The aim of Nottinghamshire Highway Design Guide assists the County in dealing with the many challenges that it faces in dealing with matters such as population growth, health and obesity issues, climate change and changes to government policies e.g. the planning system. We must deal with these challenges whilst ensuring that their impact on our transport system, communities, individuals and the environment is minimised.

The Nottinghamshire Highway Design Guide guide helps to respond to these issues – it provides clear and common guidance to developers across the County, whilst, where possible, reasonably practicable and agreeable, allowing flexibility to meet local requirements. It assists in the delivery of housing growth, encourages sustainable development and minimises the impact of development on the highway. It also plays a vital role in the highway development control process.

**What is highway development control?**

The aim of highway development control is to ensure that new development is delivered in ways that promote sustainable travel and safeguard the efficient and safe functioning of the transport system.

The Local Planning Authority (LPA) is responsible for determining most planning applications for housing and employment sites. They manage and administer the planning process and make decisions on the planning application.

There are four stages in the planning process (pre-application, application, enforcement and appeal). At a very early stage (i.e. before submitting a formal application) applicants are advised to discuss their proposed application with the Local Planning Authority (LPA), in addition to discussing any highway and transportation issues with the Local Highway Authority. **Part 1 (IN2)** of the guide encourages early engagement, which can help to resolve issues before they become more difficult to deal with.

At certain stages in the planning process the Local Planning Authority will formally seek the views of other authorities and bodies on the development proposal (these are known as statutory consultees). Their views help the Local Planning Authority to make an informed decision about the development.
One of these statutory consultees is the Local Highway Authority (LHA). The LHA assesses the proposals against highway policies and standards, then gives their views on the impact of the development on the highway to the Local Planning Authority. Part 1 (IN4) of this guide provides clear advice on highway development control.

The Local Planning Authority considers and weighs up all of the responses before coming to a final decision on the development.