MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 14 DECEMBER 2021 VIA MS TEAMS</b>
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**PRESENT**

**Ashfield:** Councillor M Relf

**Broxtowe:** Councillor M Radulovic (Chair); Councillor D Watts

**City:** Councillor L Woodings

**Gedling:** Councillor J Hollingsworth

**Erewash:** Councillor M Powell (Vice Chair)

**Nottinghamshire County:** Councillor N Clarke; Councillor R Jackson

**Rushcliffe:** Councillor R Upton

**Officers in Attendance**

**Ashfield:** Christine Sarris

**Broxtowe:** Tom Genway; Ruth Hyde; Dave Lawson

**Derbyshire County:** Steve Buffery

**Erewash:** Oliver Dove; Adam Reddish

**Gedling:** Alison Gibson; Mike Avery

**Growth Point:** Matthew Gregory; Peter McAnespie; Mark Thompson

**Nottingham City:** Paul Seddon

**Nottinghamshire County:** Sally Gill; Stephen Pointer

**Rushcliffe:** Richard Mapletoft

**East Midlands Councils:** Andrew Pritchard (presentation)

**Observers**

Ian Allcock

Leanne Ashmore

David Bainbridge

Sienna Barbour

James Beverly

David Blackadder-

Weinstein

Adrian Cox

Joe Drewry

Tom Dillarstone

Robert Galij

Rob Gilmore

P Goldsmith

Chris Gowlett

Suzi Green

Katie Hancock

Kevin Hard

Greg Hutton

Steve Freek

Suzi Green

Gary Lees

Cllr Wayne Major

Rob Millbank

Richard Naylor

Richard Pitt

Jonathan Protherone

Ryan Simpson

Angela Smedley

Paul Stone

Phillipa Ward (notes)

Rob Webster

Colin Wilkinson

## Apologies

**Broxtowe:** Ryan Dawson

**Derbyshire County:** Councillor Carolyn Renwick

**Erewash:** Steve Birkinshaw

**Nottingham City:** Councillor Sally Longford; James Ashton

**Nottinghamshire County:** Adrian Smith

**Rushcliffe:** Andrew Pegram; Andrew Ashcroft

**EMDevCo:** Ken Harrison

**Environment Agency:** Nick Wakefield

### 1. Introductions and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting and apologies were noted.

### 2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

### 3. Approval of Minutes of the Last Meeting and Matters Arising

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 29 June 2021 were approved. Matters arising would be covered under agenda items during the meeting.

### 4. Joint Planning Advisory Board Terms of Reference (Matt Gregory)

- 4.1 MG advised that the Board reviewed its Terms of Reference (ToR) periodically to ensure that they remained relevant and up to date. The ToR were attached to the report with minor changes highlighted in yellow. These were agreed.

**Joint Planning Advisory Board was resolved to REVIEW the current Joint Planning Advisory Board Terms of Reference, and proposed amendments, and CONSIDER whether further changes are required.**

### 5. HS2 and the Integrated Rail Plan (Andrew Pritchard)

- 5.1 AP presented a summary of the Integrated Rail Plan (IRP) and its effects on the East Midlands, particularly in relation to East Midlands Parkway and Toton. A timeline showed the confirmed projects over a 25-year period up to 2045. Individual schemes would need to be assessed on a business case by the Treasury.
- 5.2 There are proposals for extending the Maid Marion line subject to a business case and a shuttle service from East Midlands Parkway to Toton.

- 5.3 The implications of the IRP have meant that the site at Staveley will no longer be required and will need to be repurposed. Studies including “Access to Toton” and the HS2 Growth Strategy will need to be reviewed. The next steps will be a study by Network Rail for “Options to Leeds” which will look at the most effective way to run HS2 trains to Leeds.
- 5.4 The Chair called on the Government to fulfil its obligations to Toton. Reference was made to the Motion (below) which was being proposed at Broxtowe’s Full Council:

*“Following the announcement of the Integrated Rail Plan (IRP) this Council expresses its concern regarding future funding of the East Midlands Levelling Up agenda.*

- a) *In the light of the changes announced by the IRP Broxtowe Borough Council calls on the government, through the East Midlands Development Corporation, to fully fund the review of the business case for the Toton Masterplan and the HS2 growth strategy to ensure:*

1. *A clear fully funded connectivity package for Toton to include:*
  - *tram connectivity to a new station*
  - *the provision of wider transport improvement connectivity to the areas of Eastwood and Kimberley to ensure level up these areas and connect them to skills and economic growth opportunities*
  - *wider road infrastructure improvements for Toton including improvements to Bessel Lane and connectivity to the A52 and M1.*
2. *The fully funded delivery of the full aspiration of the Toton/Erewash Valley environmental vision of networked green and blue infrastructure.*
3. *A national centre for biodiversity at Toton.*
4. *A national skills centre at Toton.*
5. *The delivery of the full ambition of high quality jobs and economic growth at Toton rather than a watering down of this ambition in favour of more or lower quality housing development.*
6. *The delivery of well integrated high quality spacious environmentally sustainable homes in accordance with the original masterplan vision.*
7. *Electrification of the Midlands Main Line as an immediate priority.*
8. *The revised HS2 east link now infers the line will stop at East Midlands Parkway. Previous Midlands Connect proposals were that there should be a 'heavy' rail link from*

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*Parkway to the airport to facilitate passenger connection, which would be supported. This Council also supports an alternative proposal to run trains out of Nottingham via Ilkeston which will enable a station to be built at Toton. There would have to be a significant review of traffic movement in the Trent Junction area.*

- b) *Further to the announcement of the HS2 built at Parkway, the line for the HS2 is reserved for potential future development and has reserved the line proposals. This has caused considerable concern in communities across Broxtowe and neighbouring authorities because of the blight that continues because of the reserved line. This Council therefore calls on the government to make a definitive decision on the future of HS2 leg northern link to end the uncertainty and bring to a conclusion any further speculation."*
- 5.5 LW expressed her disappointment that the Eastern Leg to inter-connect major cities in the north had been cancelled. She continued that there had been previous promises of electrifying the Midland Mainline but these had all been cancelled. She queried whether freight capacity would increase to reduce road congestion and made reference to more ecological friendly transport such as bi-mode trains.
- 5.6 AP confirmed that there was serious activity by DfT which was looking at new technology which would facilitate electrification.
- 5.7 MP believed that electrification was the right way but constraints were difficult, particularly where there are level crossings. Extra capacity on the lines also caused difficulties at existing level crossings. The existing railway station at Long Eaton has very short platforms. He was aware that continuing to safeguard parts of the eastern leg was causing blight.
- 5.8 AP reported that Long Eaton station was not in danger of being closed or bypassed by electrification. Level crossings are an issue but will be looked at as part of the programme. Safeguarding parts of the eastern leg is what has been reported by Government. The "Access to Leeds" study will take up to two years to complete.
- 5.9 MRelf queried the benefit of HS2's connection to London via Birmingham if not electrifying the Midland Mainline (between Nottingham and Sheffield). He was more concerned about improving connectivity (in a northerly direction as well) and not just journey times to London. On the map it was not clear whether the Nottingham Interchange was at East Midlands Parkway or whether it would be at Nottingham train station. There is a need to look at local traffic routes and the wider implications.
- 5.10 AP explained that journey times indicated in the IRP from Nottingham to Birmingham would be less than 30 minutes via HS2 and that it would be a quicker route via Birmingham to travel to Euston. The Erewash line is an option for Access to Leeds electrification which is a more direct route north than the existing mainline. The HS2 route into East Midlands Parkway,

including the connections to Nottingham and further north, require further technical work. He confirmed that there could be a local train station at Toton.

- 5.11 MRelf queried the purpose of providing frequent services from East Midlands Parkway using Intercity trains to either transport people into city centres or as an interchange for Intercity trains. If there is a different hub split where do you send local traffic? If there is little difference in journey time then he questioned the cost of £15bn being spent on the HS2 line when this could be better spent improving other rail routes.
- 5.12 AP responded that East Midlands Parkway was an interchange point but further work is still required regarding local connections. The cost of the HS2 to London from East Midlands Parkway via Birmingham is estimated at £7bn. It is recognised that there is very poor connectivity at present across the Midlands (Nottingham/ Derby/Birmingham).
- 5.13 AP announced that the Levelling Up White Paper will be published after Christmas. Legislation will follow and be included in The Queens Speech in May 2022.

**Joint Planning Advisory Board was resolved to NOTE the publication of the Integrated Rail Plan and the need to consider the implications in relation to strategic planning.**

6. **Joint Planning Advisory Board Communications Strategy**  
(Mark Thompson)

- 6.1 MT explained that the Board agreed at its June 2021 meeting to prepare a Communications Strategy to help engage the public and various stakeholders in Strategic Planning preparation. It would explain the wider discussions and progress being made and how The Board works in partnership with key stakeholders and statutory consultees.
- 6.2 He referred to the use of a joint database for consultations to make it easier to submit comments and direct the public to the Greater Nottingham Planning Partnership website and use of social media to improve communications for the Strategic Plan.
- 6.3 He continued that at the public consultation for Toton and Chetwynd Barracks more visuals were introduced including videos and documentation was simplified with non-technical summaries.
- 6.4 MT advised that to improve communication with people in between consultations that a briefing note would be provided for councillors who do not sit on JPAB to explain the role of the partnership to them and what work has been completed to date and by working together how we have managed to achieve that.

- 6.5 The Chair confirmed that respective councils should be kept up to date with the changing landscape especially with the IRP and that communication was absolutely essential.

**Joint Planning Advisory Board was resolved to:**

- 1) AGREE the Briefing Note at Appendix 1 be circulated to all Councillors within the partner councils; and**  
**2) AGREE the contents of the Communications Strategy at Appendix 2, and its publication on the Greater Nottingham Planning Partnership website.**

**7. Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan Update (Matt Gregory)**

- 7.1 MG reported that work on the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan continued with two councillor workshops which were held in September and October, following two previous workshops at the beginning of this year. The outcomes from those respective workshops were intended to assist in the distribution of development across the area. Councillors felt that they were unable to offer a preferred strategy due to uncertainties about the Government's planning reforms, including reform of the standard methodology, and the ongoing uncertainty of HS2 and the development at Toton but would continue with evidence based work.
- 7.2 The Government's planning reforms in the Levelling Up White Paper are expected early 2022. This include changes as to how housing supply is determined for the Greater Nottingham area.
- 7.3 EBC under Regulation 19 would publish their Local Plan version in early 2022. MP stated that the Regulation 19 plan was due in January 2022 but will now be published in February 2022 to allow for the Plan to be taken to Council.
- 7.4 ADC's Regulation 18 consultation has now concluded. Their Local Plan is now paused, awaiting more certainty on planning reforms.
- 7.5 Following the Councillor workshops in September and October it was requested to send a letter to the Secretary of State to express their concern about Nottingham City's inability to fulfil all of its 35% uplift through the standard methodology and the need to provide funding to help facilitate the delivery of brownfield sites. A copy of the letter has been attached as an appendix to the report which was signed by members of JPAB.
- 7.6 DW considered that there was very little response from members of the public to the Strategic Plan consultation. He would like to see an improvement in future consultations.
- 7.7 The Chair confirmed that the Communications Strategy was prepared to encourage public responses for consultations and by keeping councillors



informed with any changes in proposals for a better understanding and dialogue.

- 7.8 RU was concerned that we may still be unable to reach an agreed approach even once a decision regarding planning reforms and updated housing numbers are known and once the implications of the IRP are understood.

**Joint Planning Advisory Board was resolved to NOTE the progress with Strategic Plan preparation in Greater Nottingham.**

8. Homes England Capacity Funding projects monitoring (Peter McAnespie)

- 8.1 PMc gave an update on the Capacity Funding for Quarter 2 Period 5. He explained that the remaining funding for EBC would be reallocated from Stanton to land south west of Kirk Hallam. He advised that the outstanding project monies for GBC would be allocated to fund a new post.

**Joint Planning Advisory Board resolved to Recommend that Executive Steering Group NOTE this report and the details set out in Appendix 1.**

9. Waste and Minerals Local Plans Update  
(Stephen Pointer/Steve Buffery)

- 9.1 Nottingham/Nottinghamshire

SP reported that NCC were working with Nottingham City Council on their Draft Joint Waste Local Plan which will proceed through the council's process for consultation from the end of January to Easter 2022. A Joint Waste Steering Group of members was held recently and will continue to develop the Greater Nottingham Duty to Co-operate obligation for the Waste Local Plan.

- 9.2 Derby/Derbyshire

SBuff reported timescales for their Draft Minerals Local Plan consultation. Following a Joint Advisory Committee with DCC and Derby City Council, it would run from the middle of January for a period of eight weeks. Their Joint Waste Local Plan evidence base is now complete. Following the Joint Advisory Committee in January, the Draft Joint Waste Local Plan will be out for consultation in February 2022.

- 9.3 The Chair thanked both councils and said that he would like to see the two consultations carried out over the same time period.

- 9.4 NC confirmed that the Joint Plans will be consulted over a period of six to eight weeks and would seek to address a comprehensive wide range of issues including climate change.

**Joint Planning Advisory Board was resolved to NOTE the progress with the Nottinghamshire/Nottingham and Derbyshire Waste and Minerals Local Plans.**

10. **Future Meetings 2022**

DATE	TIME	VENUE
Tuesday 8 March	2.00 pm	Microsoft Teams Virtual meeting
Tuesday 7 June	2.00 pm	Microsoft Teams Virtual meeting
Tuesday 27 September	2.00 pm	Microsoft Teams Virtual meeting
Tuesday 13 December	2.00 pm	Microsoft Teams Virtual meeting

11. **Any other business**

11.1 The Chair respected the honest responses to the problems we faced and praised the work of officers for an informative meeting. He wished the joint working to continue with frank discussions in the future for proposing environment sustainability; East Midlands jobs; social mobility; transport and the way we live.

11.2 The Chair passed on his Christmas wishes to everyone.

MEETING CLOSED AT 3.05 PM