



Oxford City Local Plan 2040 Examination

Further Written Statement: Matter 2 Procedural/legal requirements

(Representor Ref: 143)

On behalf of **L&Q Estates, Cala Homes, Vistry Group, Peabody, Gladman Developments, Ptarmigan Land and Pye Homes**

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For and on behalf of Stantec UK Limited				

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1 RESPONSE TO MATTER 2

This statement has been prepared on behalf of the following clients:

- L&Q Estates
- Cala Homes
- Vistry Group
- Peabody
- Gladman Developments
- Ptarmigan Land
- Pye Homes

This statement should be read in conjunction with the other statements submitted on behalf of our clients and the representations submitted in response to the Regulation 19 consultation. Our clients are actively involved in the delivery of new housing and mixed use developments across Oxfordshire.

Housing needs and the housing requirement

Q2. What factors led to the decision to cease work on a joint plan for Oxfordshire?

- 2.1 This is an important question, the answer to which is incredibly complex.
- 2.2 The 'Joint Statement by Leaders of Oxfordshire Councils End of Oxfordshire Plan' (GRO.19) was commendable only in its brevity.
- 2.3 A blog prepared by Michael Knott, Planning Director at Stantec, was published shortly after the decision to cease work on the Oxfordshire Plan, which offered some reflections on some of the factors which led to the decision. A copy of this blog is provided at Appendix 1 and also available [via LinkedIn](#)¹.
- 2.4 Alongside the background documents available in the Examination Library, it may also assist the Inspectors to review section 5 of the 'Oxfordshire Plan 2050 – Duty to Co-operate Statement (July 2021)' published as part of the Second Regulation 18 consultation on the Oxfordshire Plan 2050. A copy of this report is provided at Appendix 2.
- 2.5 In addition, the Inspectors may also find it helpful to review minutes of meetings of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership, held on 13th June 2022 and 27 September 2022. Copies of the minutes of these meetings are provided at Appendix 3 and can also be found via [this website](#)².
- 2.6 Whilst outside of the preparation of the Oxford City Local Plan 2040, this additional background evidence provides details of co-operation within Oxfordshire which took place at the same time as the early stages of the Oxford City Local Plan 2040's preparation and is therefore considered to be of relevance.

Q5. Why was the decision taken to assess housing needs on an Oxfordshire wide basis and then set out a distribution of this by individual district authorities? Were the other authorities involved in this decision?

¹ <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/just-when-you-thought-couldnt-get-any-worse-planning-michael-knott/>

²

<https://democratic.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Act=later&CId=635&D=202201251400&MD=ielistmeetings>

- 5.1 Paragraphs 9-10 of the City Council's 'Cabinet Report for Reg 18 Part 2 Consultation' (CSD.012) provides the City Council's explanation for why the decision was taken at that stages to assess housing needs on an Oxfordshire wide basis.
- 5.2 Further explanation is contained within the 'Housing Need including exceptional circumstances Background Paper 1' (BGP.001).
- 5.3 In our view, having regard to the established basis for previous assessments of need and joint working on an Oxfordshire wide basis, and taking account the context of an Oxfordshire FEMA and HMA, it is unsurprising that the HENA followed the established basis for assessing housing and economic needs.
- 5.4 The HENA (HEA.001) was jointly commissioned by Oxford City Council and Cherwell District Council.

Overall

Q13. *In overall terms has the Council engaged constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis in maximising the effectiveness of the preparation of the Local Plan?*

- 13.1 The City Council has engaged constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis. In our view, the failure to have reached agreement with all its neighbours is not a failure to have satisfied the duty to cooperate.
- 13.2 The efforts of the City Council should be considered in the context of the joint working between the city and district councils, the decision taken to abandon the joint work to prepare the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 (a commitment under the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal) and the significant differences between the authorities in planning for housing and economic needs of the area.

Appendix 1

'Just when you thought it couldn't get any worse for Planning.....' blog prepared by Michael Knott, Planning Director of Stantec (dated 4th August 2022)



Just when you thought it couldn't get any worse for Planning....



Michael Knott

Planning Director at Stantec (views expressed are my own)

[9 articles](#)

August 4, 2022

Open Immersive Reader

Here's my two penn'orth on the end of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050.

Despite his recent sacking, Michael Gove's toilet flush gesture in February 2022 - an apparent response to a colleague's question about the future of the Arc - has come good for the Oxfordshire Plan 2050.

A [statement](#) released yesterday (3rd August 2022) confirmed that the Oxfordshire Plan's preparation has been abandoned as the five LPAs were unable to reach agreement on the approach to planning for future housing needs. In short, the overall number of homes, its apportionment within the five authorities, and the identification of strategic locations for growth. Once again, it is the provision of new housing which is the major stumbling block.

This news will have come as little surprise to those active in Oxfordshire, and may feel reminiscent of the infamous Growth Board meeting in September 2016 when Councillor John Cotton, the then Leader of South Oxfordshire, was unwilling to agree to the proposed appointment of Oxford City's unmet housing need. That was just the start of a long bumpy road ahead.

Roll on a year or so and the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal was confirmed in November 2017, and signed soon after in March 2018. There were carrots in the form of the (3 year) housing land supply WMS, notwithstanding the warnings from Barton Willmore and others that this would have adverse impacts for plan preparation and maintaining housing land supply; and sticks, such as Robert Jenrick's intervention in production of the South Oxfordshire Local Plan (oh, the memories).

The Deal included some bold commitments from the Oxfordshire authorities, notably the delivery of 100,000 homes (2011-2031) – OK, yes, most of which was already secured through three out of five adopted or near adopted local plans - and the adoption of the Oxfordshire Plan AKA the Joint

Statutory Spatial Plan (JSSP) by March 2021. The Government's headline 'quid pro quo' was £215m of central funding, the majority of which is to fund infrastructure. The funding is committed to projects which are to support growth up to 2031 so is secured, albeit subject to the delivery of the 100,000 homes.

In 2018, any sense that the Deal was going to neutralise the local political challenges in delivering the Deal quickly evaporated with the introduction of the Government's new standard method. Surprisingly, this resulted in a substantial reduction in the calculation of housing need in Oxfordshire, from around 5,000 dpa to around 3,200 dpa. In large part, this lit the fuse for the outcome of the 2019 local elections in which the Conservatives lost control of South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse to the Lib Dems.

With a change of name, the Oxfordshire Growth Board became the Future Oxfordshire Partnership, and the continued 3 year housing supply protection, seemingly the Oxfordshire Plan would limp on. This sense was bolstered with the Government announcing that its dedicated team for the Arc would prepare a Spatial Framework. This could have provided some much needed 'cloud-cover' for the difficult decisions that need to be taken to finalise the Oxfordshire Plan; decisions that were being put off for as long as possible.

Following the consultations on the Oxfordshire Plan Regulation 18 Part 2 and the Spatial Framework Vision, all went alarmingly quite. Worse, in December 2021, Vale of White Horse District Council completed a self-certified five year review of its Part 1 Local Plan which resulted in this authority switching to its much lower standard method housing figure, which simultaneously resolved its five year housing supply shortfall.

Local elections in May 2022 meant that all talk of the Arc, housing, growth, anything remotely contentious, was embargoed. A few months later and a change of Secretary of State – not before disbanding the Arc team within DLUHC - and the Government's Planning Reform agenda which, 2 years on from the 'Planning for the Future' White Paper, remains uncertain.

So where does this leave those promoting development, particularly housing, in Oxfordshire?

Much will depend on whether the Government introduces a new standard method in the foreseeable future which increases local housing need in Oxfordshire. Ideally, to a level akin to the higher need figures in the 2014 SHMA and the 2021 OGNA (5,000 dpa approx.). This single act by the Government would go a long way to mitigate the damage which yesterday's announcement could cause to housing delivery in Oxfordshire. This increased local housing need should incentivise the Oxfordshire LPAs to maintain plan-led delivery and to ensure that plans are kept up-to-date.

In the absence of this action from DLUHC and its new Secretary of State, there is a risk that the Oxfordshire LPAs, like Vale, each crawl towards their plans being five years old and switch to a low housing need figure. At that point, it remains to be seen whether or not there is then any incentive to produce a new local plan. Regrettably, slowing worsening housing affordability in the least affordable area in the country is not enough.

Surely the Government must agree that such an outcome would not be in anyone's interests, not least with the Bank of England's stark warning today that the UK will go into recession by the end of 2022. Even if the Arc is dead, areas like Oxfordshire are vital to keep the national economy's heart beating.

Please get in touch with me or colleagues at [Barton Willmore now Stantec](#) if you wish to discuss this further or have any questions about the impact of this announcement for the promotion of your site(s).

Appendix 2

Oxfordshire Plan 2050 – Duty to Co-operate Statement (July 2021)



Oxfordshire Plan 2050

Duty to Co-operate Statement

Second Regulation 18 Consultation
July 2021



Cherwell
DISTRICT COUNCIL
NORTH OXFORDSHIRE

www.oxford.gov.uk



South Oxfordshire
District Council
Listening Learning Leading

Vale
of White Horse
District Council

WEST OXFORDSHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Oxfordshire Plan is a Joint Statutory Spatial Plan (JSSP) which is being produced by Cherwell District Council, Oxford City Council, South Oxfordshire District Council, Vale of White Horse District Council and West Oxfordshire District Council (referred to throughout this document as 'Oxfordshire's City and District Councils'). The Oxfordshire Plan will provide a strategic planning framework for Oxfordshire to 2050.
- 1.2 In producing the Oxfordshire Plan, Oxfordshire's City and District Councils have a legal duty to engage constructively, actively and on an on-going basis with each other, Oxfordshire County Council, neighbouring authorities and specific organisations set out in the Planning Regulations¹ in order to maximise the effectiveness of the Oxfordshire Plan in addressing cross-boundary strategic planning matters. This legal duty is known as the 'duty to co-operate'.
- 1.3 This Duty to Co-operate Statement explains how Oxfordshire's City and District Councils have complied with the duty to co-operate through the preparation of the Oxfordshire Plan to date (up to the second Regulation 18 consultation). This Statement sets out:
- How Oxfordshire's City and District Councils are working together, and in partnership with Oxfordshire County Council and Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership, to produce the Oxfordshire Plan;
 - The other organisations that Oxfordshire's City and District Councils are co-operating with in producing the Oxfordshire Plan, as well as the strategic matters relevant to each of these organisations;
 - The nature and timing of the co-operation undertaken to date; and
 - The outcomes of the co-operation to date, including how it has influenced the production of the Oxfordshire Plan.
- 1.4 As co-operation to address cross-boundary strategic planning matters will continue throughout the plan-making process, an updated version of this Duty to Co-operate Statement will be published at the Regulation 19 stage.

¹ The Town and Country Planning (England) Regulations 2012, Part 2, Regulation 4

2 Duty to Co-operate Requirements

Legal Requirements

- 2.1 The duty to co-operate is a legal requirement under Section 33A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as inserted by Section 110 of the Localism Act 2011).
- 2.2 The duty to co-operate requires local planning authorities to engage constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis with other local planning authorities, county councils and prescribed bodies in order to maximise the effectiveness of development plan documents in relation to strategic planning matters.
- 2.3 Legislation² defines strategic matters as:
 - a) 'Sustainable development or use of land that has or would have a significant impact on at least two planning areas, including (in particular) sustainable development or use of land for, or in connection with, infrastructure that is strategic and has or would have a significant impact on at least two planning areas; and
 - b) Sustainable development or use of land in a two-tier area if the development or use is a county matter, or it has/would have a significant impact on a county matter.'

National Planning Policy Framework (February 2019)

- 2.4 Paragraphs 24-27 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) provide further detail on how the duty to co-operate should be applied through the plan-making process.
- 2.5 Paragraph 25 of the NPPF states that 'strategic policy-making authorities should collaborate to identify the relevant strategic matters that they need to address in their plans'.
- 2.6 Paragraph 26 of the NPPF states that 'effective and on-going joint working between strategic policy-making authorities and relevant bodies is integral to the production of a positively prepared and justified strategy. In particular, joint working should help to determine where additional infrastructure is necessary and whether development needs that cannot be met wholly within a particular plan area could be met elsewhere'.
- 2.7 Paragraph 27 of the NPPF states that 'in order to demonstrate effective and on-going joint working, strategic policy-making authorities should prepare and maintain one or more statements of common ground'. A statement of common ground should document the strategic cross-boundary planning matters being addressed and the progress made in addressing them. Statements of common ground 'should be produced using the approach set out in national planning guidance and be made publicly available throughout the plan-making process to provide transparency'.

² Planning and Compulsory Act 2004, Section 33A, Subsection 4 (as inserted by the Localism Act 2011)

- 2.8 Before they can be adopted, all emerging development plan documents are examined to assess whether they have been prepared in accordance with legal and procedural requirements (including the duty to co-operate) and whether they are sound. Paragraph 35 of the NPPF sets out the four tests of soundness, two of which are directly related to the duty to co-operate:

Test of soundness A: 'Positively prepared - providing a strategy which, as a minimum, seeks to meet the area's objectively assessed needs; and is informed by agreements with other authorities, so that unmet need from neighbouring areas is accommodated where it is practical to do so and is consistent with achieving sustainable development'.

Test of soundness C: 'Effective - deliverable over the plan period and based on effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic matters that have been dealt with rather than deferred, as evidenced by the statement of common ground'.

Planning Practice Guidance

- 2.9 National Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) provides additional detail in relation to the application of the duty to co-operate, including the organisations that should be engaged with, how the duty to co-operate will be considered at examination and how two or more strategic policy-making authorities can co-operate in plan preparation. The PPG highlights that local planning authorities can agree to prepare joint plans with neighbouring authorities under Section 28 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 as a means of co-operating in local plan preparation.³ The PPG also provides more detailed information on how statements of common ground should be prepared and presented.

Other Relevant Guidance

- 2.10 The Planning Inspectorate's Procedure Guide for Local Plan Examinations⁴ states that in order to demonstrate compliance with the duty to co-operate, 'the most helpful approach is for local planning authorities to submit a statement of compliance with the duty'. The statement of compliance should identify and detail:
- i. Any relevant strategic matters and how they have been resolved, or, if they have not been resolved, why not;
 - ii. Who local planning authorities have co-operated with and on which strategic matter(s);
 - iii. The nature and timing of the co-operation (for example by including meeting notes); and
 - iv. The outcomes of the co-operation, including how it has influenced the plan.

³ Planning Practice Guidance: Plan-making: Maintaining Effective Engagement: How can 2 or more strategic policy-making authorities co-operate on local plan preparation to satisfy the duty to co-operate? Paragraph: 032 Reference ID: 61-032-20190315 Revision date: 15 03 2019

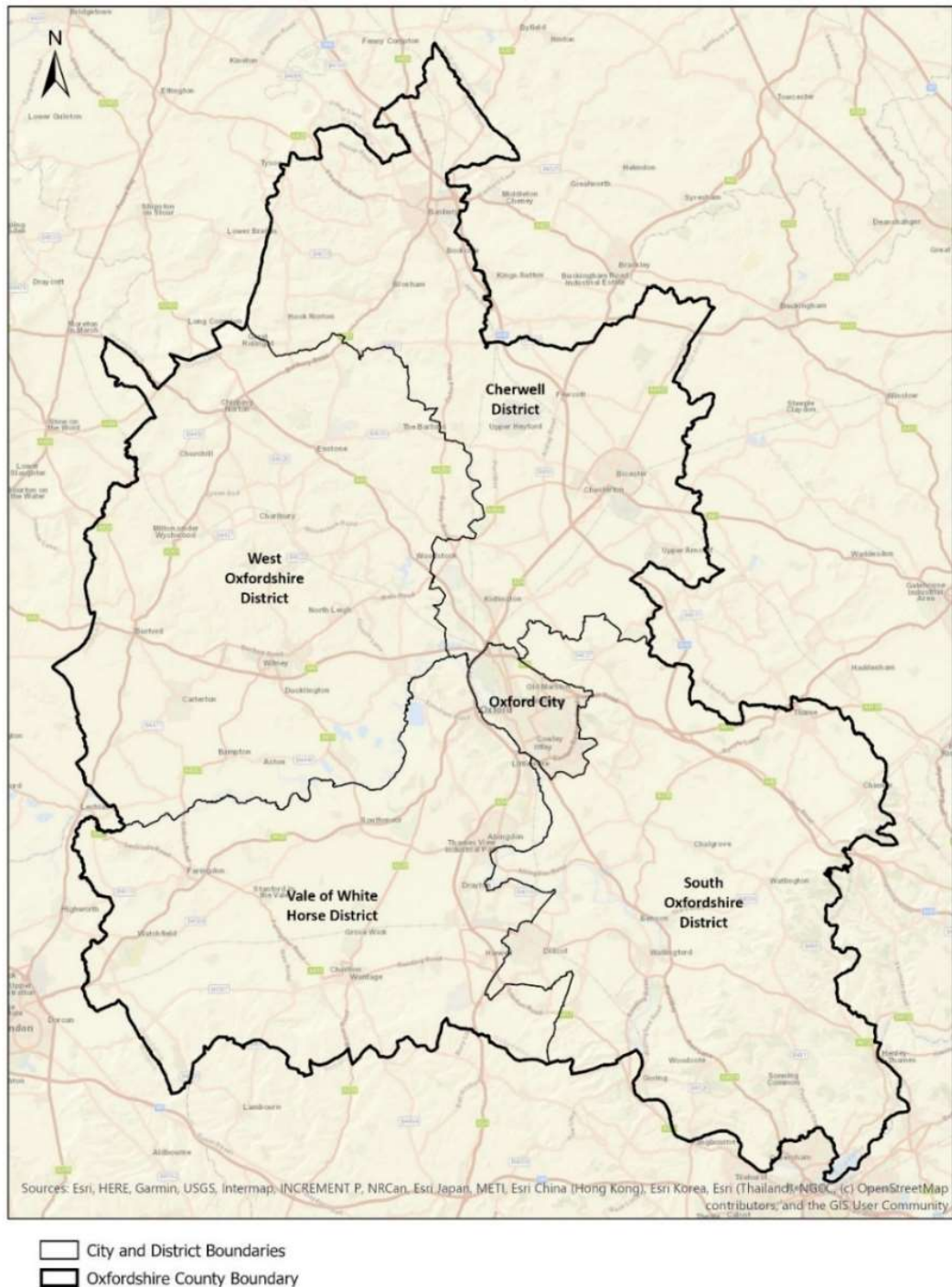
⁴ The Planning Inspectorate (February 2021) Procedure Guide for Local Plan Examinations. Seventh Edition.

3 Duty to Co-operate Bodies

Oxfordshire Authorities

3.1 Oxfordshire has a two-tier local government arrangement. There are five City and District Councils (Cherwell District Council, Oxford City Council, South Oxfordshire District Council, Vale of White Horse District Council and West Oxfordshire District Council) and one county council (Oxfordshire County Council) which spans the entire Oxfordshire area. Figure 1 shows Oxfordshire's administrative boundaries.

Figure 1: Oxfordshire's Administrative Boundaries



- 3.2 Oxfordshire's City and District Councils are the local planning authorities and are responsible for strategic plan-making. Oxfordshire's City and District Councils are working together to produce the Oxfordshire Plan under Section 28 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 as a means of co-operating to effectively address strategic planning matters in Oxfordshire.
- 3.3 Oxfordshire County Council has responsibilities including transport, education and minerals and waste planning.
- 3.4 Oxfordshire's City and District Councils and Oxfordshire County Council have a legal duty to engage constructively, actively and on an on-going basis with each other in the production of the Oxfordshire Plan. Oxfordshire County Council is a key partner in the production of the Oxfordshire Plan.

Neighbouring Authorities

- 3.5 In producing the Oxfordshire Plan, Oxfordshire's City and District Councils are co-operating with the authorities that adjoin Oxfordshire in relation to relevant cross-boundary strategic planning matters.
- 3.6 The following local authorities have administrative boundaries that directly adjoin Oxfordshire:
- Buckinghamshire Council
 - Cotswold District Council
 - Gloucestershire County Council
 - Reading Borough Council
 - Stratford-Upon-Avon District Council
 - Swindon Borough Council
 - Warwickshire County Council
 - West Berkshire Council
 - West Northamptonshire Council
 - Wiltshire Council
 - Wokingham Borough Council
- 3.7 A map illustrating neighbouring authorities' geographical relationships with Oxfordshire is provided at Appendix 1.
- 3.8 When work on the Oxfordshire Plan commenced, Buckinghamshire and Northamptonshire had two-tier arrangements of local government. However, on 1 April 2020 a new unitary authority for Buckinghamshire was created and on 1 April 2021 Northamptonshire became two new unitary authorities – North Northamptonshire and West Northamptonshire.
- 3.9 Prior to 1 April 2020, local government in Buckinghamshire consisted of four district councils (Aylesbury Vale District Council, Chiltern District Council, South Bucks District Council and Wycombe District Council) and one county council (Buckinghamshire County Council). Aylesbury Vale District Council, Wycombe District Council and

Buckinghamshire County Council all had administrative boundaries that directly adjoined Oxfordshire.

- 3.10 In producing the Oxfordshire Plan, engagement was undertaken with all the Buckinghamshire district councils and Buckinghamshire County Council up to 31 March 2020. Whilst Chiltern District Council and South Bucks District Council did not directly adjoin Oxfordshire's boundary, those authorities were engaged with in order that any strategic planning matters relevant to the wider Buckinghamshire area could be identified and addressed from the early stages of producing the Oxfordshire Plan. From 1 April 2020 engagement has been with the newly formed Buckinghamshire Council.
- 3.11 Prior to 1 April 2021, local government in Northamptonshire consisted of seven district/borough councils and one county council. Within this structure, Northamptonshire County Council and South Northamptonshire District Council had administrative boundaries that directly adjoined Oxfordshire. From 1 April 2021, Northamptonshire become two unitary authorities - West Northamptonshire Council and North Northamptonshire Council.
- 3.12 In producing the Oxfordshire Plan, engagement was undertaken with Daventry District Council, Northampton Borough Council, South Northamptonshire Council and Northamptonshire County Council up to 31 March 2021. Whilst Daventry District Council and Northampton Borough Council did not directly adjoin Oxfordshire's boundary, those authorities were engaged with in order that any strategic planning matters relevant to the wider West Northamptonshire area could be identified and addressed from the early stages of producing the Oxfordshire Plan. From 1 April 2021 engagement has been with the newly formed West Northamptonshire Council.

Prescribed Bodies

- 3.13 The Town and Country Planning Regulations 2012⁵ identify prescribed bodies that local planning authorities must co-operate with in plan-making.
- 3.14 In producing the Oxfordshire Plan, Oxfordshire's City and District Councils are co-operating with relevant prescribed bodies in relation to cross-boundary strategic planning matters. The prescribed bodies relevant to the production of the Oxfordshire Plan are:
- i. Environment Agency
 - ii. Historic England⁶
 - iii. Natural England
 - iv. The Mayor of London
 - v. The Civil Aviation Authority
 - vi. Homes England⁷

⁵ The Town and Country Planning (England) Regulations 2012, Part 2, Regulation 4

⁶ Previously the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England.

⁷ Previously the Homes and Communities Agency.

- vii. Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs)⁸ - The majority of Oxfordshire is within the Oxfordshire CCG area, but there are small areas of Oxfordshire that fall within the Buckinghamshire CCG and Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire CCG areas (Appendix 2).
- viii. The Office of Rail and Road⁹
- ix. Highways Authority - Highways England is responsible for motorways and major trunk roads in England. Local roads are managed by Oxfordshire County Council.

3.15 Whilst Oxfordshire is not within, and does not directly adjoin, the Greater London administrative boundary, engagement with the Mayor of London (via the Greater London Authority) will be undertaken under the duty to co-operate. This is because London, as a major capital city, has social and economic influences to varying extents across the wider south-east area, including with Oxfordshire and the Oxford-Cambridge Arc area. There is therefore some potential for relevant strategic matters.

3.16 The following organisations are also identified as prescribed bodies in the Regulations but are not considered relevant to the production of the Oxfordshire Plan:

Integrated Transport Authorities - Integrated Transport Authorities are only established for the six main metropolitan areas¹⁰ outside of London. Oxfordshire does not fall within an Integrated Transport Authority area, nor does it adjoin an Integrated Transport Authority area. There is no apparent functional relationship between Oxfordshire and any Integrated Transport Authority area. It is therefore considered that there are no strategic matters with Integrated Transport Authorities relevant to the production of the Oxfordshire Plan.

Marine Management Organisations - Marine Management Organisations licence, regulate and plan marine activities in the seas around England. Oxfordshire is centrally located within England and is entirely inland. Oxfordshire does not include any coastline, nor do any of authorities that adjoin Oxfordshire. There is no obvious functional relationship between Oxfordshire and the sea. It is therefore considered that there are no strategic matters with Marine Management Organisations relevant to the production of the Oxfordshire Plan.

Transport for London (TfL) - TfL has potential to provide support to projects located outside of London but that provide connections to London. However, engagement with TfL has confirmed that there are no strategic matters with TfL relevant to the production of the Oxfordshire Plan.

⁸ Previously Primary Care Trusts.

⁹ Previously the Office of Rail Regulation.

¹⁰ Greater Manchester, Liverpool City Region, Sheffield City Region, Tyne and Wear, the West Midlands and West Yorkshire.

Local Enterprise Partnerships

- 3.17 Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) are private sector led partnerships between businesses and local public sector bodies. They aim to bring private sector expertise into local economic decision making and to encourage collaboration and strategic decision making at a functional economic area scale.
- 3.18 The PPG states that LEPs are not subject to the requirements of the duty to co-operate themselves, but that local planning authorities must co-operate with LEPs. Local planning authorities must have regard to the activities of LEPs when preparing plans, so long as those activities are relevant to plan-making.¹¹
- 3.19 The Oxfordshire LEP covers the entire county of Oxfordshire. The Oxfordshire LEP is a key partner in the production of the Oxfordshire Plan.
- 3.20 In producing the Oxfordshire Plan, engagement will be undertaken with neighbouring LEPs under the duty to co-operate as there may be strategic matters where co-operation is required given the Oxfordshire Plan's strategic nature and long timeframe. However, it is recognised that that relationships with surrounding functional economic areas are likely to vary in terms of their nature, strength and significance. It should also be noted that considerable joint working is being undertaken between LEPs across the Oxford-Cambridge Arc area (Section 7).
- 3.21 The following LEPs have boundaries that directly adjoin Oxfordshire (Appendix 3):
- Buckinghamshire LEP
 - Coventry and Warwickshire LEP
 - Gloucestershire LEP
 - South East Midlands LEP
 - Swindon and Wiltshire LEP
 - Thames Valley Berkshire LEP

Local Nature Partnerships

- 3.22 Local Nature Partnerships (LNPs) are partnerships of a broad range of local organisations, businesses and people who aim to bring about improvements in their local natural environment.
- 3.23 The PPG states that LNPs are not subject to the requirements of the duty to co-operate themselves, but that local planning authorities must co-operate with LNPs. Local planning authorities must have regard to the activities of LNPs when they are preparing plans, so long as those activities are relevant to plan-making.¹²

¹¹ Planning Practice Guidance: Plan-Making: Maintaining Effective Cooperation: Are other public bodies subject to the duty to co-operate? Paragraph: 030 Reference ID: 61-030-20190315 Revision date: 15 03 2019

¹² Planning Practice Guidance: Plan-Making: Maintaining Effective Cooperation: Are other public bodies subject to the duty to co-operate? Paragraph: 030 Reference ID: 61-030-20190315 Revision date: 15 03 2019

- 3.24 Oxfordshire does not currently have a LNP. However, on 31 July 2019 West Oxfordshire District Council passed a motion calling for a LNP for Oxfordshire to be formed.¹³ West Oxfordshire District Council then wrote to the other Oxfordshire authorities to ask for support in taking this forward. On 28 January 2020 the Oxfordshire Growth Board provided its support for establishing a LNP for Oxfordshire which could link in with the Growth Board's work and wider regional discussions concerning the natural environment. Since the Growth Board offered support for the establishment of an LNP, there have been several informal discussions with local partners to develop proposals. Progress is still being made towards establishing an LNP with the support of funding from the Growth Board.
- 3.25 In lieu of an LNP for Oxfordshire, informal engagement will be undertaken with the Oxfordshire Environment Board (OxEB) and Oxfordshire Biodiversity Action Group (BAG) in addition formal co-operation with Natural England and the Environment Agency in relation to natural environment matters. The membership of both OxEB and BAG represent a wide range of natural environment bodies including: the Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust (BBOWT); Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Conservation Boards; the Earth Trust; Thames Valley Environment Records Centre (TVERC); Wild Oxfordshire and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB).
- 3.26 In producing the Oxfordshire Plan, engagement will be undertaken with neighbouring LNPs under to the duty to co-operate as there may be strategic matters where co-operation is required given the Oxfordshire Plan's strategic nature and long timeframe. However, it is recognised that adjoining LNPs have varying levels of resources and that some have more formalised structures than others, which is likely to result in variations in their capacity to engage in the Oxfordshire Plan process. It should also be noted that considerable joint working is being undertaken between LNPs and other organisations across the Oxford-Cambridge Arc in relation to the protection and enhancement of the natural environment (Section 7).
- 3.27 The following LNPs have boundaries that directly adjoin Oxfordshire (Appendix 4):
- Berkshire LNP
 - Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes LNP
 - Gloucestershire LNP
 - Northamptonshire LNP
 - Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull LNP
 - Swindon and Wiltshire LNP (Link 2 Nature)

¹³ Minutes of this meeting are available to view on West Oxfordshire District Council's website: <https://cmis.westoxon.gov.uk/cmisis/Meetings.aspx>

4 Strategic Matters

4.1 Paragraph 20 of the NPPF sets out the matters that are considered strategic in plan-making. These are matters which relate to the overall strategy for the pattern, scale and quality of development, and make provision for:

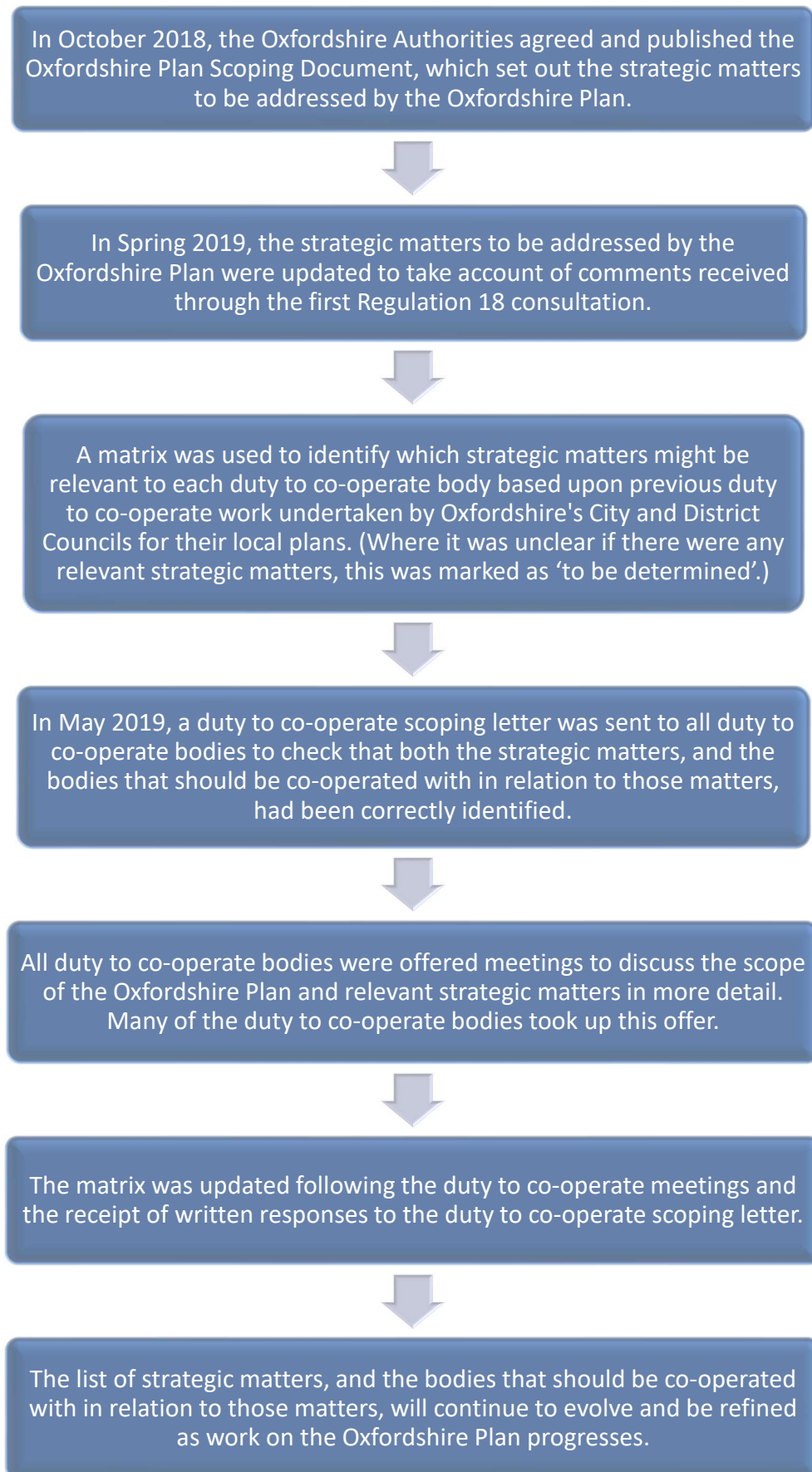
- a) 'housing (including affordable housing), employment, retail, leisure and other commercial development;
- b) infrastructure for transport, telecommunications, security, waste management, water supply, wastewater, flood risk and coastal change management, and the provision of minerals and energy (including heat);
- c) community facilities (such as health, education and cultural infrastructure); and
- d) conservation and enhancement of the natural, built and historic environment, including landscapes and green infrastructure, and planning measures to address climate change mitigation and adaptation.'

The PPG states that this list is not exhaustive and that this may be adapted to meet specific local needs.¹⁴

4.2 A duty to co-operate scoping exercise was undertaken to identify the relevant strategic matters for the Oxfordshire Plan and the duty to co-operate bodies that should be engaged with in relation to these matters (Figure 2).

¹⁴ Planning Practice Guidance: Plan Making: Maintaining Effective Cooperation: What are the strategic matters on which cooperation is required? Paragraph: 014 Reference ID: 61-014-20190315 Revision date: 15 03 2019

Figure 2: The Oxfordshire Plan Duty to Co-operate Scoping Process



4.3 Through the scoping process, the following strategic matters for the Oxfordshire Plan were identified:

- Biodiversity / Natural Environment / Green Infrastructure
- Boat dwellers
- Climate Change (including mitigation and adaption)
- Community Facilities (including health and education)
- Contaminated Land
- Economy and Employment
- Flood Risk
- Green Belt
- Gypsies, Travellers, Caravan Dwellers, Travelling Showpeople
- Healthy Placeshaping
- Heritage and Historic Environment
- Housing Requirements
- Housing Supply
- Landscape Quality and Character
- Other infrastructure (including water supply)
- Retail/Leisure/other commercial development
- Transport
- Water Resources / Water Quality

4.4 The full matrix showing which strategic matters have been identified as relevant to each duty to co-operate body is provided at Appendix 5. It should be noted that this is a 'living list' and that the strategic matters relevant to each duty to co-operate body may evolve over time in response to emerging evidence, further engagement and changing circumstances.

5 Co-operation within Oxfordshire

Background to Joint Working in Oxfordshire

- 5.1 Oxfordshire's City and District Councils and Oxfordshire County Council have a long history of co-operation and joint working in relation to strategic planning matters.
- 5.2 The six Oxfordshire authorities were members of the Oxfordshire Spatial Planning and Infrastructure Partnership (SPIP) which oversaw the preparation of the Oxfordshire Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) (published in 2014)¹⁵ and the Oxford and Oxfordshire City Deal¹⁶ (signed in January 2014).
- 5.3 In 2014, the SPIP became the Oxfordshire Growth Board¹⁷ - a joint committee with the leaders of all six Oxfordshire authorities as the core voting members. The Oxfordshire Growth Board also includes associate members from the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership, Universities, Oxfordshire Skills Board, Environment Agency, Homes England, Network Rail and Highways England. Oxfordshire Growth Board meetings are held in public every two months. The work of the Oxfordshire Growth Board is supported by a Scrutiny Panel and focused Advisory Sub-Groups.
- 5.4 The Oxfordshire Growth Board exists to help Oxfordshire's leaders and partners work together for the benefit of residents by building consensus on strategic issues such as supporting good growth, strategic service planning and placemaking. The Oxfordshire Growth Board has no direct decision-making powers in relation to planning and development, which is carried out by the elected councillors at each of Oxfordshire's City and District Councils.
- 5.5 The Oxfordshire authorities worked together as part of the Oxfordshire Growth Board to assess how unmet housing need from Oxford City might best be accommodated within the Oxfordshire Housing Market Area. Local plans based on the 2014 SHMA, and which accommodate Oxford City's unmet housing need, have all now been adopted.
- 5.6 The Oxfordshire authorities also worked together through the Oxfordshire Growth Board to produce the Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy¹⁸ (OxIS) - a shared evidence base that has helped to inform local plans and to address strategic infrastructure issues, particularly transport (for example by supporting funding bids such as the Housing and Infrastructure Fund).
- 5.7 In 2017, the government announced the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal in the autumn budget. The Housing and Growth Deal was subsequently signed in March 2018.

¹⁵ GL Hearn (April 2014) Oxfordshire Strategic Housing Market Assessment

¹⁶ The Oxford and Oxfordshire City Deal was signed by the Deputy Prime Minister on 30 January 2014. Details are available online: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/city-deal-oxford-and-oxfordshire>

¹⁷ Details of the Oxfordshire Growth Board terms of reference, meetings, work programmes and evidence documents are available at: www.oxfordshiregrowthboard.org

¹⁸ AECOM (November 2017) Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy

- 5.8 Through the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal, the Oxfordshire authorities committed to:
- i. The submission and adoption, subject to the inspection process, of a Joint Statutory Spatial Plan (the Oxfordshire Plan) covering all five district councils in Oxfordshire by 2021¹⁹; and
 - ii. Plan for and support the delivery of 100,000 new homes between 2011 and 2031 – backed up with a credible plan for delivery, outlining interim milestones and targets as agreed with Homes England and Government.
- 5.9 Through the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal, the Government committed to:
- i. Provide Oxfordshire with up to £215 million funding for investment in new homes and infrastructure; and
 - ii. Explore options to grant Oxfordshire certain time-limited planning flexibilities, subject to consultation where appropriate.
- 5.10 In September 2019, the Oxfordshire Growth Board resolved to undertake a review of its role and functions.²⁰ Following an extensive public review in 2020, the Growth Board has adopted a new purpose which is to:
- i. Co-ordinate local efforts to manage economic, housing and infrastructure development in a way that is inclusive and maximises local social and environmental benefits;
 - ii. Support the development of local planning policy that meets the UK Government’s stated aim of net zero carbon by 2050, and contributes towards biodiversity gain whilst embracing the changes needed for a low carbon world; and
 - iii. Seek to secure funding in the pursuit of these aims and oversee the delivery of related work programmes delegated to it by the Joint Committee’s constituent local authority members.

Strategic Vision

- 5.11 In 2020, the Oxfordshire Growth Board began to develop a strategic vision for Oxfordshire’s long-term sustainable development (known as the ‘Strategic Vision’). Consultation on a draft Strategic Vision was undertaken from November 2020 to January 2021. The Strategic Vision was subsequently refined (taking account of the comments received) and endorsed by the Oxfordshire Growth Board in March 2021.
- 5.12 Each of the six Oxfordshire authorities has now agreed the Strategic Vision and it will inform future plans and strategies for Oxfordshire, including the Oxfordshire Plan, the Local Transport and Connectivity Plan, the OxIS review and future local plans.

¹⁹ In July 2020 Oxfordshire Growth Board secured support in principle from the Government for extensions to various programmes within the [Housing & Growth Deal](#) including the preparation of the Oxfordshire Plan. The meetings notes are available online: <https://www.oxfordshiregrowthboard.org/oxfordshire-housing-growth-deal-extension/>

²⁰Oxfordshire Growth Board meeting 24 September 2019. Agenda and minutes are available to view online: <http://democratic.southoxon.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=330&MIId=2473>

Co-operation in the Production of the Oxfordshire Plan

- 5.13 The Oxfordshire Plan is a Joint Statutory Spatial Plan (JSSP) which is being produced by Oxfordshire’s City and District Councils in close partnership with Oxfordshire County Council and OxLEP. The Oxfordshire Plan will provide a strategic planning framework for Oxfordshire to 2050 and will inform the production of future local plans and decision-making on development proposals. The Oxfordshire Plan is a key commitment of the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal.
- 5.14 Oxfordshire’s City and District Councils are working together to produce the Oxfordshire Plan under Section 28 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 as a means of co-operating to effectively address strategic planning matters in Oxfordshire.
- 5.15 The Oxfordshire Plan is being developed by consensus, with officers and elected members from all the Oxfordshire authorities and OxLEP working together at every stage of plan-making process to ensure that individual and collective views are taken into account. A number of mechanisms for co-operation and joint working between elected members and officers (at all levels) have been established to support the delivery of the Oxfordshire Plan (Tables 1 and 2).

Table 1: Mechanisms for co-operation and joint working between the six Oxfordshire authorities and OxLEP in the production of the Oxfordshire Plan – Officers		
Mechanism for Joint Working	Description	Frequency of Meeting
Programme Board	Senior officers from the six Oxfordshire authorities and OxLEP are responsible for overseeing the delivery, project management and finances of Growth Deal workstreams, including the Oxfordshire Plan.	Fortnightly
Heads of Planning	Oxfordshire’s City and District Councils’ Heads of Planning, with senior officers from Oxfordshire County Council and OxLEP, oversee and provide direction on the delivery of the Oxfordshire Plan and its evidence base.	Monthly
Oxfordshire Plan Core Team	A core team of planning policy officers has been established to co-ordinate the day to day delivery of the Oxfordshire Plan and its evidence base. The Core Team helps to facilitate co-operation and joint working between the six Oxfordshire authorities and OxLEP at every stage of plan-making process. Many of the Core Team officers are seconded from the Oxfordshire authorities.	Daily
Officer Liaison Meetings	Planning policy officers from Oxfordshire’s City and District Councils, with officers from Oxfordshire County Council and OxLEP, are involved in the day to day delivery of the Oxfordshire Plan and its evidence base. These officers are committed to dedicating one day per week to Oxfordshire Plan work.	Fortnightly
Working Groups	Working groups have been established to produce and/or oversee the production of specific evidence base workstreams for the Oxfordshire Plan. Working groups comprise officers from each of the Oxfordshire authorities (often these are officers with specialist expertise), the Core Team and other organisations, including OxLEP and prescribed bodies, as appropriate.	As required

Table 2: Mechanisms for co-operation and joint working between the six Oxfordshire authorities and OxLEP in the production of the Oxfordshire Plan – Elected Members		
Mechanism for Joint Working	Description	Frequency of Meeting
Oxfordshire's City and District Councils	All key stages in the plan-making process will be formally approved by Oxfordshire's City and District Councils at public meetings according to their constitutions (cabinet and/or council meetings) and subjected to the relevant scrutiny processes of each council.	As required
Oxfordshire Growth Board	The Oxfordshire Growth Board is a joint committee with the leaders of all six Oxfordshire authorities as the core voting members. The Oxfordshire Growth Board also includes associate members from OxLEP, the Universities, Oxfordshire Skills Board, Environment Agency, Homes England, Network Rail and Highways England. Whilst it is not a plan-making authority, the Growth Board discusses items relevant to the Oxfordshire Plan such as evidence base studies.	Quarterly
Oxfordshire Growth Board Advisory Sub-Group	A specialist sub-group of the Oxfordshire Growth Board which provides advisory input into the development of the Oxfordshire Plan. The Chair of the Sub-Group is drawn from the voting members of the Oxfordshire Growth Board, with the express requirement that their role is to act independently in the interests of Oxfordshire and the Growth Board, and not of their own political group or local authority area. The other members of the Sub-Group are drawn from elected members from each of the Oxfordshire authorities.	Monthly
Oxfordshire Growth Board Scrutiny Panel	Includes three councillors from each of the Oxfordshire authorities. It is empowered to review any decisions and make recommendations on reports to the Growth Board.	Quarterly

5.16 Oxfordshire's City and District Councils, in partnership with Oxfordshire County Council and OxLEP, have produced and agreed a number of key documents to support the delivery of the Oxfordshire Plan. This includes:

i. *Oxfordshire Plan Scoping Document (October 2018)*²¹

At the outset of the project, Oxfordshire's City and District Councils agreed the scope of the Oxfordshire Plan, including its geographical extent, policy context, plan period, timetable, structure, and governance arrangements.

ii. *Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) (February 2019)*²² (Revised July 2019)

The SCI sets out how and when Oxfordshire's City and District Councils intend to inform, involve and consult interested parties in the preparation of the Oxfordshire Plan. An updated SCI, which takes account of the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic, will be published alongside the second Regulation 18 consultation.

iii. *Local Development Scheme (LDS) (October 2018)*²³

The LDS sets out the timetable for producing the Oxfordshire Plan.

²¹ Oxfordshire Plan 2050 [Scoping Document](#) (October 2018)

²² Oxfordshire Plan 2050 [Statement of Community Involvement](#) (February 2019)

²³ Oxfordshire Plan 2050 [Local Development Scheme](#) (October 2018)

Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy (OxIS) Update

- 5.17 OxIS is a shared evidence base that has helped to inform local plans and to address strategic infrastructure issues, particularly transport (for example by supporting funding bids such as the Housing and Infrastructure Fund).
- 5.18 The Oxfordshire Growth Board has commissioned an OxIS update to support and inform the Oxfordshire Plan. The OxIS update will establish infrastructure investment priorities and potential delivery and funding opportunities to 2050.

6 Co-operation with Adjoining Authorities, LEPs, LNPs and Prescribed Bodies

- 6.1 Oxfordshire's City and District Councils are co-operating with adjoining authorities, adjoining LEPs, adjoining LNPs and prescribed bodies throughout the production of the Oxfordshire Plan.
- 6.2 Table 3 summarises the key stages of engagement with adjoining authorities, LEPs, LNPs and prescribed bodies to date (up to the second Regulation 18 consultation).

Timeline	Type of Engagement
Nov 2018 - Jan 2019	Oxfordshire Plan Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) Consultation Consultation on the SCI sought to ensure that the methods and timing of engagement in the plan-making process would be appropriate and effective.
Dec 2018	Oxfordshire Plan Stakeholder Launch Event A launch event was held for key stakeholders (including adjoining authorities and prescribed bodies) to introduce the Oxfordshire Plan and to ask for their initial views on what the Oxfordshire Plan's vision, aspirations and objectives should be.
Jan - Mar 2019	Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Consultation was undertaken on the Sustainability Appraisal's proposed scope and objectives.
Feb - Mar 2019	Regulation 18 (Part 1) Consultation Consultation focused on identifying Oxfordshire's key strategic issues and opportunities, developing a vision, aspirations and objectives for the Oxfordshire Plan and considering the advantages and disadvantages of different high-level spatial typologies for distributing growth in Oxfordshire.
Mar - Apr 2019	Call for Ideas An open call for broad locations to be considered through the plan-making process for housing and/or employment development, infrastructure projects or environmental designations.
May 2019	Oxfordshire Plan Stakeholder Event A further event for key stakeholders (including duty to co-operate bodies) to help refine the Oxfordshire Plan's vision, aspirations and objectives.
May 2019	Duty to Co-operate Scoping Letter A duty to co-operate scoping letter was sent to adjoining authorities, LEPs, LNPs and prescribed bodies to check that both the strategic matters, and the bodies that should be co-operated with in relation to those matters, had been correctly identified.
May 2019 - Jan 2020	Duty to Co-operate Scoping Meetings Duty to co-operate meetings were held with adjoining authorities, LEPs, LNPs and prescribed bodies to discuss the scope of the Oxfordshire Plan and relevant strategic matters in more detail.
July 2020	Duty to Co-operate Update Letter Letters were sent to adjoining authorities, LEPs, LNPs and prescribed bodies to provide an update on the revised timetable for the Oxfordshire Plan (in light of the Covid-19 pandemic), to introduce Oxfordshire Open Thought and to provide an update on next steps.

June – Aug 2020	<p>Engagement on Key Technical Challenges arising from Regulation 18 (Part 1): Oxfordshire Open Thought</p> <p>An online tool used to discuss three big challenges facing Oxfordshire as it plans for the future: how we will all live and work, how we will move around and how we will tackle climate change.</p>
Nov 2020 - Jan 2021	<p>Strategic Vision Consultation</p> <p>Whilst the Strategic Vision will have a wider role and influence, it will be a key influencer for the Oxfordshire Plan. Consultation was undertaken on the draft Strategic Vision for Oxfordshire.</p>
Dec 2020	<p>Duty to Co-operate Update Letter</p> <p>Letters were sent to adjoining authorities, LEPs, LNPs and prescribed bodies to provide an update on the revised timetable for the Oxfordshire Plan (following a new agreement with Government), to introduce the Strategic Vision and to provide an update on next steps.</p>
May - June 2021	<p>Pre-Regulation 18 (Part 2) Duty to Co-operate Meetings</p> <p>Duty to co-operate meetings were held with adjoining authorities, LEPs, LNPs and prescribed bodies to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Provide an update on the Oxfordshire Plan (work undertaken to date and proposed next steps); ii. Discuss emerging policy and spatial options and related cross-boundary strategic planning matters; iii. Discuss the Oxfordshire Plan’s emerging evidence base and related cross-boundary strategic planning matters; and iv. Receive an update from adjoining authorities, LEPs, LNPs and prescribed bodies on development plan preparation, evidence base development and/or any other work relevant to cross-boundary strategic planning matters.

6.3 In addition to the key stages of engagement set out above, there has been co-operation with relevant adjoining authorities, LEPs, LNPs and prescribed bodies through other mechanisms where appropriate, specifically:

- Where appropriate, prescribed bodies are associate members of the Oxfordshire Growth Board – for example, Highways England;
- Where appropriate, prescribed bodies are members of working groups that produce and/or oversee the production of specific evidence base workstreams for the Oxfordshire Plan (Table 1) – for example, the Environment Agency is part of the Water Cycle Study working group;
- Where appropriate, prescribed bodies have reviewed proposed methodologies and draft outputs for emerging evidence base documents - for example Natural England reviewed the proposed Habitats Regulations Assessment methodology;
- Where appropriate, prescribed bodies have reviewed and made suggestions relating to emerging policy options – for example the Environment Agency reviewed and made suggestions relating to water quality policy options;
- Where appropriate, additional duty to co-operate meetings have taken place with adjoining authorities, LEPs, LNPs and prescribed bodies; and
- Where appropriate, co-operation with adjoining authorities, LEPs, LNPs and prescribed bodies has been undertaken through related workstreams, for

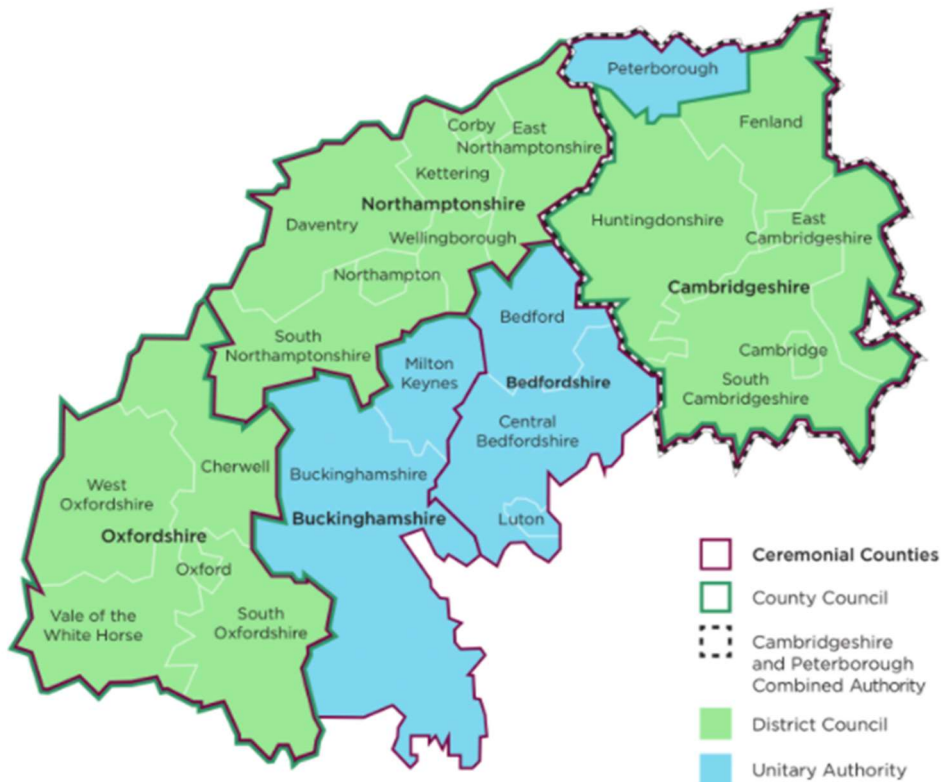
example through England Economic Heartland and Oxford-Cambridge Arc workstreams.

- 6.4 Detailed records of engagement with adjoining authorities, adjoining LEPs, adjoining LNPs and prescribed bodies and how this has helped to ensure that the Oxfordshire Plan effectively addresses strategic matters is provided at Appendix 6.

7 Co-operation across the Oxford-Cambridge Arc

- 7.1 The Oxford-Cambridge Arc (the Arc) is a globally significant area between Oxford, Milton Keynes and Cambridge. It is formed of five ceremonial counties: Oxfordshire, Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Northamptonshire and Cambridgeshire (Figure 3).

Figure 3: Oxford-Cambridge Arc



Note: On 1 April 2021 unitary authorities were created covering West Northamptonshire and North Northamptonshire.

- 7.2 The Government has identified the Arc as a national economic priority and is committed to developing, with local partners, a Spatial Framework for the Arc. The Arc Spatial Framework is being led by Government and in February 2021 an 'Introduction to the Oxford-Cambridge Arc Spatial Framework' was published. This document sets out the Government's continued commitment to working collaboratively with residents and local partners, seeking input at each stage of decision-making.
- 7.3 The Arc has already generated close cooperation between Councils, LEPs and Universities across the Arc, and the Oxfordshire Growth Board has played an active role in developing the Arc since its inception. All the Oxfordshire local authorities are committed to reaching the potential for transformational growth and environmental improvement across the Arc.
- 7.4 Many of the ambitions of the Arc align with the objectives of the Oxfordshire Plan. The Arc provides a forum for joint working across important issues such as climate change,

connectivity, environmental quality and housing needs. Alongside the Arc, the Government is investing in and supporting a number of other deals and projects. Those specifically related to Oxfordshire include the growth deal with Oxfordshire, investing in the new East West Rail link, providing £400 million of Housing Infrastructure Fund investment, an agreed city deal with Oxford, and a commitment to examine the case for development corporations, linked to the new transport hubs around East West Rail station.

- 7.5 In preparing the Oxfordshire Plan, engagement with the Government and relevant partners on the Arc forums will continue, with it likely that Oxfordshire's role within the Arc will be an increasingly important influence. Participation in the various forums, including the deals and projects referred to above, which have direct and indirect links with the Arc provide an opportunity for joint working on wider cross boundary topics such as water stress and electricity supply.
- 7.6 Engagement already takes place with those local authorities which have boundaries adjoining Oxfordshire and which are also part of the Arc area, Buckinghamshire Council and West Northamptonshire Council. It is recognised that the relationship with those Arc areas beyond those immediately adjoining are likely to vary in terms of their strength and significance.

8 Statement of Common Ground

- 8.1 In 2018, revisions to the NPPF introduced a requirement for strategic policy-making authorities to prepare and maintain one or more statements of common ground throughout the plan-making process.²⁴
- 8.2 A statement of common ground documents the cross-boundary strategic planning matters being addressed and the progress made in cooperating to address those matters. It documents where effective co-operation is and is not happening throughout the plan-making process and is a way of demonstrating at examination that plans are deliverable and based on effective joint working across local authority boundaries.²⁵ The NPPF requires that statements of common ground are produced using the approach set out in the PPG, and that they are made publicly available throughout the plan-making process to provide transparency.
- 8.3 A statement of common ground documenting the cross-boundary strategic planning matters being addressed through the production of the Oxfordshire Plan and the progress made in co-operating to address those matters will be agreed and published as part of the second Regulation 18 consultation.
- 8.4 The statement of common ground for the Oxfordshire Plan will be a living document and will be reviewed and updated throughout the plan-making process.
- 8.5 The PPG is clear that statements of common ground are expected to be concise and are not intended to document every occasion that strategic policy-making authorities meet, consult with each other or otherwise engage under the duty to co-operate. Therefore, whilst statements of common ground form part of the evidence required to demonstrate that the duty to co-operate has been complied with, they will also need to provide clear signposting or links to more detailed evidence.²⁶ This Duty to Co-operate Statement provides the detailed record of co-operation that sits behind the statement of common ground for the Oxfordshire Plan.

²⁴ A revised National Planning Policy Framework was published in July 2018 and was subsequently updated in February 2019. The requirement to produce a statement of common ground is set out at Paragraph 27.

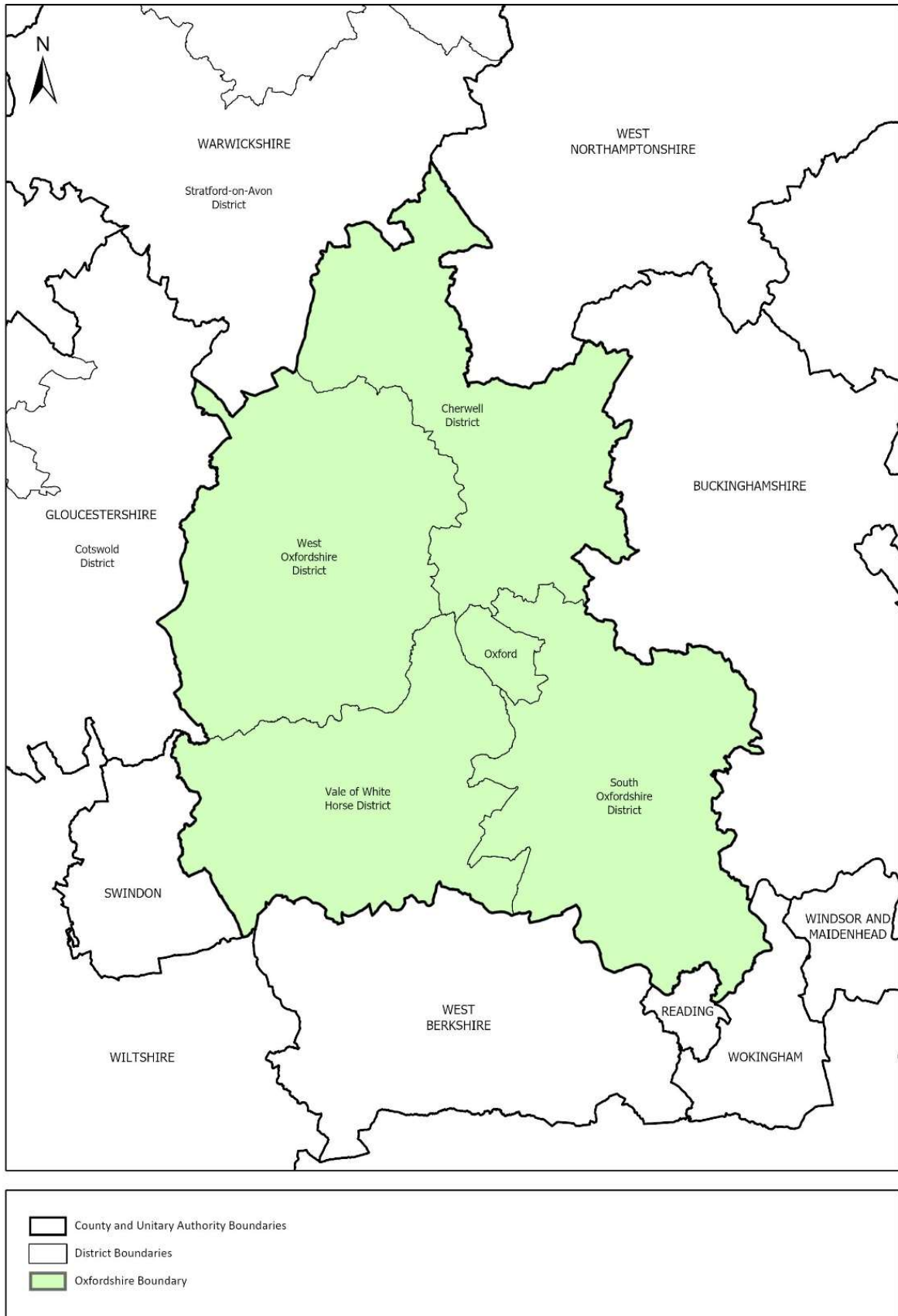
²⁵ Planning Practice Guidance: Plan-Making: Maintaining Effective Cooperation: What is a statement of common ground? Paragraph 010 Reference ID: 61-010-20190315 Revision Date: 15 03 2019

²⁶ Planning Practice Guidance: Plan-Making: Maintaining Effective Cooperation: Statement of Common Ground - Scope: What is a statement of common ground expected to contain? Paragraph 011 Reference ID: 61-011-20190315 Revision Date: 15 03 2019

9 Conclusions

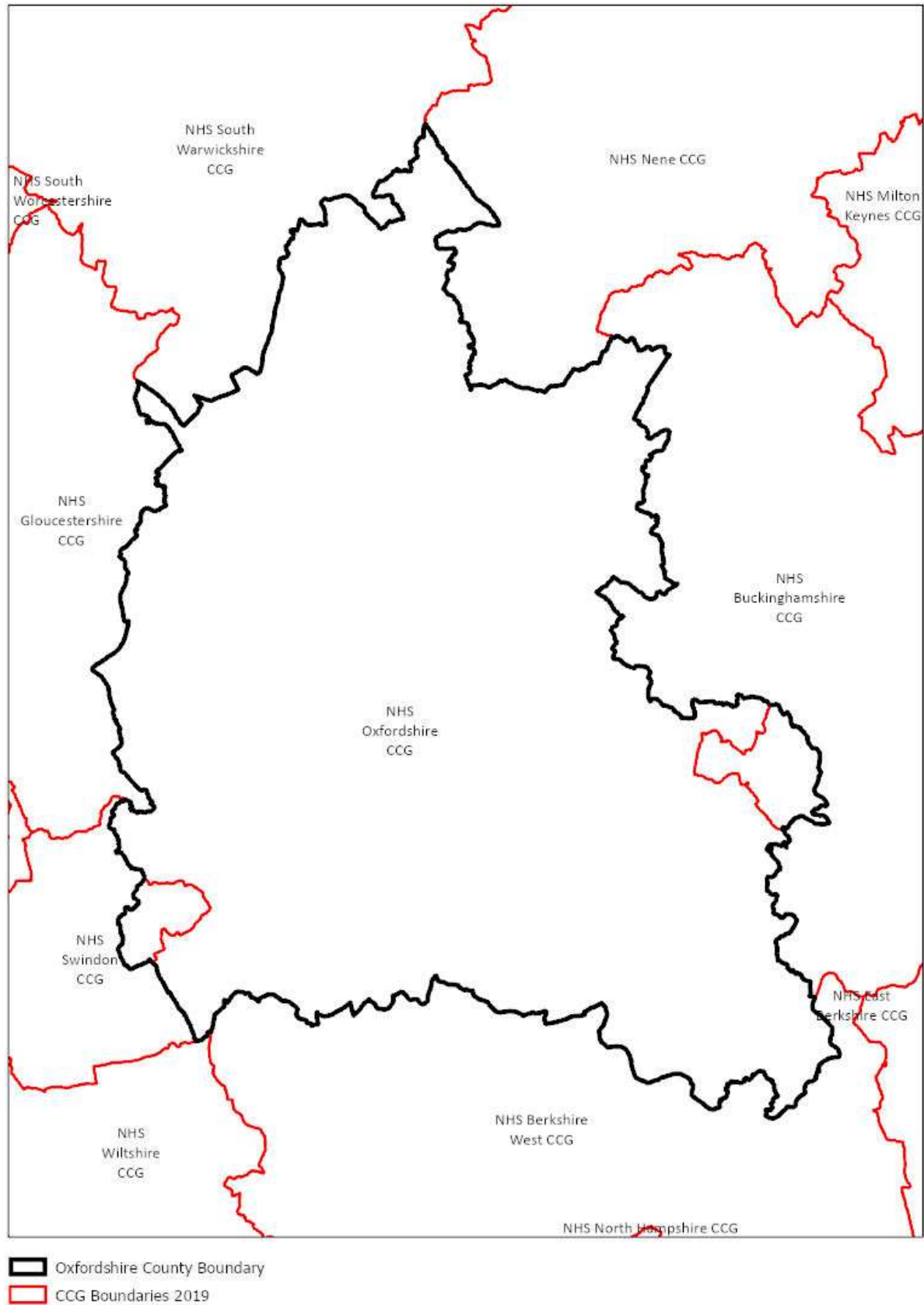
- 9.1 This Duty to Co-operate Statement sets out how Oxfordshire's City and District Councils have engaged constructively, actively and on an on-going basis with each other, Oxfordshire County Council, neighbouring authorities, prescribed bodies, LEPs and LNPs in the production of the Oxfordshire Plan to date (up to the second Regulation 18 consultation).
- 9.2 As co-operation to address cross-boundary strategic planning matters will continue throughout the plan-making process, an updated version of this Duty to Co-operate Statement will be published at the Regulation 19 stage.

Appendix 1: Neighbouring Authorities Map



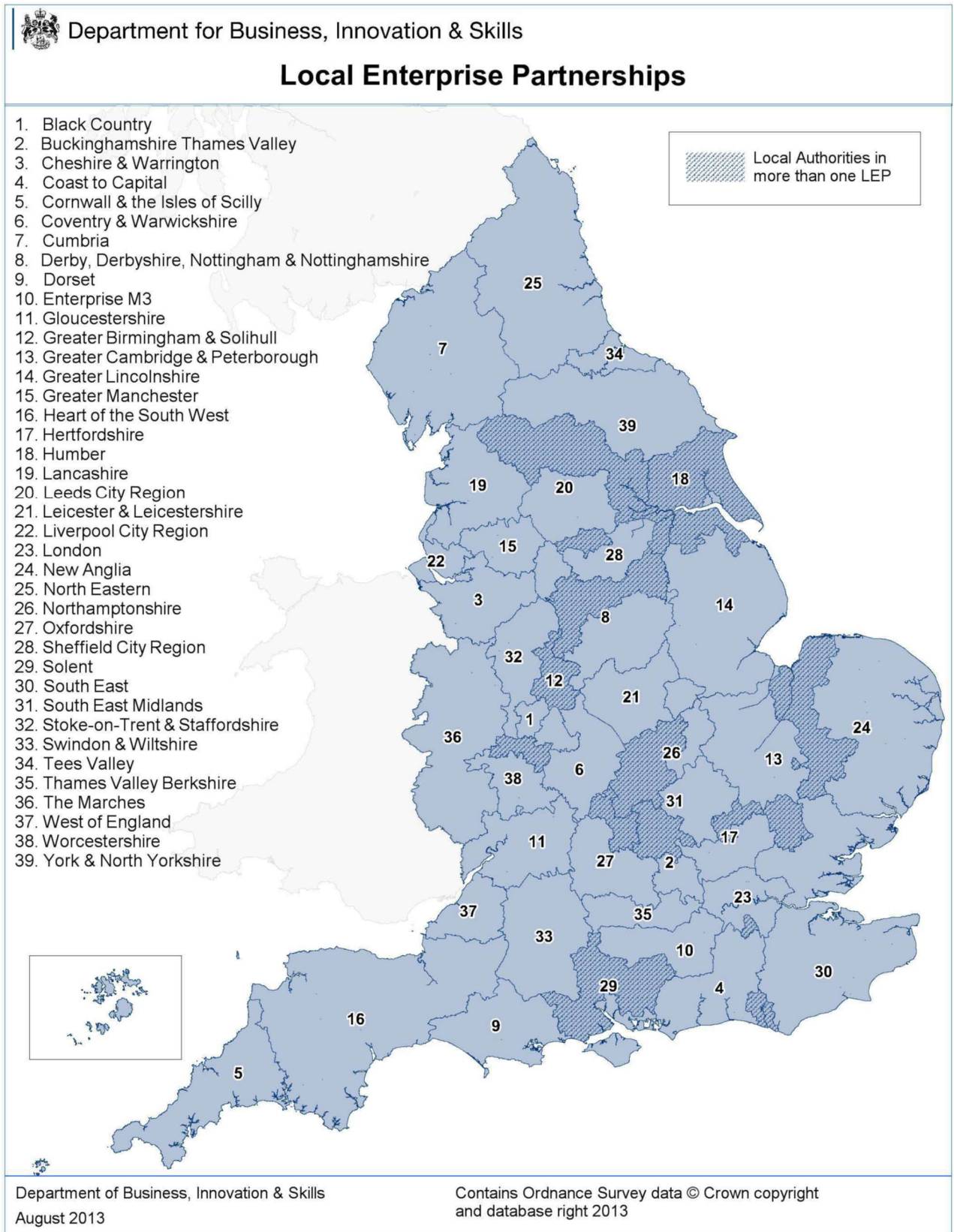
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Appendix 2: Clinical Commissioning Group Boundaries²⁷



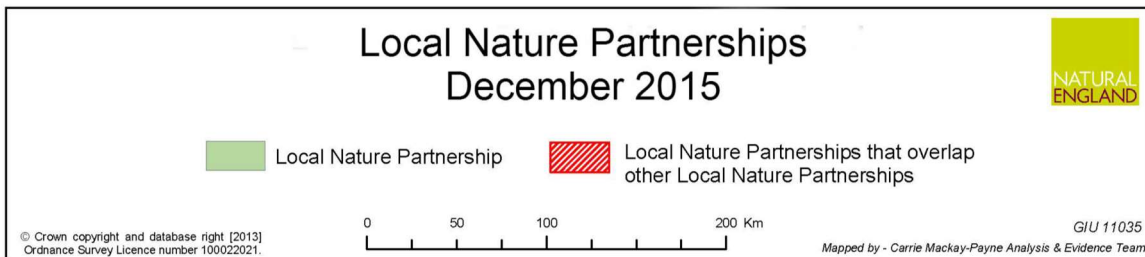
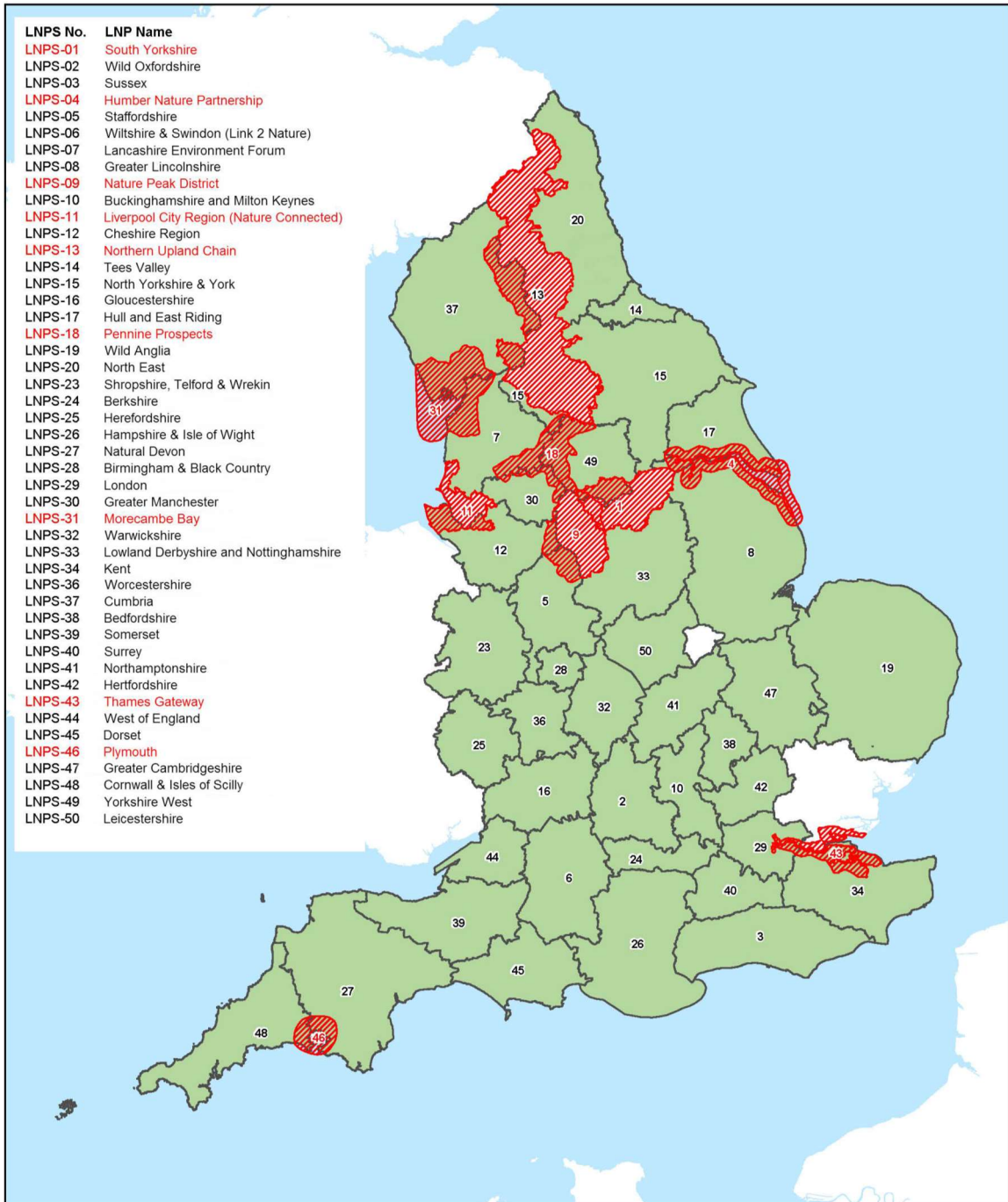
²⁷ It should be noted that NHS Swindon CCG and NHS Wiltshire CCG are now part of the Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire CCG.

Appendix 3: Neighbouring Local Enterprise Partnerships Map²⁸



²⁸ It should be noted that a review is currently underway to eliminate overlaps and to ensure that all businesses and communities are represented by one local enterprise partnership.

Appendix 4: Local Nature Partnerships Map²⁹



²⁹ It should be noted that this map was produced in 2015 and some information is now out of date. For example, it shows Wild Oxfordshire as the LNP for Oxfordshire. Oxfordshire does not currently have a LNP.

Appendix 5: Strategic Matters Matrix

	Housing Requirements	Housing Supply	Gypsies & Travellers,	Boat Dwellers	Economy & Employment	Retail\Leisure\Other Commercial Development	Transport	Community Facilities (inc. Health & Education)	Other Infrastructure (inc. Water Supply)	Healthy Place-Shaping	Climate Change (inc. Mitigation & Adaptation)	Flood Risk	Water Resources\Water Quality	Heritage & Historic Environment	Biodiversity\Natural Environment\GI	Green Belt	Contaminated Land	Landscape Quality & Character
Oxfordshire																		
Cherwell District Council	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Oxford City Council	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
South Oxfordshire District Council	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Vale of White Horse District Council	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
West Oxfordshire District Council	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Oxfordshire County Council	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓			✓	

Oxfordshire Plan 2050 - Duty to Co-operate Statement

		Housing Requirements (Housing Supply	Gypsies, & Travellers	Boat Dwellers	Economy & Employment	Retail\Leisure\Other Commercial Development	Transport	Community Facilities (inc. Health & Education)	Other Infrastructure (inc. Water Supply)	Healthy Place-Shaping	Climate Change (inc. Mitigation & Adaptation)	Flood Risk	Water Resources\Water Quality	Heritage & Historic Environment	Biodiversity\Natural Environment\GI	Green Belt	Contaminated Land	Landscape Quality & Character
Adjoining Authorities																			
Berkshire	Reading Borough Council	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓			
	West Berkshire Council	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓				✓	✓			✓			✓
	Wokingham Borough Council	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓				✓	✓			✓			
Buckinghamshire	Buckinghamshire Council	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓					✓
Gloucestershire	Cotswold District Council		✓					✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
	Gloucestershire County Council			✓		✓	✓	✓					✓			✓			✓
Northamptonshire	West Northamptonshire Council		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓		✓		✓	✓			✓
Swindon & Wiltshire	Swindon Borough Council		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓					✓	✓		✓			✓
	Wiltshire Council		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓					✓	✓		✓			✓
Warwickshire	Stratford-on-Avon District Council		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓								✓			✓
	Warwickshire County Council			✓		✓	✓	✓					✓			✓			✓

Oxfordshire Plan 2050 - Duty to Co-operate Statement

	Housing Requirements	Housing Supply	Gypsies & Travellers,	Boat Dwellers	Economy & Employment	Retail\Leisure\Other Commercial Development	Transport	Community Facilities (inc. Health & Education)	Other Infrastructure (inc. Water Supply)	Healthy Place-Shaping	Climate Change (inc. Mitigation & Adaptation)	Flood Risk	Water Resources\Water Quality	Heritage & Historic Environment	Biodiversity\Natural Environment\GI	Green Belt	Contaminated Land	Landscape Quality & Character
Prescribed Bodies																		
Civil Aviation Authority							✓											
Environment Agency		✓	✓	✓					✓		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	
Highways England	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓					✓				✓		
Historic England	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Homes England	✓	✓	✓															
Mayor of London	✓	✓			✓		✓		✓				✓					
Natural England		✓			✓		✓				✓		✓		✓			✓
NHS Buckinghamshire CCG								✓		✓								
NHS Oxfordshire CCG	✓	✓			✓			✓		✓								
NHS Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire CCG								✓		✓								
Office of Rail & Road							✓											

Oxfordshire Plan 2050 - Duty to Co-operate Statement

	Housing Requirements	Housing Supply	Gypsies & Travellers,	Boat Dwellers	Economy & Employment	Retail\Leisure\Other Commercial Development	Transport	Community Facilities (inc. Health & Education)	Other Infrastructure (inc. Water Supply)	Healthy Place-Shaping	Climate Change (inc. Mitigation & Adaptation)	Flood Risk	Water Resources\Water Quality	Heritage & Historic Environment	Biodiversity\Natural Environment\GI	Green Belt	Contaminated Land	Landscape Quality & Character
Adjoining Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs)																		
Buckinghamshire LEP	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Coventry & Warwickshire LEP	<i>To be determined (if any)</i>																	
Gloucestershire LEP	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓				✓	✓			✓			✓
South East Midlands LEP					✓	✓	✓			✓	✓				✓			
Swindon & Wiltshire LEP					✓		✓				✓				✓			
Thames Valley Berkshire LEP					✓		✓				✓							

Oxfordshire Plan 2050 - Duty to Co-operate Statement

	Housing Requirements	Housing Supply	Gypsies & Travellers,	Boat Dwellers	Economy & Employment	Retail\Leisure\Other Commercial Development	Transport	Community Facilities (inc. Health & Education)	Other Infrastructure (inc. Water Supply)	Healthy Place-Shaping	Climate Change (inc. Mitigation & Adaptation)	Flood Risk	Water Resources\Water Quality	Heritage & Historic Environment	Biodiversity\Natural Environment\GI	Green Belt	Contaminated Land	Landscape Quality & Character
Adjoining Local Nature Partnerships (LNPs)																		
Berkshire LNP															✓			✓
Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes LNP	<i>To be determined (if any)</i>																	
Gloucestershire LNP	<i>To be determined (if any)</i>																	
Northamptonshire LNP	<i>To be determined (if any)</i>																	
Swindon and Wiltshire LNP - Link to Nature	<i>To be determined (if any)</i>																	
Warwickshire LNP	<i>To be determined (if any)</i>																	

Appendix 6: Records of Co-operation

Record of Co-operation: Berkshire

This record summarises co-operation to date (up to the second Regulation 18 consultation) with:

- Reading Borough Council (Reading BC);
- West Berkshire Council;
- Wokingham Borough Council (Wokingham BC);
- Thames Valley Berkshire Local Enterprise Partnership (TVBLEP); and
- Berkshire Local Nature Partnership (LNP).

Record of Co-operation: Berkshire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
SCI Consultation	Nov 2018 - Jan 2019	Reading BC, West Berkshire Council, Wokingham BC, TVBLEP and Berkshire LNP did not submit comments on the SCI.	N/A
Stakeholder Launch Event	Dec 2018	Reading BC, West Berkshire Council, Wokingham BC, TVBLEP and Berkshire LNP did not attend this Event.	N/A
SA Scoping Report Consultation	Jan - Mar 2019	Reading BC, West Berkshire Council, Wokingham BC, TVBLEP and Berkshire LNP did not submit comments on the SA Scoping Report.	N/A
Regulation 18 Consultation (1)	Feb - Mar 2019	<p>Wokingham BC made the following comments:</p> <p><u>Cross-boundary Relationships</u> The important links between Oxfordshire and the wider region, particularly the strong economic and transport links between Oxfordshire and the Berkshire/Thames Valley areas, should be recognised and taken into account. All technical analysis and future engagement should fully recognise cross-boundary relationships and impacts.</p>	<p><u>Cross-boundary Relationships</u> The emerging Oxfordshire Plan and its supporting evidence base recognise and take account of cross-boundary relationships at a range of geographical scales.</p>

Record of Co-operation: Berkshire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<p><u>Spatial Scenarios</u> It is important that all scenarios consider the potential opportunities and impacts beyond Oxfordshire’s boundary. Co-operation with the relevant authorities beyond Oxfordshire will be vital.</p> <p><u>Strategic Infrastructure</u> A potential new Thames river crossing between Oxfordshire and the Wokingham/Reading area is of particular interest to Wokingham BC. There are historic and ongoing discussions between South Oxfordshire District Council, Oxfordshire County Council, Reading BC and Wokingham BC. This potential link should be acknowledged through the Oxfordshire Plan.</p>	<p><u>Spatial Scenarios</u> Five spatial options are identified at the second Regulation 18 stage. Potential opportunities and impacts are identified at a high level and will be tested, including through the second Regulation 18 consultation. A more detailed assessment will be undertaken to identify the Oxfordshire Plan’s spatial strategy and broad locations for growth prior to Regulation 19. This assessment process will include co-operation with adjoining authorities.</p> <p><u>Strategic Infrastructure</u> The potential for a new Thames river crossing or any other necessary transport solutions between Oxfordshire and the Wokingham/Reading area will be considered through both the plan-making process and the OxIS update. This will include consideration of need, impacts, opportunities and deliverability. There is ongoing engagement with Berkshire in relation to this matter.</p>
Call for Ideas	Mar-Apr 2019	<p>Reading BC submitted three proposals through the Call for Ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Location for an additional crossing of the River Thames, east of Reading. ▪ Park and Ride locations along three corridors into Reading from South Oxfordshire (the A4074 from Woodcote, B481 from Sonning Common and A4155 from Henley-on-Thames). ▪ Consideration of implications for strategic development on the edge of Reading. 	<p>Call for Ideas submissions will be considered through the plan-making process and, where appropriate, the OxIS update. Call for Ideas submissions will be assessed as part of the identification of the Oxfordshire Plan’s spatial strategy and broad locations for growth prior to Regulation 19.</p>

Record of Co-operation: Berkshire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
Duty to Co-operate Scoping Exercise	May 2019	<p>A joint response was submitted by Reading BC, Wokingham BC and TVBLEP which highlighted existing and on-going co-operation in relation to a potential new Thames river crossing between Oxfordshire and the Wokingham/Reading area.</p> <p>Reading BC confirmed that the schedule of matters for which it is identified as a potential duty to co-operate partner accord relatively well with those in their own Duty to Co-operate Scoping Strategy (December 2015) for which Oxfordshire authorities are identified. The principal difference is that Reading's strategy identifies a need for co-operation with South Oxfordshire District Council on strategic landscape matters, as well as on tall buildings (with such buildings in Reading likely visible from parts of the Chilterns AONB within South Oxfordshire). However, it is appreciated that these are more likely to be specific duty to co-operate matters with South Oxfordshire, rather than for the Oxfordshire Plan as a whole.</p>	Engagement with Berkshire will be undertaken under the duty to co-operate in relation to relevant strategic matters throughout the plan-making process in order to maximise the effectiveness of the Oxfordshire Plan. The strategic matters identified at this stage will be the starting point for this engagement. However, it is recognised that the strategic matters relevant to Berkshire may require review/refinement as work on the Oxfordshire Plan progresses. Discussions with Berkshire in relation to relevant strategic matters will be ongoing throughout the plan-making process.
Stakeholder Event	May 2019	Reading BC, West Berkshire Council, Wokingham BC, TVBLEP and Berkshire LNP did not attend this Event.	N/A
Duty to Co-operate Meeting	24 Sept 2019	<p>A joint duty to co-operate meeting took place with Reading BC, West Berkshire Council, Wokingham BC and TVBLEP.</p> <p><u>Housing Need and Supply</u> Berkshire's housing needs will be met within the Berkshire housing market area. There is no unmet housing need for Oxfordshire to consider.</p>	<p><u>Housing Need and Supply</u> No unmet housing need from Berkshire to consider.</p>

Record of Co-operation: Berkshire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<p><u>New Thames Crossing</u> Joint approach and evidence needed to explore the feasibility of improving north-south connections between Reading/Wokingham/Oxfordshire. One option is a bridge, but all reasonable options need to be explored. No current local plan allocations are dependent on a new Thames crossing. No funding currently identified.</p> <p><u>Park and Ride Provision</u> Reading’s local plan identifies the need for new park and ride provision. Opportunities for new sites will be sought on key corridors, this includes possible locations within South Oxfordshire.</p> <p><u>Education</u> There is pressure on secondary school places in Reading. Any growth close to Reading would need to take appropriate account of this.</p>	<p><u>New Thames Crossing</u> The potential for a new Thames river crossing or any other transport solutions between Oxfordshire and the Wokingham/Reading area will be considered through both the plan-making process and the OxIS update. This will include consideration of need, impacts, opportunities and deliverability. There is ongoing engagement with Reading Borough Council, Wokingham Borough Council and TVBLEP in relation to this matter.</p> <p><u>Park and Ride Provision</u> The potential for new park and ride provision to serve Reading will be considered through both the plan-making process and the OxIS update. This will include consideration of need, impacts, opportunities and deliverability. There is ongoing engagement with Reading Borough Council in relation to this matter.</p> <p><u>Education</u> - Potential opportunities and impacts beyond Oxfordshire’s boundary will be considered as part of the identification of the Oxfordshire Plan’s spatial strategy and broad locations for growth prior to Regulation 19.</p>
Duty to Co-operate Meeting	11 Feb 2020	A joint duty to co-operate meeting took place with neighbouring local nature partnerships, which Berkshire LNP attended. The emerging natural environment evidence base for the Oxfordshire Plan was discussed, including natural capital, nature recovery, green infrastructure, the water cycle study and Habitats Regulations Assessment. Berkshire LNP highlighted challenges related to establishing an active LNP and ensuring the strategic co-ordination of natural environment issues.	Engagement with Berkshire LNP will be undertaken under the duty to co-operate in relation to relevant strategic matters throughout the plan-making process in order to maximise the effectiveness of the Oxfordshire Plan.

Record of Co-operation: Berkshire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
Oxfordshire Open Thought	Jun - Aug 2020	Reading BC, West Berkshire Council, Wokingham BC, TVBLEP and Berkshire LNP did not submit comments via Open Thought.	N/A
Strategic Vision Consultation	Nov 2020 - Jan 2021	Reading BC, West Berkshire Council, Wokingham BC, TVBLEP and Berkshire LNP did not submit comments on the Strategic Vision.	N/A
Duty to Co-operate Meeting	14 May 2021	<p>A joint duty to co-operate meeting took place with Reading BC, West Berkshire Council, Wokingham BC, TVBLEP and Berkshire LNP.</p> <p><u>Strategic Infrastructure</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TVBLEP's Recovery & Renewal Plan includes references to north-south connectivity and A34 improvements (including bus routes between West Berkshire and Harwell). ▪ Environment Agency flood-relief schemes across the Thames river catchment area. ▪ Potential new Thames river crossing between Oxfordshire and the Wokingham/Reading area. <p>A review of the strategic matters relevant to each organisation was undertaken.</p> <p>It was agreed that a statement of common ground was not needed at the second Regulation 18 stage.</p>	<p><u>Strategic Infrastructure</u></p> <p>Strategic infrastructure requirements will be considered through both the plan-making process and the OxIS update. This will include consideration of need, impacts, opportunities and deliverability. There is ongoing engagement with Berkshire in relation to strategic infrastructure.</p>

Record of Co-operation: Buckinghamshire

This record summarises co-operation to date (up to the second Regulation 18 consultation) with:

- Aylesbury Vale District Council, Chiltern District Council, South Buckinghamshire District Council, Wycombe District Council and Buckinghamshire County Council (until 31 March 2020);
- Buckinghamshire Council (from 1 April 2020);
- Buckinghamshire Local Enterprise Partnership (BLEP); and
- Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Natural Environment Partnership (BMKLNP).

Record of Co-operation: Buckinghamshire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
SCI Consultation	Nov 2018 - Jan 2019	The Buckinghamshire councils, BLEP and BMKLNP did not submit comments on the SCI.	N/A
Stakeholder Launch Event	Dec 2018	A Buckinghamshire CC representative attended this event which introduced the Oxfordshire Plan and highlighted some of the key challenges in planning to 2050. Attendees were asked their views on Oxfordshire’s future.	Stakeholder feedback from this event fed into the first Regulation 18 consultation document.
SA Scoping Report Consultation	Jan - Mar 2019	Buckinghamshire CC confirmed that it did not have any comments on the SA Scoping Report. No comments received from the district councils, BLEP and BMKLNP.	N/A
Regulation 18 Consultation (1)	Feb - Mar 2019	<p>The Buckinghamshire authorities submitted a joint response.</p> <p><u>Plan Vision, Objectives & Aspirations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Oxfordshire Plan’s vision should emphasise future economic, transport links with neighbouring authorities and the wider south east region, with an emphasis on sustainable modes. ▪ Reference to conserving the natural environmental in the vision is insufficient given the Government’s commitment to environmental gains. 	<p><u>Plan Vision, Objectives & Aspirations</u></p> <p>The Oxfordshire Plan’s vision and objectives were amended to take account of comments received through the first Regulation 18 consultation.</p> <p>The emerging Oxfordshire Plan and its supporting evidence base recognise and take account of cross-boundary relationships at a range of geographical scales.</p>

Record of Co-operation: Buckinghamshire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Generally supportive of the aspirations but would like to see more reference to the wider context, beyond Oxfordshire, and a greater emphasis on climate change. ▪ A number of specific points were made in relation to draft objectives 1-9. <p><u>Growth Proposals</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An early understanding of how growth proposals in Oxfordshire respond to the Ox-Cam Arc and Expressway is needed. ▪ Early notification and discussion is needed should growth be proposed at Thame, Chinnor or Bicester to allow potential cross-boundary effects to be assessed. ▪ There is no mention of the Aecom study being undertaken on behalf of the Government into the options for new development in relation to new settlements and or urban extensions. However, the Arc Leaders have expressed reservations about the Aecom work and are of the view that the locations for new developments should be driven from the bottom up. This should be reflected in the Plan. It is vitally important the approach in Oxfordshire connects to the approach across the rest of the Arc. Aylesbury Vale has also already undertaken work in relation to the potential location of new settlements which should also be considered. Whichever distribution option is chosen it is essential that it maximises the use of existing or future sustainable transport options, protects environmental capital and takes into account the location of development and infrastructure in the wider sub-region beyond the county boundary. It is also observed that the longer term delivery of new settlements is 	<p>Addressing climate change and improving environmental quality have been identified as key themes within the emerging Oxfordshire Plan.</p> <p><u>Growth Proposals</u></p> <p>Five spatial options are identified at the second Regulation 18 stage. Potential opportunities and impacts are identified at a high level and will be tested, including through the second Regulation 18 consultation. A more detailed assessment will be undertaken to identify the Oxfordshire Plan’s spatial strategy and broad locations for growth prior to Regulation 19. This assessment process will include co-operation with adjoining authorities</p>

Record of Co-operation: Buckinghamshire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<p>ideally suited to the longer term nature of a plan reaching to 2050.</p> <p><u>Green Infrastructure</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The lack of reference to green infrastructure at a strategic scale is a considerable omission. The Chilterns AONB, River Thames and other assets need greater visibility. <p><u>Transport Infrastructure</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High levels of cross-boundary travel, particularly by car. The cross-boundary impacts of growth on local and strategic roads needs to be monitored and mitigated. Keen to explore opportunities for public transport and active travel connections benefiting both areas. Improving connectivity within the Oxford-Cambridge Arc corridor is key. Support improvements to rail services across the region. Freight movements on rural roads is an issue for Buckinghamshire. Buckinghamshire Freight Strategy published in 2018. More weight should be given to reducing the impacts of road freight as a key sustainability issue. Cross-boundary working on this issue welcomed. <p><u>Transport Infrastructure: Specific Ambitions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Haddenham Train Station to Thame Cycleway. Long Crendon to Thame walking and cycle opportunities. Strategic cycling network improvements, possibly including connections between all proposed East West Rail Stations. Buckingham and Brackley cycleway, with connections across the HS2 line. 	<p><u>Green Infrastructure</u></p> <p>Green infrastructure is highlighted in the second Regulation 18 consultation document, with policy options related to natural capital, nature recovery, landscape and water quality.</p> <p><u>Transport Infrastructure</u></p> <p>The emerging Oxfordshire Plan and its supporting evidence base recognise and take account of cross-boundary relationships at a range of geographical scales. Planning for sustainable travel and connectivity is a core theme in the emerging Oxfordshire Plan and the production of the Oxfordshire Plan is aligned with the production of the Oxfordshire Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (LTCP) and the OxIS update. The second Regulation 18 consultation document includes policy options related to supporting sustainable freight management. There is ongoing engagement with Buckinghamshire in relation to this matter.</p> <p><u>Transport Infrastructure: Specific Ambitions</u></p> <p>Strategic infrastructure requirements will be considered through both the plan-making process and the OxIS update. This will include consideration of need, impacts, opportunities and deliverability. There is ongoing engagement with Buckinghamshire in relation to strategic infrastructure.</p>

Record of Co-operation: Buckinghamshire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<p><u>Education</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are currently a number of Buckinghamshire residents that attend primary and secondary schools in South Oxfordshire (particularly Thame). Similarly, a number of Oxfordshire residents attend schools in Buckinghamshire (predominantly secondary school pupils). Any proposed future growth in Thame and the surrounding areas will be likely to increase demand for school places and will have an impact on pupil movements between Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire. <p><u>Wider Infrastructure</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome the focus on providing infrastructure to support electric vehicle use and the focus on redirecting energy generation towards more sustainable sources. The importance of securing adequate water resources is also acknowledged as an issue for the whole of the south east so new facilities must be viewed in that wider context and over the longer term. 	<p><u>Education</u></p> <p>Strategic infrastructure requirements will be considered through both the plan-making process and the OxIS update. Cross-boundary opportunities and impacts will be considered as part of the detailed assessment process to identify the Oxfordshire Plan's spatial strategy and broad locations for growth prior to Regulation 19. Co-operation with adjoining authorities will be undertaken as part of this process.</p> <p><u>Wider Infrastructure</u></p> <p>These points are noted.</p>
Call for Ideas	Mar-Apr 2019	The Buckinghamshire authorities, BLEP and BMKLN did not make a Call for Ideas submission.	N/A
Duty to Co-operate Scoping Exercise	May 2019	<p>The Buckinghamshire councils submitted a joint response to the Duty to Co-operate Scoping Letter.</p> <p>The district authorities are to be the leads on the following strategic matters until the new unitary authority is made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing requirements Housing supply Gypsies, Travellers, Caravan Dwellers and Travelling Showpeople Employment 	Engagement with Buckinghamshire will be undertaken under the duty to co-operate in relation to relevant strategic matters throughout the plan-making process in order to maximise the effectiveness of the Oxfordshire Plan. The strategic matters identified at this stage will be the starting point for this engagement. However, it is recognised that the strategic matters relevant Buckinghamshire may require review/refinement as work on the Oxfordshire Plan progresses. Discussions with

Record of Co-operation: Buckinghamshire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Retail, leisure and other commercial development ▪ Other infrastructure ▪ Climate Change ▪ Landscape quality and character <p>Buckinghamshire County Council is to be the lead on the following strategic matters until the new unitary authority for Buckinghamshire is made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Transport ▪ Community facilities including health and education ▪ Flood risk <p>Buckinghamshire County Council also stated that whilst water resources and water quality has not been identified as a strategic matter, they would like to be involved in discussions as the lead body for Buckinghamshire if required.</p> <p>Wycombe District Council also submitted an individual response which identified that water supply and flood risk may also be strategic cross-boundary issues with Wycombe District.</p> <p>It was suggested that the Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes' Natural Environment Partnership should be added to the list of duty to co-operate bodies as the Local Nature Partnership (LNP) for Buckinghamshire.</p>	Buckinghamshire in relation to relevant strategic matters will be ongoing throughout the plan-making process.
Stakeholder Event	May 2019	A Buckinghamshire County Council representative attended this event.	Stakeholder feedback from this event fed into the review of the Oxfordshire Plan's vision, aspirations and objectives.
Duty to Co-operate Meeting	4 Nov 2019	Duty to co-operate for the Oxfordshire Plan was added to the agenda for a regular Buckinghamshire Planning Policy Officers Group (BPPOG) meeting.	

Record of Co-operation: Buckinghamshire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<p><u>Housing Need and Supply</u> Buckinghamshire does not currently have any unmet need. Oxfordshire also anticipates meeting its own needs within its boundaries.</p> <p><u>Strategic Infrastructure</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Growth at Haddenham and/or Princes Risborough has potential to impact on infrastructure/services at Thame. ▪ Buckinghamshire County Council is keen for further discussions in relation to sustainable transport. There are opportunities through the emerging transport vision for the Oxfordshire Plan and the development of the new Oxfordshire Local Transport and Connectivity Plan. ▪ Oxfordshire County Council is putting together a proposal to look at the A41 through Bicester in 2020/21, including making it more attractive for sustainable modes. Will liaise with Buckinghamshire on cross-boundary issues. ▪ Expressway – several councils across Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire have expressed concerns or objections to the Expressway. The Oxfordshire Plan will need to test all reasonable options. <p><u>Evidence Base</u> Water – The EA raised issues related to River Thames modelling through the Wycombe local plan process. Similar issues may be raised for Oxfordshire.</p>	<p><u>Housing Need and Supply</u> No unmet housing need from Buckinghamshire to consider.</p> <p><u>Strategic Infrastructure</u> Cross-boundary opportunities and impacts will be considered as part of the detailed assessment process to identify the Oxfordshire Plan’s spatial strategy and broad locations for growth prior to Regulation 19. Co-operation with adjoining authorities will be undertaken as part of this process.</p> <p>Planning for sustainable travel and connectivity is a core theme in the emerging Oxfordshire Plan. The production of the Oxfordshire Plan is aligned with the production of the LTCP and the OxIS update. Oxfordshire County Council will engage with Buckinghamshire as part of the LTCP process. Co-operation with Buckinghamshire will also be undertaken in relation to transport evidence to support the Oxfordshire Plan.</p> <p>The Oxford to Cambridge Expressway project has now been cancelled.</p> <p><u>Evidence Base</u> Noted. This will be taken into consideration in the production of relevant evidence base studies.</p>
Duty to Co-operate Meeting	11 Feb 2020	A joint duty to co-operate meeting took place with neighbouring local nature partnerships, which BMKLNPN attended. The emerging natural environment evidence base for the Oxfordshire Plan was discussed, including natural	Engagement with BMKLNPN will be undertaken under the duty to co-operate in relation to relevant strategic matters throughout the plan-making process in order to maximise the effectiveness of the Oxfordshire Plan.

Record of Co-operation: Buckinghamshire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		capital, nature recovery, green infrastructure, the water cycle study and Habitats Regulations Assessment. BMKLN highlighted that the Buckinghamshire authorities have agreed a biodiversity accounting approach and have produced a model policy. BMKLN also highlighted strategic-scale environmental opportunities mapping across the Arc.	
Oxfordshire Open Thought	Jun - Aug 2020	Buckinghamshire Council, BLEP and BMKLN did not submit comments via Oxfordshire Open Thought.	N/A
Strategic Vision Consultation	Nov 2020 - Jan 2021	Buckinghamshire Council, BLEP and BMKLN did not submit comments on the Draft Strategic Vision for Oxfordshire.	N/A
Duty to Co-operate Meeting	27 April 2021	<p>A duty to co-operate meeting took place with Buckinghamshire Council and BLEP.</p> <p><u>Oxford-Cambridge Arc</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Alignment between the emerging Oxfordshire Plan and the emerging Arc Spatial framework. ▪ Buckinghamshire LEP is not part of Arc governance arrangements. <p><u>Growth Locations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Engagement with Buckinghamshire needed as spatial options are refined to identify the Oxfordshire Plan's spatial strategy and broad locations for growth. <p><u>Economy and Employment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The government is currently undertaking a review of the role and coverage of LEPs across England. ▪ Unknown implications of Brexit and Covid-19. ▪ BLEP's recovery strategy is based on increased productivity. 	<p><u>Oxford-Cambridge Arc</u> These points are noted.</p> <p><u>Growth Locations</u> Cross-boundary opportunities and impacts will be considered as part of the detailed assessment process to identify the Oxfordshire Plan's spatial strategy and broad locations for growth prior to Regulation 19. Co-operation with adjoining authorities will be undertaken as part of this process.</p> <p><u>Economy and Employment</u> Policy options related to the economy and employment will be published as part of the second Regulation 18 consultation. Engagement with Buckinghamshire and BLEP will continue throughout the plan-making process.</p>

Record of Co-operation: Buckinghamshire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Oxfordshire Plan needs flexibility to respond to long term change. <p>It was agreed that a statement of common ground was not needed at the second Regulation 18 stage.</p>	

Record of Co-operation: Gloucestershire

This record summarises co-operation to date (up to the second Regulation 18 consultation) with:

- Cotswold District Council (Cotswold DC)
- Gloucestershire County Council (Gloucestershire CC)
- Gloucestershire Local Enterprise Partnership (GLEP)
- Gloucestershire Local Nature Partnership (GLNP)

Record of Co-operation: Gloucestershire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
SCI Consultation	Nov 2018 - Jan 2019	Gloucestershire CC confirmed that it did not have any comments to make on the SCI. Cotswold DC, GLEP and GLNP did not submit comments on the SCI.	N/A
Stakeholder Launch Event	Dec 2018	Cotswold DC, Gloucestershire CC, GLEP and GLNP did not attend the Oxfordshire Plan Stakeholder Launch Event.	N/A
SA Scoping Report Consultation	Jan-Mar 2019	<p>Gloucestershire CC made the following comments:</p> <p><u>Cross-boundary Relationships</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In describing Oxfordshire’s location, proximity to Gloucestershire could be noted. There are links in relation to transport priorities, impacts and opportunities at a strategic and local level. The pull of the Evesham area is of relevance. 	The Oxfordshire authorities, with the SA consultants working on their behalf, reviewed all of the comments received in relation to the SA Scoping Report and considered where the SA Scoping Report required amendments. This process is set out in detail in Appendix 3 of the revised SA Scoping Report (LUC, May 2019).

Record of Co-operation: Gloucestershire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gloucestershire and Oxfordshire share the Cotswolds AONB. Challenges and opportunities related to the AONB are shared. Joint working and pooled or co-ordinated resources may better meet AONB transport challenges. ▪ Oxfordshire’s growth projections are mirrored in neighbouring counties. The effects of development and travel at a regional level may also need to be considered. <p><u>Transport Infrastructure</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Strategic and Major Road Networks are of particular relevance to both Oxfordshire and Gloucestershire. Arterial routes carry significant levels of traffic, including freight. Gloucestershire County Council are concerned about growth along the A40 if the impacts are not fully mitigated. The need for joint working in relation to freight management should be recognised. The long-term role of the A40 as an extension to the OxCam Expressway (to the M5) as needs to be considered. ▪ Gloucestershire County Council would be less concerned about growth affecting the A44 around the area of Chipping Norton, as this is a local access route. However, if the impacts of growth along the A40 are not mitigated, freight might switch to this route causing additional problems at Moreton-in-Marsh. ▪ There is no direct rail access between the Central Severn Vale of Gloucestershire and Oxford, although the new Worcestershire Parkway train station will improve connectivity. Substantial investment will be required at existing stations along the North Cotswold line to encourage and facilitate greater use of rail services. The North Cotswold Line Task Force (of which 	

Record of Co-operation: Gloucestershire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<p>Gloucestershire and Oxfordshire County Councils are members) is undertaking studies looking at improving frequency and journey times between Worcester, Oxford and London. It is also considering the infrastructure improvements required to bring about these service enhancements. It would be useful to reference this ongoing work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Providing quality bus services connecting development to stations will be critical in reducing car dependency. 	
Regulation 18 Consultation (1)	Feb-Mar 2019	<p>Gloucestershire CC made the following comments:</p> <p><u>Transport Infrastructure</u> Transport issues are a concern for Gloucestershire CC. Some transport priorities, impacts and opportunities are linked to those of Oxfordshire. The pull of the Evesham area is of relevance.</p> <p>The Strategic and Major Road Networks are of particular relevance to both Oxfordshire and Gloucestershire. Arterial routes carry significant levels of traffic, including freight. Gloucestershire County Council are concerned about growth along the A40 if the impacts are not fully mitigated. The need for joint working in relation to freight management should be recognised. The long-term role of the A40 as an extension to the OxCam Expressway (to the M5) as needs to be considered.</p> <p>Substantial investment will be required at existing stations along the North Cotswold line to encourage and facilitate greater use of rail services. The North Cotswold Line Task Force (of which Gloucestershire and Oxfordshire County Councils are members) is undertaking studies looking at</p>	<p><u>Transport Infrastructure</u> The emerging Oxfordshire Plan and its supporting evidence base recognise and take account of cross-boundary relationships at a range of geographical scales. Planning for sustainable travel and connectivity is a core theme in the emerging Oxfordshire Plan and the production of the Oxfordshire Plan is aligned with the production of the Oxfordshire LTCP and the OxIS update. The second Regulation 18 consultation document includes policy options related to supporting sustainable freight management.</p> <p>The emerging Oxfordshire Plan and its evidence base, including the OxIS update, recognises potential to enhance rail services. One of the Oxfordshire Plan’s spatial options is focused on sustainable transport hubs and corridors. Potential rail infrastructure improvements are considered at a high level within this option and will be considered in greater detail as part of the detailed assessment process to identify the Oxfordshire Plan’s</p>

Record of Co-operation: Gloucestershire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<p>improving frequency and journey times between Worcester, Oxford and London. It is also considering the infrastructure improvements required to bring about these service enhancements. It would be useful to reference this ongoing work. The relationship between the work of the NCLTF and other transport related bodies within Oxfordshire should be set out to ensure an integrated and joined up approach.</p> <p>Providing quality bus services connecting development to stations will be critical in reducing car dependency.</p>	<p>spatial strategy and broad locations for growth prior to Regulation 19. Co-operation with adjoining authorities will be undertaken as part of this process.</p>
Call for Ideas	Mar-Apr 2019	Cotswold DC, Gloucestershire CC, GLEP and GLNP did not make a Call for Ideas submission.	N/A
Duty to Co-operate Scoping Exercise	June 2019	<p>Gloucestershire CC agreed with the strategic matters identified and suggested including Network Rail and Great Western Railway as other bodies on the schedule.</p> <p>Cotswold DC identified the following strategic matters as of being of relevance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Housing Supply (specifically related to RAF Fairford) ▪ Community Facilities (inc. Health & Education) ▪ Other Infrastructure (inc. Water Supply) ▪ Climate Change (inc. Mitigation & Adaptation) ▪ Flood Risk ▪ Water Resources\Water Quality ▪ Heritage & Historic Environment <p>GLEP identified the following strategic matters as being of relevance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Housing requirements ▪ Housing supply ▪ Economy and employment ▪ Retail, leisure and other commercial development 	<p>Network Rail and Great Western Railway are not prescribed bodies for the purposes of the duty to co-operate. Engagement will be undertaken with Network Rail and Great Western Railway via other means as appropriate.</p> <p>Engagement with Gloucestershire will be undertaken under the duty to co-operate in relation to relevant strategic matters throughout the plan-making process in order to maximise the effectiveness of the Oxfordshire Plan. The strategic matters identified at this stage will be the starting point for this engagement. However, it is recognised that the strategic matters relevant to Gloucestershire may require review/refinement as work on the Oxfordshire Plan progresses. Discussions with Gloucestershire in relation to relevant strategic matters will be ongoing throughout the plan-making process.</p>

Record of Co-operation: Gloucestershire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Transport ▪ Climate Change ▪ Flood Risk ▪ Biodiversity, natural environment and green infrastructure ▪ Landscape quality and character 	
Stakeholder Event	May 2019	Cotswold DC, Gloucestershire CC, GLEP and GLNP did not attend the Stakeholder Event.	N/A
Duty to Co-operate Meeting	30 Oct 2019	<p>A joint duty to co-operate meeting took place with Cotswold DC, Gloucestershire CC and GLEP. The following issues were discussed:</p> <p><u>Cross-boundary Relationships</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Planned growth at RAF Fairford in Gloucestershire is a key issue with potential cross boundary implications for Oxfordshire. <p><u>Economy and Employment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Gloucestershire LEP is preparing a Local Industrial Strategy (LIS) focused on cyber-tech, agricultural-technologies and green issues. <p><u>Transport Infrastructure</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Gloucestershire Local Transport Plan (LTP) is currently being reviewed. The new LTP will extend to 2041 and will include ‘connecting places strategies’ with cross-boundary connectivity. Potential to link into and benefit from the Oxford-Cambridge Arc is likely to be a key aspiration. ▪ A Rail Investment Strategy has been commissioned which will cover the North Cotswolds rail corridor and aims to 	<p><u>Cross-boundary Relationships</u> Cross-boundary opportunities and impacts will be considered throughout the plan-making process.</p> <p><u>Economy and Employment</u> Noted. Potential synergies will be considered through the plan-making process.</p> <p><u>Transport Infrastructure</u> The emerging Oxfordshire Plan and its supporting evidence base recognise and take account of cross-boundary relationships at a range of geographical scales. Planning for sustainable travel and connectivity is a core theme in the emerging Oxfordshire Plan and the production of the Oxfordshire Plan is aligned with the production of the Oxfordshire LTCP and the OxIS update. Co-operation with Gloucestershire to continue in relation to this matter.</p>

Record of Co-operation: Gloucestershire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<p>deliver faster rail connections between Worcester and Oxford.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Roads such as the A40 and A44 are key corridors connecting Oxfordshire and Gloucestershire. <p><u>Strategic Matters</u> Cotswold DC identified the following additional strategic matters as being of relevance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Transport; ▪ Biodiversity/Natural Environment/Green Infrastructure ▪ Landscape Quality and Character 	<p><u>Strategic Matters</u> Engagement with Cotswold DC will be undertaken under the duty to co-operate in relation to relevant strategic matters throughout the plan-making process in order to maximise the effectiveness of the Oxfordshire Plan.</p>
Duty to Co-operate Meeting	11 Feb 2020	A joint duty to co-operate meeting took place with neighbouring local nature partnerships, which GLNP attended. The emerging natural environment evidence base for the Oxfordshire Plan was discussed, including natural capital, nature recovery, green infrastructure, the water cycle study and Habitats Regulations Assessment.	Engagement with GLNP will be undertaken under the duty to co-operate in relation to relevant strategic matters throughout the plan-making process in order to maximise the effectiveness of the Oxfordshire Plan.
Oxfordshire Open Thought	Jun - Aug 2020	Cotswold DC, Gloucestershire CC, GLEP and GLNP did not submit comments via Oxfordshire Open Thought.	N/A
Strategic Vision Consultation	Nov 2020 - Jan 2021	<p>Gloucestershire CC made the following comments on the Draft Strategic Vision for Oxfordshire:</p> <p><u>Mineral and Waste Planning Authority Comments</u> Officers broadly support the inclusion of engagement and collaboration as one of the guiding principles for the emerging Oxfordshire strategic vision. Joint working should be a priority in the future planning for minerals and waste to support growth and to help address climate change.</p>	Amendments were made to the Strategic Vision to take account of comments received prior to the Strategic Vision being agreed by the Oxfordshire authorities.

Record of Co-operation: Gloucestershire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<p><u>Historic Environment Comments</u> The Strategic Vision should acknowledge the contribution that the historic environment can make to regeneration, sense of place and wellbeing. Detailed engagement with Historic England Place Advisors and its published guidance would allow more considered inclusion of historic environment issues.</p>	
Duty to Co-operate Meeting	30 April 2021	<p>A duty to co-operate meeting took place with Gloucestershire CC, Cotswold DC and GLEP.</p> <p><u>Housing Needs and Supply</u> Gloucestershire’s housing needs to be met within the Gloucestershire housing market area.</p> <p><u>Spatial Options</u> If clusters of settlements are being considered, then the potential for cross-boundary clusters should form part of this consideration. Potential for joint evidence.</p> <p><u>Infrastructure</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing communication needed regarding transport matters, particularly concerning freight and quarry movements. Cumulative impacts of growth could start to have implications for development strategies. ▪ Education - need to recognise cross-boundary relationships (such as the draw of Chipping Campden School). <p><u>Natural Environment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Both Oxfordshire and Cotswolds DC emphasise the importance of addressing climate change, with a focus on nature-based solutions. 	<p><u>Housing Needs and Supply</u> No unmet housing need from Gloucestershire to consider.</p> <p><u>Spatial Options</u> Cross-boundary opportunities and impacts will be considered as part of the detailed assessment process to identify the Oxfordshire Plan’s spatial strategy and broad locations for growth prior to Regulation 19. Co-operation with adjoining authorities will be undertaken as part of this process.</p> <p><u>Infrastructure</u> Strategic infrastructure requirements will be considered through both the plan-making process and the OxIS update. Cross-boundary opportunities and impacts will be considered as part of the detailed assessment process to identify the Oxfordshire Plan’s spatial strategy and broad locations for growth prior to Regulation 19. Co-operation with adjoining authorities will be undertaken as part of this process. The second Regulation 18 consultation document includes policy options related to</p>

Record of Co-operation: Gloucestershire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The River Thames starts in Gloucestershire. Interventions in Gloucestershire could provide flood alleviation benefits downstream. ▪ Cotswold DC involved in discussions around possible canal extensions. Potential connections to Oxford. Cotswold DC to provide future updates. ▪ Gloucestershire authorities are utilising their nature recovery network in their HELAA process. ▪ Gloucestershire authorities noted sensitivities around North Meadow and Clattinger Farm SAC. Ongoing discussions with Natural England. This is more than 10km from Oxfordshire, however possible impacts would need to be considered if the Oxfordshire Plan proposed significant growth close to the western boundary. ▪ Cotswold AONB Management Plan is not supported by Cotswold DC. <p>It was agreed that a statement of common ground was not needed at the second Regulation 18 stage.</p>	<p>supporting sustainable freight management. There is ongoing engagement with Gloucestershire in relation to strategic infrastructure.</p> <p><u>Natural Environment</u> There is ongoing engagement with Gloucestershire in relation to natural environment matters.</p> <p>The Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) for the Oxfordshire Plan takes account of protected sites beyond Oxfordshire’s boundary. Further cross-boundary discussions to take place if there is a risk of the Oxfordshire Plan having likely significant effects on North Meadow and Clattinger Farm SAC.</p>

Record of Co-operation: Mayor of London

This record summarises co-operation to date (up to the second Regulation 18 consultation) with:

- The Mayor of London (via the Greater London Authority (GLA)).

Record of Co-operation: Mayor of London / Greater London Authority (GLA)			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
SCI Consultation	Nov 2018 - Jan 2019	The GLA did not submit comments on the SCI.	N/A
Stakeholder Launch Event	Dec 2018	The GLA did not attend this event.	N/A
SA Scoping Report Consultation	Jan - Mar 2019	The GLA did not submit comments on the SA Scoping Report.	N/A
Regulation 18 Consultation (1)	Feb - Mar 2019	The GLA did not submit comments at the first Regulation 18 (Part 1) stage.	N/A
Call for Ideas	Mar-Apr 2019	The GLA did not make a Call for Ideas submission.	N/A
Duty to Co-operate Scoping Exercise	May 2019	The GLA identified the following relevant strategic matters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Housing ▪ Employment and Economy ▪ Transport ▪ Water Management (in particular water supply/resources) 	Engagement with the GLA will be undertaken under the duty to co-operate in relation to relevant strategic matters throughout the plan-making process in order to maximise the effectiveness of the Oxfordshire Plan. The strategic matters identified at this stage will be the starting point for this engagement. However, it is recognised that the strategic matters relevant to the GLA may require review/refinement as work on the Oxfordshire Plan progresses. Discussions with the GLA in relation to relevant strategic matters will be ongoing throughout the plan-making process.
Stakeholder Event	May 2019	The GLA do not attend this event.	N/A

Record of Co-operation: Mayor of London / Greater London Authority (GLA)			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
Duty to Co-operate Meeting	14 Jan 2020	<p>A duty co-operate meeting was held with GLA officers.</p> <p>Given the number of authorities in the South East, the GLA is focused on engaging with clusters through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sub-national transport bodies ▪ Local Enterprise Partnerships ▪ Strategic partnerships looking at growth <p><u>Housing Need and Supply</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ London takes a bespoke approach to SHMAs and SHLAAs. ▪ Emerging London Plan sought to meet London’s housing needs in full, but the Inspector queried some of the assumptions around small sites which would leave a shortfall in supply compared to demand, so has advised reducing the housing target in the plan. If SoS requires an early Plan review then likely to need to explore other options to meet demand, particularly the potential to work with authorities outside of London. Not currently looking at Green Belt release. <p><u>Economy and Employment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Industrial land and logistics – London is experiencing that as land is lost, values are increasing. In parallel, demand for logistics near urban centres is increasing as things like ‘one hour delivery’ become more common. <p><u>Strategic Infrastructure</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ GLA updated infrastructure costings October 2019. Includes pooled contributions to tackle strategic items 	<p><u>Housing Need and Supply</u></p> <p>No unmet housing need from London to consider at this stage.</p> <p><u>Economy and Employment</u></p> <p>Noted. The Oxfordshire Plan will need to consider current and future trends.</p> <p><u>Strategic Infrastructure</u></p> <p>Noted. OxIS update to consider potential funding sources for strategic infrastructure.</p>

Record of Co-operation: Mayor of London / Greater London Authority (GLA)			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<p><u>Water Resources</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Mayor does not currently have a formal position on the need for the Oxfordshire reservoir. Would need to consider the evidence first. ▪ GLA emphasis on water efficiency first. 	<p><u>Water Resources</u></p> <p>Noted. The second Regulation 18 document has some ambitious options related to water efficiency.</p>
Oxfordshire Open Thought	Jun – Aug 2020	The GLA did not make a Call for Ideas submission.	N/A
Strategic Vision Consultation	Nov 2020 - Jan 2021	The GLA did not submit comments on the Strategic Vision.	N/A
Duty to Co-operate Meeting	7 Jun 2021	<p>A duty co-operate meeting was held with GLA officers.</p> <p><u>Natural Environment</u> Similarities between the London Plan and the Oxfordshire Plan. Both aspire to set exemplar policies and to push beyond national standards where possible.</p> <p><u>Oxford - Cambridge Arc</u> The relationship between the Oxfordshire Plan and the Arc Spatial Framework was discussed.</p> <p><u>Economy and Employment</u> Impacts of Covid-19 and challenges of planning for recovery. Unprecedented situation. Particular impact on high streets.</p> <p><u>Design</u> Making an efficient use of land - London delivering high densities using a 'mansion block model' where height is not appropriate.</p> <p>Value in maintaining communication, beyond the duty to co-operate, as two strategic planning bodies. Whilst London and Oxfordshire are planning at different scales there are synergies.</p>	<p><u>Natural Environment</u> Noted. There may be opportunities to learn from approaches taken in the London Plan 2021.</p> <p><u>Oxford-Cambridge Arc</u> Noted.</p> <p><u>Economy and Employment</u> Noted. Policy options related to the economy and employment will be published as part of the second Regulation 18 consultation. Oxfordshire Plan needs flexibility to respond to long term change.</p> <p><u>Design</u> Noted. There may be lessons that Oxfordshire can learn from this approach, albeit that London and Oxfordshire are planning at very different scales.</p>

Record of Co-operation: Mayor of London / Greater London Authority (GLA)			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		It was agreed that a statement of common ground was not needed at the second Regulation 18 stage.	

Record of Co-operation: West Northamptonshire

This record summarises co-operation to date (up to the second Regulation 18 consultation) with:

- Daventry District Council, Northampton Borough Council, South Northamptonshire District Council and Northamptonshire County Council (until 31 March 2021);
- West Northamptonshire Council (from 1 April 2021);
- South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership (SEMLEP); and
- Northamptonshire Local Nature Partnership (NLNP).

Record of Co-operation: West Northamptonshire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
SCI Consultation	Nov 2018 - Jan 2019	The West Northamptonshire authorities, SEMLEP and NLNP did not submit comments on the SCI.	N/A
Stakeholder Launch Event	Dec 2018	A joint Cherwell DC and South Northamptonshire DC representative attended this event.	Stakeholder feedback from this event fed into the Regulation 18 (1) consultation document.
SA Scoping Report Consultation	Jan - Mar 2019	Cherwell DC and South Northamptonshire DC submitted joint comments on the SA Scoping Report. They highlighted that several of the numbers in Table 3.9 of the SA Scoping Report were inaccurate and recommended that this be checked by the Thames Valley Records Centre.	The Oxfordshire authorities, with the SA consultants working on their behalf, reviewed all of the comments received in relation to the SA Scoping Report and considered where the SA Scoping Report required amendments. This process is set out in detail in Appendix 3 of the revised SA Scoping Report (LUC, May 2019).
Regulation 18 Consultation (1)	Feb - Mar 2019	The West Northamptonshire authorities, SEMLEP and NLNP did not submit comments at Regulation 18 (1).	N/A

Record of Co-operation: West Northamptonshire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
Call for Ideas	Mar-Apr 2019	The West Northamptonshire authorities, SEMLEP and NLNP did not make a Call for Ideas submission.	N/A
Duty to Co-operate Scoping Exercise	May 2019	<p>South Northamptonshire DC identified the following additional strategic matters as being of relevance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Heritage and Historic Environment ▪ Landscape quality and character ▪ Healthy place-shaping ▪ Transport <p>Northamptonshire CC stated that the strategic matters of relevance are transport and flood risk.</p> <p>SEMLEP stated its significant interest in the Oxfordshire Plan as a neighbouring LEP and as part of the Oxford to Cambridge Arc.</p>	Engagement with West Northamptonshire will be undertaken under the duty to co-operate in relation to relevant strategic matters throughout the plan-making process in order to maximise the effectiveness of the Oxfordshire Plan. The strategic matters identified at this stage will be the starting point for this engagement. However, it is recognised that the strategic matters relevant to West Northamptonshire may require review/refinement as work on the Oxfordshire Plan progresses. Discussions with West Northamptonshire in relation to relevant strategic matters will be ongoing throughout the plan-making process.
Stakeholder Event	May 2019	The West Northamptonshire authorities, SEMLEP and NLNP did not attend this event.	N/A
Duty to Co-operate Meeting	27 April 2020	<p>A joint duty to co-operate meeting was held with Northampton Borough Council, South Northamptonshire Council and the West Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit.</p> <p><u>Housing Needs and Supply</u> The West Northamptonshire authorities expect to meet their own development needs.</p> <p><u>Oxford - Cambridge Arc</u> Both Oxfordshire and West Northamptonshire are part of the Arc and the authorities will also work together as part of that project.</p>	<p><u>Housing Needs and Supply</u> No unmet housing need from West Northamptonshire to consider.</p> <p><u>Oxford - Cambridge Arc</u> Noted. Joint working across the Arc will continue as the Government seeks to develop a Spatial Framework.</p>

Record of Co-operation: West Northamptonshire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<p><u>Infrastructure</u></p> <p>The importance of health facilities in Oxfordshire to residents of West Northamptonshire was highlighted - particularly Horton General Hospital (Banbury) and the John Radcliffe (Oxford). Access to the John Radcliffe is a particular concern.</p> <p>The West Northamptonshire districts are also working together to produce a joint strategic plan to 2050. There are mutual benefits to having conversations that go beyond duty to co-operate matters and start to share experiences and lessons learnt from joint planning to 2050.</p>	<p><u>Infrastructure</u></p> <p>Strategic infrastructure requirements will be considered through both the plan-making process and the OxIS update. This will include consideration of cross-boundary opportunities and impacts.</p>
Duty to Co-operate Meeting	30 June 2020	<p>A joint duty to co-operate meeting was held with Daventry District Council, Northampton Borough Council, South Northamptonshire Council and the West Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit.</p> <p><u>Housing Needs and Supply</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Oxfordshire seeking to align HELAAs. Discussed experiences in West Northamptonshire and the use of an expert panel. ▪ West Northants housing and economic needs assessment underway. Interim findings received. The West Northamptonshire authorities still expect to meet their own development needs. ▪ Oxfordshire Growth Needs Assessment (OGNA) addendum commissioned to take account of Covid-19. <p><u>Cross-boundary Relationships</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Banbury’s role as a service centre extends into West Northamptonshire. 	<p><u>Housing Needs and Supply</u></p> <p>No unmet housing need from West Northamptonshire to consider.</p> <p><u>Cross-boundary Relationships</u></p> <p>Cross-boundary opportunities and impacts will be considered as part of the detailed assessment process to identify the Oxfordshire Plan’s spatial strategy and broad locations for growth prior to Regulation 19. Co-operation with adjoining authorities will be undertaken as part of this process.</p>

Record of Co-operation: West Northamptonshire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<p><u>Infrastructure</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> West Northamptonshire authorities working with SEMLEP and EEH on a Strategic Infrastructure Plan. 	<p><u>Infrastructure</u></p> <p>Noted. Potential synergies will be considered through the plan-making process.</p>
Oxfordshire Open Thought	Jun - Aug 2020	The West Northamptonshire authorities, SEMLEP and NLNP did not submit comments via Oxfordshire Open Thought.	N/A
Strategic Vision Consultation	Nov 2020 - Jan 2021	The West Northamptonshire authorities, SEMLEP and NLNP did not submit comments on the Draft Strategic Vision.	N/A
Duty to Co-operate Meeting	11 May 2021	<p>A duty to co-operate meeting was held with West Northamptonshire Council and SEMLEP.</p> <p><u>Housing Needs and Supply</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> West Northamptonshire housing and economic needs assessment nearing completion. Additional work undertaken to take account of Covid-19. West Northamptonshire still expect to meet their own development needs. <p><u>Spatial Options</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> West Northamptonshire developing a set of spatial options. Expected publication July 2021. West Northamptonshire commissioning work on new settlements. Will consider the potential role of new settlements, areas of search and all reasonable alternatives. West Northamptonshire testing spatial options against different infrastructure packages. More detailed site specific work to follow. 	<p><u>Housing Needs and Supply</u></p> <p>No unmet housing need from West Northamptonshire to consider.</p> <p><u>Spatial Options</u></p> <p>Cross-boundary impacts and opportunities to be considered throughout the plan-making process. No significant considerations for Oxfordshire identified at this stage.</p>

Record of Co-operation: West Northamptonshire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<u>Economy and Employment</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SEMLEP Economic Recovery Strategy published December 2020. Increased emphasis on environmental sustainability and net zero carbon. <p>It was agreed that a statement of common ground was not needed at the second Regulation 18 stage.</p>	<u>Economy and Employment</u> Synergies with Oxfordshire's Recovery Strategy are noted.

Record of Co-operation: Swindon and Wiltshire

This record summarises co-operation to date (up to the second Regulation 18 consultation) with:

- Swindon Borough Council (Swindon BC);
- Wiltshire Council;
- Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership (SWLEP); and
- Swindon and Wiltshire Local Nature Partnership (SWLNP).

Record of Co-operation: Swindon and Wiltshire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
SCI Consultation	Nov 2018 - Jan 2019	Swindon BC, Wiltshire Council, SWLEP and SWLNP did not submit comments on the SCI.	N/A
Stakeholder Launch Event	Dec 2018	Swindon BC, Wiltshire Council, SWLEP and SWLNP did not attend this event.	N/A
SA Scoping Report Consultation	Jan - Mar 2019	Swindon BC, Wiltshire Council, SWLEP and SWLNP did not submit comments on the SA Scoping Report.	N/A
Regulation 18 Consultation (1)	Feb - Mar 2019	Swindon BC, Wiltshire Council, SWLEP and SWLNP did not submit comments at Regulation 18 (1).	N/A

Record of Co-operation: Swindon and Wiltshire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
Call for Ideas	Mar-Apr 2019	Swindon BC, Wiltshire Council, SWLEP and SWLNP did not make a Call for Ideas submission.	N/A
Duty to Co-operate Scoping Exercise	May 2019	Swindon BC advised that water resources/quality should be added to the strategic matters of relevance to Swindon Borough given that Oxfordshire and Swindon are in the same catchment area and there are known concerns over long-term security of supply.	Engagement with Swindon and Wiltshire will be undertaken under the duty to co-operate in relation to relevant strategic matters throughout the plan-making process in order to maximise the effectiveness of the Oxfordshire Plan. The strategic matters identified at this stage will be the starting point for this engagement. However, it is recognised that the strategic matters relevant to Swindon and Wiltshire may require review/refinement as work on the Oxfordshire Plan progresses. Discussions with Swindon and Wiltshire in relation to relevant strategic matters will be ongoing throughout the plan-making process.
Stakeholder Event	May 2019	Swindon BC, Wiltshire Council, SWLEP and SWLNP did not attend this event.	N/A
Liaison Meeting	12 Nov 2019	Members of the Oxfordshire Plan Core Team attended a regular Oxfordshire/Swindon liaison meeting. The matters discussed included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Oxfordshire Plan progress, feedback from Regulation 18 (1) and next steps. ▪ Update on emerging Oxfordshire LTCP ▪ Update on strategic planning in Swindon, including Local Plan progress and New Eastern Villages. ▪ England's Economic Heartland. ▪ Oxford-Cambridge Expressway. ▪ Oxfordshire Rail Study. ▪ A420 corridor. 	Swindon's New Eastern Villages are close to the Oxfordshire boundary and there are potential cross boundary impacts and opportunities that need to be considered through the plan-making process. Transport is a key strategic matter with Swindon. The emerging Oxfordshire Plan and its supporting evidence base recognise and take account of cross-boundary relationships at a range of geographical scales. Planning for sustainable travel and connectivity is a core theme in the emerging Oxfordshire Plan and the production of the Oxfordshire Plan is aligned with the production of the Oxfordshire LTCP and the OxIS update. There will be ongoing engagement with Swindon and Wiltshire in relation to this matter.

Record of Co-operation: Swindon and Wiltshire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
Liaison Meeting	3 March 2020	<p>Members of the Oxfordshire Plan Core Team attended a regular Oxfordshire/Swindon liaison meeting. The matters discussed included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Oxfordshire Plan progress, forthcoming Open Thought engagement and evidence commissioned. ▪ Update on emerging Oxfordshire LTCP. ▪ Update on strategic planning in Swindon, including Local Plan progress and New Eastern Villages. ▪ Rail strategies. 	<p>Swindon's New Eastern Villages are close to the Oxfordshire boundary and there are potential cross boundary impacts and opportunities that need to be considered through the plan-making process.</p> <p>The emerging Oxfordshire Plan and its evidence base, including the OxIS update, recognises potential to enhance rail services. One of the Oxfordshire Plan's spatial options is focused on sustainable transport hubs and corridors. Potential rail infrastructure improvements are considered at a high level within this option and will be considered in greater detail as part of the detailed assessment process to identify the Oxfordshire Plan's spatial strategy and broad locations for growth prior to Regulation 19. Co-operation with adjoining authorities will be undertaken as part of this process.</p>
Oxfordshire Open Thought	Jun - Aug 2020	Swindon BC, Wiltshire Council, SWLEP and SWLNP did not make an Open Thought submission.	N/A
Liaison Meeting	17 Sept 2020	<p>Members of the Oxfordshire Plan Core Team attended a regular Oxfordshire/Swindon liaison meeting. The matters discussed included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Oxfordshire Plan progress and timetable updates. ▪ Update on emerging Oxfordshire LTCP. ▪ Update on strategic planning in Swindon including Local Plan progress and New Eastern Villages. 	Swindon's New Eastern Villages are close to the Oxfordshire boundary and there are potential cross boundary impacts and opportunities that need to be considered through the plan-making process.
Strategic Vision Consultation	Nov 2020 - Jan 2021	Swindon BC, Wiltshire Council, SWLEP and SWLNP did not submit comments on the Strategic Vision.	N/A
Liaison Meeting	18 March 2021	Members of the Oxfordshire Plan Core Team attended a regular Oxfordshire/Swindon liaison meeting. The matters discussed included:	Swindon's New Eastern Villages are close to the Oxfordshire boundary and there are potential cross

Record of Co-operation: Swindon and Wiltshire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Oxfordshire Plan progress, new timetable, development of policy options and spatial strategy, and Strategic Vision. ▪ Update on emerging Oxfordshire LTCP. ▪ Update on strategic planning in Swindon including Local Plan progress and New Eastern Villages. ▪ Rail and bus matters 	<p>boundary impacts and opportunities that need to be considered through the plan-making process.</p> <p>Transport is a key strategic matter with Swindon. Planning for sustainable travel and connectivity is a core theme in the emerging Oxfordshire Plan and the production of the Oxfordshire Plan is aligned with the production of the Oxfordshire LTCP and the OxIS update. There will be ongoing engagement with Swindon in relation to this matter.</p>
Duty to Co-operate Meeting	10 May 2021	<p>A duty to co-operate meeting was held with Swindon BC, Wiltshire Council and SWLEP.</p> <p><u>Housing Need and Supply</u> Swindon BC and Wiltshire Council have joint housing and economic needs evidence, which needs updating to take account of Covid-19. Swindon and Wiltshire are not looking to OXFORDSHIRE to accommodate any unmet housing need.</p> <p><u>Spatial Options</u> Oxfordshire’s spatial strategy options recognise cross-boundary functional relationships. The relationship with Swindon is likely to be particularly important in south-west Oxfordshire. This will be a key consideration in Spatial Strategy Option 5 (supporting rural communities). Relationships to be further explored as work progresses.</p> <p>The need to consider infrastructure capacity/delivery in identifying the Oxfordshire Plan’s spatial strategy was highlighted.</p>	<p><u>Housing Need and Supply</u> No unmet housing need from Swindon and Wiltshire to consider.</p> <p><u>Spatial Options</u> Five spatial options are identified at the second Regulation 18 stage. Potential opportunities and impacts are identified at a high level and will be tested, including through the second Regulation 18 consultation. A more detailed assessment will be undertaken to identify the Oxfordshire Plan’s spatial strategy and broad locations for growth prior to Regulation 19. This assessment process will include co-operation with adjoining authorities.</p>

Record of Co-operation: Swindon and Wiltshire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<p><u>Cross-Boundary Relationships</u> The need for the Oxfordshire Plan to consider different spatial geographies (based around different economic, policy/programme and transport influencers) was highlighted. This includes EEH, the Oxford - Cambridge Arc and the Fast Growth Cities Network.</p> <p><u>Transport</u> A key area for collaboration between Swindon, Wiltshire and Oxfordshire will be transport.</p> <p>SWLEP is exploring new energy vehicles (particularly hydrogen) and potential impacts on key routes, including the M4 and A420. Engagement with logistics businesses is being undertaken.</p> <p>Swindon and Wiltshire Rail Strategy work is ongoing. Bids submitted for Corsham and Wilton</p> <p><u>Natural Environment</u> SWLEP has joint funded PhD research into natural capital. The research will take five years to complete, but outputs will be published in stages.</p> <p><u>Economy & Employment</u> Swindon and Wiltshire Local Industrial Strategy published March 2020.</p> <p>Innovation Campus at Wroughton linked to the circular economy.</p> <p><u>Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople</u> Lack of time for detailed discussion. No cross-boundary issues raised but further discussion needed.</p>	<p><u>Cross-Boundary Relationships</u> The emerging Oxfordshire Plan and its supporting evidence base recognise and take account of cross-boundary relationships at a range of geographical scales.</p> <p><u>Transport</u> Transport is a key strategic matter with Swindon. Planning for sustainable travel and connectivity is a core theme in the emerging Oxfordshire Plan and the production of the Oxfordshire Plan is aligned with the production of the Oxfordshire LTCP and the OxIS update. There will be ongoing engagement with Swindon in relation to this matter.</p> <p><u>Natural Environment</u> Noted. Any staged outputs will be considered where their timing aligns with the production of the Oxfordshire Plan and its evidence base.</p> <p><u>Economy & Employment</u> Noted. Consideration will be given to any learning that can be taken from circular economy examples/best practice.</p> <p><u>Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople</u> Topic to be picked up at next duty to co-operate meeting.</p>

Record of Co-operation: Swindon and Wiltshire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<p><u>Water Supply/Water Quality</u> This is to be identified as a strategic matter for Wiltshire Council. Strategic water transfer infrastructure being considered in Wiltshire. (Note that this is not expected to relate to Swindon and Oxfordshire, as Wiltshire is in a different water supply area.)</p> <p>It was agreed that a statement of common ground was not needed at the second Regulation 18 stage.</p>	<p><u>Water Supply/Water Quality</u> Noted. Strategic matters matrix updated. Future engagement to take place with Wiltshire Council in relation to water supply/water quality.</p>

Record of Co-operation: Warwickshire

This record summarises duty to co-operation to date (up to the second Regulation 18 consultation) with:

- Stratford-Upon-Avon District Council (Stratford-Upon-Avon DC);
- Warwickshire County Council (Warwickshire CC);
- Coventry and Warwickshire LEP (CWLEP); and
- Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull Local Nature Partnership (WCSLNP).

Record of Co-operation: Warwickshire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	How this has shaped the Oxfordshire Plan
SCI Consultation	Nov 2018 - Jan 2019	Stratford-Upon-Avon DC, Warwickshire CC, CWLEP and WCSLNP did not submit comments on the SCI.	N/A
Stakeholder Launch Event	Dec 2018	Stratford-Upon-Avon DC, Warwickshire CC, CWLEP and WCSLNP did not attend this event.	N/A
SA Scoping Report Consultation	Jan - Mar 2019	Stratford-Upon-Avon DC, Warwickshire CC, CWLEP and WCSLNP did not submit comments on the SA Scoping Report.	N/A

Record of Co-operation: Warwickshire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	How this has shaped the Oxfordshire Plan
Regulation 18 Consultation (1)	Feb - Mar 2019	<p>Warwickshire CC made the following comments:</p> <p><u>Transport Infrastructure</u> The Oxfordshire Economic Plan identifies transport schemes that will support the ‘knowledge spine’, which is a fundamental component of the Ox-Cam Arc. Oxfordshire County Council is also refreshing its transport evidence. Joining up these strategic opportunities would be mutually beneficial.</p> <p>Warwickshire CC wishes to work with the Oxfordshire authorities to develop a joint understanding of the likely cumulative impacts of strategic growth in Oxfordshire on a number of key routes in Warwickshire.</p> <p>Warwickshire CC is supportive of the three transport themes set out in the strategy and considers that improved rail infrastructure and services will have a positive impact on these aims. Of specific relevance is the further development of the Nuneaton - Coventry - Kenilworth - Leamington (NUCKLE) corridor where there are aspirations to develop services beyond Warwickshire to the Thames Valley and the East Midlands.</p> <p>Connectivity to the proposed East-West rail services is important and Warwickshire CC will continue to work with the relevant train operators to ensure successful integration with key rail corridors such as the West Coast Main Line and Chiltern Line.</p> <p>Both Oxfordshire County Council and Warwickshire CC are members of the North Cotswold Line Taskforce and are</p>	<p><u>Transport Infrastructure</u> Planning for sustainable travel and connectivity is a core theme in the emerging Oxfordshire Plan and the production of the Oxfordshire Plan is aligned with the production of the Oxfordshire Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (LTCP) and the OxIS update. There will be ongoing co-operation with Warwickshire in relation to this strategic matter.</p> <p>The emerging Oxfordshire Plan and its evidence base, including the OxIS update, recognises potential to enhance rail services. One of the Oxfordshire Plan’s spatial options is focused on sustainable transport hubs and corridors. Potential rail infrastructure improvements are considered at a high level within this option and will be considered in greater detail as part of the detailed assessment process to identify the Oxfordshire Plan’s spatial strategy and broad locations for growth prior to Regulation 19. Co-operation with adjoining authorities will be undertaken as part of this process.</p>

Record of Co-operation: Warwickshire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	How this has shaped the Oxfordshire Plan
		<p>committed to working to secure infrastructure and service improvements to the North Cotswold Line.</p> <p><u>Cross-Boundary Relationships</u> There are shared synergies and growth ambitions between the Warwickshire and Oxfordshire economic areas.</p> <p>Stratford-Upon-Avon DC made the following comments:</p> <p><u>Vision and Aspirations</u> Generally support the vision but note that there is no reference to the wider context or role of Oxfordshire.</p> <p>The five aspirations seem appropriate. However, it is suggested that explicit reference is made to the Cotswolds AONB under Aspiration 1 and acknowledgement of the regional role of Oxfordshire under Aspirations 4 and 5 in particular.</p> <p><u>Cross-Boundary Relationships</u> The wider context for Oxfordshire is missing from the consultation document which could otherwise help to inform which option or options may be preferable.</p>	<p><u>Cross-boundary Relationships</u> The emerging Oxfordshire Plan and its supporting evidence base recognise and take account of cross-boundary relationships at a range of geographical scales.</p> <p><u>Vision, Objectives & Aspirations</u> The Oxfordshire Plan's vision and objectives were amended to take account of comments received through the first Regulation 18 consultation.</p>
Call for Ideas	Mar-Apr 2019	Stratford-Upon-Avon DC, Warwickshire CC, CWLEP and WCSLNP did not make a Call for Ideas submission.	N/A
Duty to Co-operate Scoping Exercise	May 2019	<p>Warwickshire CC confirmed it is content with the strategic matters identified as being relevant.</p> <p>Stratford-Upon-Avon DC made the following comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Is necessary to distinguish between housing requirements and housing supply as strategic matters? 	Engagement with Warwickshire will be undertaken under the duty to co-operate in relation to relevant strategic matters throughout the plan-making process in order to maximise the effectiveness of the Oxfordshire Plan. The strategic matters identified at this stage will be the starting point for this engagement. However, it is recognised that the strategic matters relevant to

Record of Co-operation: Warwickshire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	How this has shaped the Oxfordshire Plan
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The relevance of strategic matters will only be known when the spatial strategy has been identified. 	Warwickshire may require review/refinement as work on the Oxfordshire Plan progresses. Discussions with Warwickshire in relation to relevant strategic matters will be ongoing throughout the plan-making process.
Stakeholder Event	May 2019	Stratford-Upon-Avon DC, Warwickshire CC, CWLEP and WCSLNP did not attend this event.	N/A
Duty to Co-operate Meeting	11 Feb 2020	A joint duty to co-operate meeting took place with neighbouring local nature partnerships, which WCSLP attended. The emerging natural environment evidence base for the Oxfordshire Plan was discussed, including natural capital, nature recovery, green infrastructure, the water cycle study and Habitats Regulations Assessment. WCSLNP highlighted that they hold habitats data going back a number of years and which helps to identify long-term trends. They are also undertaking monitoring using European Space Agency imagery.	Engagement with WCSLNP will be undertaken under the duty to co-operate in relation to relevant strategic matters throughout the plan-making process in order to maximise the effectiveness of the Oxfordshire Plan.
Oxfordshire Open Thought	Jun - Aug 2020	Stratford-Upon-Avon DC, Warwickshire CC, CWLEP and WCSLNP did not make an Open Thought submission.	N/A
Strategic Vision Consultation	Nov 2020 - Jan 2021	Stratford-Upon-Avon DC, Warwickshire CC, CWLEP and WCSLNP did not submit comments on the Strategic Vision.	N/A
Duty to Co-operate Meeting	9 June 2021	<p>Duty to co-operate for the Oxfordshire Plan was added to the agenda for a regular Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire Association of Planning officers (CSWAPO) meeting. (This included representatives from Stratford-Upon-Avon DC, Warwickshire CC and CWLEP.)</p> <p>An update on Oxfordshire Plan progress and next steps was provided.</p>	

Record of Co-operation: Warwickshire			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	How this has shaped the Oxfordshire Plan
		<p><u>Strategic Matters</u> It was agreed to keep the strategic matters for co-operation under review and to meet again, if necessary, following the start of the second Regulation 18 consultation.</p> <p><u>Housing Need and Supply</u> There is no unmet need from Warwickshire to discuss with Oxfordshire. The unmet need of Coventry is being met within the Warwickshire housing market area.</p> <p>It was agreed that a statement of common ground was not needed at the second Regulation 18 stage.</p>	<p><u>Strategic Matters</u> Noted. Strategic will be kept under review.</p> <p><u>Housing Need and Supply</u> No unmet housing need from Warwickshire to consider.</p>

Record of Co-operation: The Civil Aviation Authority

This record summarises co-operation to date (up to the second Regulation 18 consultation) with the Civil Aviation Authority.

Record of Co-operation: The Civil Aviation Authority			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
SCI Consultation	Nov 2018 - Jan 2019	The Civil Aviation Authority did not submit comments on the SCI.	N/A
Stakeholder Launch Event	Dec 2018	The Civil Aviation Authority did not attend this event.	N/A
SA Scoping Report Consultation	Jan - Mar 2019	The Civil Aviation Authority did not submit comments on the SA Scoping Report.	N/A
Regulation 18 Consultation (1)	Feb - Mar 2019	The Civil Aviation Authority did not submit comments through the first Regulation 18 consultation.	N/A
Call for Ideas	Mar-Apr 2019	The Civil Aviation Authority did not make a Call for Ideas submission.	N/A
Duty to Co-operate Scoping Exercise	May 2019	The Civil Aviation Authority did not respond to the duty to co-operate scoping exercise.	N/A
Stakeholder Event	May 2019	The Civil Aviation Authority did not attend this event.	N/A
Oxfordshire Open Thought	Jun - Aug 2020	The Civil Aviation Authority did not make a submission via Oxfordshire Open Thought.	N/A
Strategic Vision Consultation	Nov 2020 - Jan 2021	The Civil Aviation Authority did not comment on the Strategic Vision.	N/A

Record of Co-operation: Clinical Commissioning Groups

This record summarises co-operation to date (up to the second Regulation 18 consultation) with:

- NHS Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (Oxfordshire CCG);
- NHS Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group (BANES, Swindon and Wiltshire CCG); and
- NHS Buckinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Group (Buckinghamshire CCG).

Record of Co-operation: Clinical Commissioning Groups			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
Oxfordshire Growth Board	ONGOING	Oxfordshire CCG is an associate member of the Oxfordshire Growth Board.	The Growth Board discusses items relevant to the Oxfordshire Plan such as evidence base studies.
Healthy Place Shaping Working Group	ONGOING	Oxfordshire CCG is part of the Healthy Place Shaping Working Group. The working group is overseeing the delivery of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Health Impact Assessment ▪ Oxfordshire Healthy Place Shaping Toolkit ▪ Health Places Topic Paper 	This is helping to ensure that the Oxfordshire Plan and its evidence base are joined up with CCG ambitions, priorities and future plans.
SCI Consultation	Nov 2018 - Jan 2019	Oxfordshire CCG, BANES, Swindon and Wiltshire CCG and Buckinghamshire CCG did not submit comments on the SCI.	N/A
Stakeholder Launch Event	Dec 2018	An Oxfordshire CCG representative attended this event and provided input.	Stakeholder feedback from this event fed into the Regulation 18 (1) consultation document.
SA Scoping Report Consultation	Jan - Mar 2019	Oxfordshire CCG, BANES, Swindon and Wiltshire CCG and Buckinghamshire CCG did not submit comments on the SA Scoping Report.	N/A
Regulation 18 Consultation (1)	Feb - Mar 2019	Oxfordshire CCG made the following comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An objective relating to developing strong and healthy communities is welcomed. ▪ Oxfordshire CCG would like to be involved in the development of a healthy place shaping policy. ▪ Any future decision making around development, infrastructure and place-making would be expected to 	<p>Creating strong and healthy communities is a key theme in the emerging Oxfordshire Plan.</p> <p>Oxfordshire CCG is involved in the development of a healthy place shaping policy through the Healthy Place Shaping Working Group.</p>

Record of Co-operation: Clinical Commissioning Groups			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<p>make it easier for Oxfordshire to be physically active and maintain a healthy lifestyle.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Oxfordshire has a diverse population which results in a range of different service needs. ▪ It is important that NHS services in Oxfordshire are able to attract and maintain the workforce required to deliver services to Oxfordshire's growing population. 	
Call for Ideas	Mar-Apr 2019	Oxfordshire CCG, BANES, Swindon and Wiltshire CCG and Buckinghamshire CCG did not make a Call for Ideas submission.	N/A
Duty to Co-operate Scoping Exercise	May 2019	A joint response was received from Oxfordshire CCG and Buckinghamshire CCG. Relevant strategic matters include health infrastructure funding and healthy place shaping which should likely be included as a strategic matter.	Engagement with CCGs will be undertaken under the duty to co-operate in relation to relevant strategic matters throughout the plan-making process in order to maximise the effectiveness of the Oxfordshire Plan. The strategic matters identified at this stage will be the starting point for this engagement. However, it is recognised that the strategic matters relevant to CCGs may require review/refinement as work on the Oxfordshire Plan progresses. Discussions with CCGs in relation to relevant strategic matters will be ongoing throughout the plan-making process.
Stakeholder Event	May 2019	Oxfordshire CCG, BANES, Swindon and Wiltshire CCG and Buckinghamshire CCG did not attend this event.	N/A
Duty to Co-operate Meeting	26 Nov 2019	<p>A joint duty to co-operate meeting took place with Oxfordshire CCG and Buckinghamshire CCG.</p> <p><u>Housing Need and Supply</u> The quantum and location of new homes will have effects on demand for NHS services.</p>	<p><u>Housing Need and Supply</u> The relationship between the quantum and location of growth and potential infrastructure opportunities and impacts will be tested through the plan-making process, including through the second Regulation 18 consultation. A more detailed assessment will be undertaken as part of the identification of the Oxfordshire Plan's spatial</p>

Record of Co-operation: Clinical Commissioning Groups			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<p>The recruitment and retention of staff is a key issue for the CCGs. The CCGs emphasised the need for affordable housing for key workers.</p> <p><u>Community Facilities (Health)</u> The CCGs are concerned about the current infrastructure funding gap. The CCGs' long-term land requirements and estates strategy shows a move to expand the role of GP surgeries so that they are local hubs, linked into communities. This will require more land/building space.</p> <p><u>Healthy Place Shaping</u> Oxfordshire CCG is a member of the Oxfordshire Plan Health Place-Shaping working group.</p>	<p>strategy and broad locations for growth prior to Regulation 19. This assessment process will include further co-operation with CCGs.</p> <p>The emerging Oxfordshire Plan recognises that housing affordability is a key issue in Oxfordshire.</p> <p><u>Community Facilities (Health)</u> OxIS update to consider potential funding sources for strategic infrastructure. Ongoing engagement with the CCGs to ensure that the Oxfordshire Plan and its evidence base are joined up with CCG ambitions, priorities and future plans.</p> <p><u>Healthy Place Shaping</u> Noted. This is a key mechanism for ensuring that the Oxfordshire Plan and its evidence base are joined up with CCG ambitions, priorities and future plans.</p>
Oxfordshire Open Thought	Jun - Aug 2020	Oxfordshire CCG, BANES, Swindon and Wiltshire CCG and Buckinghamshire CCG did not make an Open Thought submission.	N/A
Strategic Vision Consultation	Nov 2020 - Jan 2021	Oxfordshire CCG, BANES, Swindon and Wiltshire CCG and Buckinghamshire CCG did not submit comments on the Strategic Vision.	N/A
Duty to Co-operate Meeting	19 May 2021	<p>A joint duty to co-operate meeting took place with Oxfordshire CCG and Buckinghamshire CCG.</p> <p>It was noted that CCGs will be replaced by Integrated Care Systems (ICS) by April 2022. Oxfordshire will come under the Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West ICS.</p>	Noted. Co-operation will take place with relevant ICSs when established.

Record of Co-operation: Clinical Commissioning Groups			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<p><u>Health Infrastructure</u> A detailed review of OxIS health infrastructure schemes was undertaken.</p> <p>It was agreed that a statement of common ground was not needed at the second Regulation 18 stage.</p>	<p><u>Health Infrastructure</u> There will be continued co-operation with CCGs as work on the OxIS update continues. This will include appropriate consideration of proposed strategic growth locations.</p>
Duty to Co-operate Meeting	26 May 2021	<p>A duty to co-operate meeting took place with BANES, Swindon and Wiltshire CCG.</p> <p><u>Health Infrastructure</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Discussed OxIS update. No health infrastructure requirements identified for the Western Vale and environs sub-area. ▪ BANES, Swindon and Wiltshire CCG currently supporting partners in preparing Primary Care Network estate plans. Planned update of service model to prioritise home care. Intention to improve support within communities through joined up services rather than focusing solely on primary care. Could have implications for how S106 contributions are secured and spent. ▪ Recognition that patients in Shrivenham and Watchfield tend to look towards Swindon for healthcare facilities. ▪ Need to ensure that South Central Ambulance Service are engaged in the Oxfordshire Plan process. ▪ Transport is a key issue for staff and patients, particularly in terms of direct bus access to hospitals from parts of Oxfordshire. Discussions taking place through Local Transport Plan process between Swindon BC and Oxfordshire CC on sustainable transport and areas strategies. 	<p><u>Health Infrastructure</u> There will be continued co-operation with CCGs as work on the OxIS update continues. This will include appropriate consideration of proposed strategic growth locations.</p>

Record of Co-operation: Clinical Commissioning Groups			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		It was agreed that a statement of common ground was not needed at the second Regulation 18 stage.	

Record of Co-operation: Environment Agency

This record summarises co-operation to date (up to the second Regulation 18 consultation) with the Environment Agency.

Record of Co-operation: Environment Agency (EA)			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
Oxfordshire Growth Board	ONGOING	The EA is an associate member of the Oxfordshire Growth Board.	The Growth Board discusses items relevant to the Oxfordshire Plan such as evidence base studies.
Biodiversity / Natural Capital Working Group	ONGOING	As part of this working group, the EA has fed into the development of the biodiversity and natural capital evidence base. This includes feeding into the review and refinement of SA alternatives and testing.	This is helping to ensure that the Oxfordshire Plan and its evidence base are joined up with EA ambitions, priorities and best practice.
Water & Flood Risk Working Group	ONGOING	The EA is part of the steering group for the WCS Phase 1 Outline. The EA will therefore have the opportunity to oversee and feed into this work throughout the project. Specific EA input and how this has shaped the Oxfordshire Plan is detailed below.	This is helping to ensure that the Oxfordshire Plan and its evidence base are joined up with EA ambitions, priorities and best practice.
SCI Consultation	Nov 2018 - Jan 2019	The EA made the following comments in relation to the SCI: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The timetable for producing the Oxfordshire Plan is extremely ambitious. • The timings for each phase of the Oxfordshire Plan’s production should be specified in order to help stakeholders plan their workloads and ensure that they have suitable resources available to respond. 	A new timetable for producing the Oxfordshire Plan has since been agreed with the Government.

Record of Co-operation: Environment Agency (EA)			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The consultation in February 2019 should be included within the SCI. Sufficient time must be allowed for the preparation of and consultation on the Oxfordshire Plan's evidence base. 	
Stakeholder Launch Event	Dec 2018	An EA representative attended this event and provided input.	Stakeholder feedback from this event fed into the first Regulation 18 consultation document.
SA Scoping Report Consultation	Jan - Mar 2019	<p>The EA made a number of comments in relation to the proposed scope of the SA. These related to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opportunities to integrate environmental issues with social and economic factors should be taken. The natural capital approach and the need to provide net environmental gain should be more evident. Resilience to climate change needs to be embedded in all new developments. The potential to deliver natural floodplain management should be considered. Issues related to contaminated land and potential for remediation should be considered. 	The Oxfordshire authorities, with the SA consultants working on their behalf, reviewed all of the comments received in relation to the SA Scoping Report and considered where the SA Scoping Report required amendments. This process is set out in detail in Appendix 3 of the revised SA Scoping Report (LUC, May 2019).
Regulation 18 Consultation (1)	Feb - Mar 2019	<p>The EA made a number of comments on the first Regulation 18 document:</p> <p><u>Plan Vision, Objectives & Aspirations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The vision could be more aspirational on environmental issues. The aspirations have missed an opportunity to fully integrate environmental issues with the social and economic factors at this strategic level for the whole of Oxfordshire. 	<p><u>Plan Vision, Objectives & Aspirations</u></p> <p>The Oxfordshire Plan's vision and objectives were amended to take account of comments received through the first Regulation 18 consultation.</p>

Record of Co-operation: Environment Agency (EA)			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A number of specific comments were made in relation to the phrasing of the draft objectives. <p><u>Natural Environment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Environmental enhancements could be provided through a natural capital approach to sustainable placemaking, the delivery of catchment wide natural flood management features and the implementation of climate change measures and adaption relating to water resources and carbon. ▪ The natural and built environment context section should mention the fluvial floodplains within Oxfordshire, which are a vital part of the natural environment and which should be appropriately considered within place making, not just as an environmental constraint but as important and valuable assets which provide a wide range of benefits. ▪ Resilience to climate change needs to be embedded in all new development. ▪ The remediation of contaminated land is an important issue. <p><u>Water</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Whilst the document recognises the problem of ensuring sustainable water resources within Oxfordshire, it doesn't identify the connection and direct implications of this key issue on the environment and the delivery of sustainable growth. <p><u>Infrastructure</u></p> <p>The Infrastructure considerations section is silent on green and blue infrastructure and water related infrastructure.</p>	<p><u>Natural Environment</u></p> <p>Addressing climate change and improving environmental quality are key themes in the emerging Oxfordshire Plan. The second Regulation 18 consultation document identifies ambitious policy options related to natural capital, nature recovery, water quality and flood risk.</p> <p><u>Water</u></p> <p>This is explored through the Phase 1 Outline WCS. Further WCS work to be undertaken prior to Regulation 19.</p> <p><u>Infrastructure</u></p> <p>Green infrastructure is highlighted in the second Regulation 18 consultation document, with policy options related to natural capital, nature recovery, landscape and water quality.</p>

Record of Co-operation: Environment Agency (EA)			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
Call for Ideas	Mar-Apr 2019	<p>The EA made two submissions through the call for ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. A Strategic Nature Recovery Network – The promotion and facilitation of a landscape scale scheme which could be focused in part on the river valley network and linked to Conservation Target Areas to help deliver a net gain for biodiversity. ii. Thames Flood Storage – The EA is assessing the feasibility of various flood storage locations on the Thames upstream of Oxford and on the various upper tributaries of the Thames. The EA would like land to be safeguarded through the Oxfordshire Plan for flood storage. 	<p>Call for Ideas submissions will be considered through the plan-making process and, where appropriate, the OxIS update. Call for Ideas submissions will be assessed as part of the identification of the Oxfordshire Plan’s spatial strategy and broad locations for growth prior to Regulation 19.</p>
Duty to Co-operate Meeting	16 April 2019	<p>A duty to co-operate meeting took place with the EA.</p> <p><u>Oxford-Cambridge Expressway</u> The EA has had limited engagement in this project. Potential to take account of natural capital work and environmental net gain suggested.</p> <p><u>Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme (OFAS)</u> Remains at planning application stage. The EA emphasised that the OFAS is focused on reducing flood risk to existing properties. It does not necessarily facilitate future growth. The OFAS may lower flood risk on some promoted sites, but these need to be subject to the same planning process as all other sites.</p> <p><u>Flood Risk</u> Districts’ SFRA work was produced at different times and subsequently there are inconsistencies in the modelling information used and the consideration of climate change. Some SFRAs may already be out of date. An update will</p>	<p><u>Oxford-Cambridge Expressway</u> The Oxford to Cambridge Expressway project has now been cancelled.</p> <p><u>Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme (OFAS)</u> Noted.</p> <p><u>Flood Risk</u> An Oxfordshire-wide SFRA will be commissioned to support the Oxfordshire Plan.</p>

Record of Co-operation: Environment Agency (EA)			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		likely be required. Advised to also look at the County Council's SFRA for the Minerals and Waste Plan. <u>Water</u> All districts have taken different WCS approaches. The EA advise that one consistent countywide study is undertaken to inform the Oxfordshire Plan.	<u>Water</u> An Oxfordshire-wide WCS will be commissioned to support the Oxfordshire Plan.
Water Cycle Study (WCS) – Phase 1 Outline	Apr-May 2019	The EA reviewed the brief for the Phase 1 Outline WCS and confirmed that it was generally supportive of the proposed requirements, but made the following specific comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The EA reiterated that the term 'environmental capacity' essentially means the ability of the receiving water environment to receive effluent without causing a deterioration in Water Framework Directive (WFD) status or compromising the attainment of future WFD objective status. ▪ The EA emphasised that existing district level WCSs use different methodologies and are not directly comparable. The EA suggested that all growth within the plan period (both growth planned through local plans and proposed through the Oxfordshire Plan) is assessed consistently through a Phase 2 WCS. ▪ The EA reminded us that the Water Companies Water Resources Management Plans (WRMPs) run to 2045 and that Oxfordshire spans multiple water companies with each having their own WRMPs. 	The brief for the Phase 1 Outline WCS was updated to ensure that expectations in terms of the consideration of environmental capacity and WRMPs were clearly articulated. An exercise was undertaken to identify all the water companies relevant to Oxfordshire.
Duty to Co-operate Scoping Exercise	May 2019	The EA responded to the Duty to Co-operate Scoping Letter. The strategic matters relevant to the EA were identified as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Housing supply (in relation to locations) 	Engagement with the EA will be undertaken under the duty to co-operate in relation to relevant strategic matters throughout the plan-making process in order to maximise the effectiveness of the Oxfordshire Plan. The

Record of Co-operation: Environment Agency (EA)			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gypsies, Travellers. Caravan Dwellers, Travelling Showpeople (in relation to locations) ▪ Boat Dwellers (in relation to the navigable watercourses and the location of houseboats rather than need/numbers) ▪ Infrastructure ▪ Climate change ▪ Flood Risk ▪ Water Resources / Water Quality ▪ Biodiversity / Natural Environment / Green Infrastructure ▪ Contaminated Land 	<p>strategic matters identified at this stage will be the starting point for this engagement. However, it is recognised that the strategic matters relevant to the EA may require review/refinement as work on the Oxfordshire Plan progresses. Discussions with the EA in relation to relevant strategic matters will be ongoing throughout the plan-making process.</p>
Stakeholder Event	May 2019	An EA representative attended this event and provided input.	Stakeholder feedback from this event fed into the review of the Oxfordshire Plan’s vision, aspirations and objectives.
EA presentation to Growth Board Advisory Sub-Group	25 July 2019	A representative from the EA attended a Growth Board Member Sub-Group meeting and gave a presentation about the natural capital work being undertaken for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc.	The presentation helped to raise awareness of the natural capital work being undertaken for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc amongst elected members.
Water Cycle Study (WCS) – Phase 1 Outline	Sept 2019	<p>Representatives from the EA attended the WCS inception meeting. The following issues were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Oxfordshire Plan progress update ▪ WCS objectives and timeline ▪ WCS Methodology (water resources and supply, water quality and wastewater infrastructure and flood risk. ▪ Data requirements <p>The EA re-stated that existing SFRA’s may not utilise the most up-to-date modelling data and that there is a need for an up-to-date Oxfordshire-wide SFRA to inform/ support the Oxfordshire Plan.</p>	<p>It was agreed that the Oxfordshire Plan, as a joint strategic plan with a long timeframe, provides an opportunity to take an ambitious approach to water efficiency.</p> <p>The EA provided technical advice in terms of the methodology and modelling tools. The WCS consultants will work with the EA to incorporate this into the WCS.</p> <p>An Oxfordshire-wide SFRA will be commissioned to support the Oxfordshire Plan.</p>

Record of Co-operation: Environment Agency (EA)			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
Water Cycle Study (WCS) – Phase 1 Outline	March – April 2020	The EA reviewed the initial outputs from the Phase 1 Outline WCS and provided technical comments.	The technical comments from the EA have been incorporated into the WCS Phase 1 work and are reflected in the final report, which is a key evidence base document that will inform policy development and decision making.
Thames Valley Flood Storage Scheme Meeting	27 Jan 2021	<p>A meeting to discuss the EA’s emerging work on the Thames Valley Flood Scheme.</p> <p>Project to explore opportunities for large scale flood storage schemes across the Thames Valley area. Currently have 18 options, with 5 in Oxfordshire, but no detail was given on specific locations at this stage.</p> <p>There are three stages of consultation planned. In May 2021 the EA will consult on project ambitions. In early 2022 the EA will consult on broad areas of interest (shorter list). In late 2022 the EA will look to consult on specific locations and aim to produce a business case for the project in 2024.</p> <p>The EA said they would write to the districts to brief them on the project and will offer a Q and A session.</p> <p>The EA gave the impression that both soft and hard infrastructure were being looked at. Project at the very early stages but there were references to these areas being used for recreation or biodiversity uses.</p>	<p>The development of the EA’s Thames Valley Flood Scheme is likely to extend beyond the plan-making period. The emerging Oxfordshire Plan and OxIS update will take account of the project as far as they are able based upon available information.</p> <p>Potential for the Oxfordshire Plan to make a supportive/enabling statement in regard to this scheme will be explored through the second Regulation 18 consultation.</p>
Oxfordshire Open Thought	Jun - Aug 2020	The EA did not make an Open Thought submission.	N/A
Strategic Vision Consultation	Nov 2020 - Jan 2021	The EA did not submit comments on the Strategic Vision.	N/A

Record of Co-operation: Environment Agency (EA)			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
Review of Emerging Options	Mar - Apr 2021	The EA reviewed emerging policy options under the addressing climate change and improving environmental quality themes at an early stage of options development.	Recommendations from the EA were taken into account in the production of the second Regulation 18 consultation document.
Duty to Co-operate Meeting	13 May 2021	<p>A duty to co-operate meeting took place with the EA. The emerging policy options under the addressing climate change and improving environmental quality themes were discussed, as were key elements of the evidence base such as the WCS, SFRA, sequential test, nature recovery network and natural capital mapping.</p> <p><u>Water Resources</u> The EA will advise on any known plans that set or seek to set water efficiency standards beyond current Building Regulations.</p> <p><u>Flood Risk</u> The EA is concerned about the net-loss of flood plain through small scale householder developments.</p> <p><u>Natural Environment</u> The EA is supportive of the identification of a nature recovery network for Oxfordshire. The EA highlighted the need for guidance to ensure that biodiversity net gain requirements are consistently applied, monitored and reported across Oxfordshire. The EA also highlighted the need to consider how net gains are protected in the long-term. The Environment Bill raises the possibility of protective covenants. The EA questioned how natural capital evidence will be made accessible for us by planners, developers, communities and other stakeholders.</p>	<p><u>Water Resources</u> This will be taken into consideration prior to Regulation 19.</p> <p><u>Flood Risk</u> Options for managing the net-loss of flood plain through small scale householder developments will be tested through Regulation 18 consultation.</p> <p><u>Natural Environment</u> The practical application of policy approaches will be explored in more detail prior to Regulation 19.</p>

Record of Co-operation: Environment Agency (EA)			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		It was agreed that a statement of common ground was not needed at the second Regulation 18 stage.	

Record of Co-operation: Highways England

This record summarises co-operation to date (up to the second Regulation 18 consultation) with Highways England.

Record of Co-operation: Highways England			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
Oxfordshire Growth Board	ONGOING	Highways England is an associate member of the Oxfordshire Growth Board.	The Growth Board discusses items relevant to the Oxfordshire Plan such as evidence base studies.
SCI Consultation	Nov 2018 - Jan 2019	Highways England did not submit comments on the SCI.	N/A
Stakeholder Launch Event	Dec 2018	Highways England did not attend this event.	N/A
SA Scoping Report Consultation	Jan - Mar 2019	Highways England did not submit comments in relation to the SA Scoping Report.	N/A
Regulation 18 Consultation (1)	Feb - Mar 2019	<p>Highways England made the following comments:</p> <p><u>Introducing the Oxfordshire Plan 2050</u></p> <p>Highways England will be concerned with proposals that have the potential to impact the Strategic Road Network (SRN), in this case the A34, A43 and M40.</p> <p>The route of the Oxford-Cambridge Expressway will have implications for local highway conditions as well as shaping the spatial strategy for the Oxfordshire Plan. Public consultation on OxCam route options is expected Autumn</p>	<p>Planning for sustainable travel and connectivity is a core theme in the emerging Oxfordshire Plan. The production of the Oxfordshire Plan is aligned with the production of the Oxfordshire Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (LTCP) and the OxIS update.</p> <p>Transport evidence is being produced to inform the Oxfordshire Plan and to understand potential impacts and opportunities associated with growth, including</p>

Record of Co-operation: Highways England			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<p>2019, with a preferred route announcement expected in 2020.</p> <p>Highways England would like to engage at an early stage of evidence base development for the emerging Oxfordshire Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (LTCP) (being produced to align with the Oxfordshire Plan 2050) to ensure that the LTCP is deliverable and to avoid adverse impacts on the SRN.</p> <p>Planned transport infrastructure for the earlier part of the plan period is set out in the current Local Transport Plan and Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy (OxIS). However, a funding gap and deliverability issues mean that delivery is not guaranteed. A bold, forward thinking Oxfordshire Plan that sets a clear vision for growth is more likely to release opportunities for Government funding and will help direct local authority and developer funding.</p> <p>As the evidence base for the emerging LTCP to 2050 is developed, any funding gaps should be identified along with any potential future funding mechanisms to ensure that the plan is deliverable in transport terms and that the required infrastructure ensures that the SRN can continue to operate in a safe and efficient manner.</p> <p><u>Topic Paper 8: Improving Connectivity and Movement</u> Transport and communications considerations to 2050 may have a substantial impact on travel across Oxfordshire. Early engagement throughout the development of the LTCP and refreshed OxIS would be welcomed to ensure that the scope of the proposed evidence base is sufficient in its approach to ensuring the safe and efficient operation of the SRN to 2050</p>	<p>impacts and opportunities related to the Strategic Road Network.</p> <p>The OxIS update will seek to prioritise infrastructure schemes and to consider potential funding sources.</p> <p>There will be ongoing engagement with Highways England throughout the plan-making process in regard to matters affecting the Strategic Road Network.</p> <p>The Oxford to Cambridge Expressway project has now been cancelled.</p>

Record of Co-operation: Highways England			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		and beyond. We would like to work in partnership to ensure the strategy developed aligns with the Highways England Road Investment Strategy to deliver the best outcomes for Oxfordshire and neighbouring authorities.	
Call for Ideas	Mar - Apr 2019	<p>Highways England made the following comments:</p> <p>Route Strategies form an important part of the evidence base for the Road Investment Strategy (RIS2). They provide a high-level view of the current performance of the SRN and provide evidence for future planning.</p> <p>Highways England looks forward to continuing the ongoing work with the local planning authorities and Oxfordshire County Council to identify and produce a robust transport strategy which would inform the size and scale of development deliverable within Oxfordshire up to and beyond the plan period.</p> <p>“The Strategic Road Network Planning for the Future” is a guide to working with Highways England on planning matters.</p>	There will be ongoing engagement with Highways England throughout the plan-making process in regard to matters affecting the Strategic Road Network.
Duty to Co-operate Scoping Exercise	May 2019	<p>The following strategic matters were identified as being of relevance to Highways England:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Transport ▪ Housing Requirements ▪ Housing Supply ▪ Economy and Employment ▪ Retail/Leisure/Other Commercial <p>Highways England may also have some interest other areas such as flood risk and Green Belt.</p>	Engagement with Highways England will be undertaken under the duty to co-operate in relation to relevant strategic matters throughout the plan-making process in order to maximise the effectiveness of the Oxfordshire Plan. The strategic matters identified at this stage will be the starting point for this engagement. However, it is recognised that the strategic matters relevant to Highways England may require review/refinement as work on the Oxfordshire Plan progresses. Discussions with Highways England in relation to relevant strategic

Record of Co-operation: Highways England			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
			matters will be ongoing throughout the plan-making process.
Stakeholder Event	May 2019	Highways England did not attend this event.	N/A
Duty to Co-operate Meeting	15 Jan 2020	<p>The following matters were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Oxfordshire Plan project update (including evidence base development), the emerging Oxfordshire LTCP and the Oxford-Cambridge Expressway. ▪ The main strategic matter for Highways England is the A34, specifically its capacity limitations and the financial costs of upgrades. ▪ Challenges associated with planning to 2050. Need to consider how the SRN will be used in the future. A bespoke approach may be needed for the later part of the plan period that is more reliant on narrative than data. 	The challenges related to planning to 2050 were explored through Oxfordshire Open Thought and will continue to be explored through the production of the Oxfordshire Plan’s evidence base. There will be ongoing engagement with Highways England throughout the plan-making process in regard to matters affecting the Strategic Road Network.
Oxfordshire Open Thought	Jun - Aug 2020	Highways England did not make and Oxfordshire Open Thought submission.	N/A
Strategic Vision consultation	Nov 2020 - Jan 2021	<p>Highways England stated its particular support for Strategic Vision desired outcome 06 Connectivity & Mobility: “The way we move around our county will be transformed, with greater connectivity and mobility in and between places in ways that enhance environmental, social and economic well-being.”</p> <p>This strongly aligns with Highways England’s Strategic Business Plan 2020-2025 outcomes. As agreed with DfT, Transport Focus and ORR, our framework reflects how we will deliver the following six committed outcomes:</p> <p>1) Improving safety for all</p>	Noted.

Record of Co-operation: Highways England			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<p>2) Providing fast and reliable journeys 3) A well-maintained and resilient network 4) Delivering better environmental outcomes 5) Meeting the needs of all users 6) Achieving efficient delivery</p> <p>Highways England will be concerned with proposals that have the potential to impact the safe and efficient operation of the SRN, in this case the A34, A43 and M40.</p>	
Duty to Co-operate Meeting	5 May 2021	<p>A duty to co-operate meeting took place with Highways England. Updates were given on the Oxfordshire Mobility Model (OMM), LTCP and OxIS update.</p> <p><u>Transport Evidence</u> Challenges in developing an evidence base to support planning to 2050 were highlighted. Patterns of travel between home and work likely to become more complex and less certain over time.</p> <p><u>Infrastructure</u> The A34 does not have capacity to accommodate significant growth. Also need to consider wider pressures on the SRN, e.g. growth at Southampton Port increasing freight movements through to the midlands. Local road network also has limited capacity.</p> <p>Strategic Growth Locations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to consider infrastructure in the identification of growth locations. • MOD sites can be challenging due to their isolation. Often require significant transport infrastructure. 	<p>Transport evidence is being produced to inform the Oxfordshire Plan and to understand potential impacts and opportunities associated with growth, including impacts and opportunities related to the Strategic Road Network.</p> <p>The OxIS update will seek to prioritise infrastructure schemes and to consider potential funding sources.</p> <p>There will be ongoing engagement with Highways England throughout the plan-making process in regard to matters affecting the Strategic Road Network.</p>

Record of Co-operation: Highways England			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<p>Oxford has sustainable connections but limited capacity to accommodate growth. Spreading growth more widely, away from Oxford, generally increases infrastructure requirements</p> <p><u>Route Strategies</u> Highways England is Developing Route Strategies which will identify infrastructure schemes and will be used to help make decisions on funding. Stakeholder views on needs and aspirations to be fed into the strategies. Consultation due to start shortly - an opportunity for the Oxfordshire authorities to feed into this. Potential to consider where the A34 may act as a hinderance to growth.</p> <p>It was agreed that a statement of common ground was not needed at the second Regulation 18 stage.</p>	

Record of Co-operation: Historic England

This record summarises co-operation to date (up to the second Regulation 18 consultation) with Historic England.

Record of Co-operation: Historic England			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
SCI Consultation	Nov 2018 - Jan 2019	Historic England stated its satisfaction with the proposed approach to engagement set out in the SCI and reiterated its commitment to engaging with the councils on the preparation of the Oxfordshire Plan, including attendance at future stakeholder workshops and focused discussions with the councils on the historic environment.	Engagement with Historic England will be undertaken under the duty to co-operate in relation to relevant strategic matters throughout the plan-making process in order to maximise the effectiveness of the Oxfordshire Plan.

Record of Co-operation: Historic England			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
Stakeholder Launch Event	Dec 2018	Historic England did not attend this event.	N/A
SA Scoping Report Consultation	Jan - Mar 2019	Historic England provided a link to its general advice on Sustainability Appraisal and the historic environment as set out in Historic England's Advice Note 8 "Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment" - https://www.historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/sustainability-appraisal-and-strategic-environmental-assessment-advice-note-8/	The Oxfordshire authorities, with the SA consultants working on their behalf, reviewed all of the comments received in relation to the SA Scoping Report and considered where the SA Scoping Report required amendments. This process is set out in detail in Appendix 3 of the revised SA Scoping Report (LUC, May 2019).
Regulation 18 Consultation (1)	Feb - Mar 2019	<p>Historic England made a number of comments in relation to the 'Introducing the Oxfordshire' Plan document:</p> <p><u>Terminology</u> There should be specific reference to the historic environment. The terms "built environment" and "historic environment" are not interchangeable and are referred to separately within the NPPF. Oxfordshire's historic environment includes archaeological assets, scheduled monuments, registered parks and gardens and historic landscapes.</p> <p><u>Objectives</u> Draft Objective 1 was welcomed and supported for its reference to enhancing the historic environment, although the wording conserve/protect (as opposed to maintain) is more consistent with the NPPF.</p> <p><u>Evidence Base</u> Agreed that the consideration of heritage assets (based on a clear understanding) should be fundamental to the choices made in the plan. A relevant and up-to-date historic</p>	<p><u>Terminology</u> Noted. Clearer language will be used as advised.</p> <p><u>Objectives</u> The Oxfordshire Plan's objectives were amended to take account of comments received through the first Regulation 18 consultation.</p> <p><u>Evidence Base</u> Detailed evidence may be commissioned to support the identification of the Oxfordshire Plan's spatial strategy and broad locations for growth prior to Regulation 19.</p>

Record of Co-operation: Historic England			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<p>environment evidence base should be compiled. This should include consideration of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Known and potential heritage assets (including assessing the likelihood of currently unidentified assets being identified); ii. Heritage assets beyond Oxfordshire’s boundary; and iii. New areas that might be worthy of designations as conservation areas or local listing. <p>This information could be collated within a Heritage Topic Paper to draw together the evidence base and to highlight its implications and actions required.</p> <p>The historic environment evidence base should be proportionate and may need to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Detailed historic characterisation work assessing the impact of potential urban extensions or rural development. ii. Heritage Impact Assessments considering the potential impacts of allocations on the significance of heritage assets. iii. Seeking the views of local communities about what they value about the historic environment. iv. Archaeological assessment to consider whether heritage assets with archaeological potential are likely to be present in areas where the HER indicates that there has been little or no previous investigation. <p><u>Growth Locations</u> Development options that provide opportunities for improvement and enhancement of the natural and built environment should be favoured.</p>	<p><u>Growth Locations</u> Opportunities and impacts are identified at a high level and will be tested, including through the second Regulation 18 consultation. A more detailed assessment will be undertaken to identify the Oxfordshire Plan’s spatial strategy and broad locations for growth prior to Regulation 19.</p>

Record of Co-operation: Historic England			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
Call for Ideas	Mar-Apr 2019	Historic England reminded the councils of the need to have regard to potential impacts on the historic environment when considering potential development sites. Historic England also offered to provide further advice on the identification of sites and on the impact of potential sites on heritage assets.	Five spatial options are identified at the second Regulation 18 stage. Opportunities and impacts are identified at a high level and will be tested, including through the second Regulation 18 consultation. A more detailed assessment will be undertaken to identify the Oxfordshire Plan's spatial strategy and broad locations for growth prior to Regulation 19.
Duty to Co-operate Scoping Exercise	May 2019	Historic England confines its involvement in planning issues to matters that involve or otherwise affect the historic environment. Historic England's duty to co-operate is therefore appropriate in respect of strategic matters that would involve or otherwise affect a heritage asset. Given the extensive heritage resources of Oxfordshire, Historic England should be consulted on all policy areas as many of these will have impacts to some	Engagement with Historic England will be undertaken under the duty to co-operate in relation to relevant strategic matters throughout the plan-making process in order to maximise the effectiveness of the Oxfordshire Plan. The strategic matters identified at this stage will be the starting point for this engagement. However, it is recognised that the strategic matters relevant to Historic England may require review/refinement as work on the Oxfordshire Plan progresses. Discussions with Historic England in relation to relevant strategic matters will be ongoing throughout the plan-making process.
Stakeholder Event	May 2019	Historic England did not attend this event.	N/A
Duty to Co-operate Meeting	24 Jan 2020	A duty to co-operate meeting took place with Historic England. <u>Evidence Base</u> Historic England advised that an updated Historic Environment Topic Paper and updated Conservation Area Appraisals would be beneficial to support the plan. Historic England to provide guidance on the evidence required to support the Oxfordshire Plan at each stage.	<u>Evidence Base</u> Oxfordshire's City and District Councils will work with Historic England to ensure that the Oxfordshire Plan is supported by an appropriate and proportionate evidence base.

Record of Co-operation: Historic England			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<p><u>Growth Locations</u> The Oxfordshire Plan should consider the density of development when considering impacts on heritage assets. Long term strategic thinking could enable wider greenfield areas to be considered for growth in order to protect heritage assets on brownfield sites, such as historic airfields.</p> <p><u>Ongoing Engagement</u> Informal engagement outside of statutory stages of consultation would be welcomed to help identify where significant issues might arise as a result of the Oxfordshire Plan's spatial strategy.</p>	<p><u>Growth Locations</u> Noted. Opportunities and impacts related to the historic environment are identified at a high level and will be tested, including through the second Regulation 18 consultation. A more detailed assessment will be undertaken to inform the Oxfordshire Plan's spatial strategy and broad locations for growth prior to Regulation 19.</p> <p><u>Ongoing Engagement</u> Informal engagement outside of statutory stages of consultation will be undertaken as part of the identification of the Oxfordshire Plan's spatial strategy and broad locations for growth prior to Regulation 19.</p>
Oxfordshire Open Thought	Jun – Aug 2021	Historic England did not submit comments via Open Thought.	N/A
Strategic Vision Consultation	Nov 2020 - Jan 2021	<p>Historic England made the following comments on the draft strategic vision:</p> <p>Whilst none of the sections on good growth or guiding principles deal specifically with the historic environment, there are synergies between the historic environment and many of these subjects. Historic England produces research on such matters, in our Heritage Counts series. Reports on Heritage and Society, Heritage and the Environment, Carbon in the Built Historic Environment and Heritage in the Economy were recently published and are of relevance.</p> <p>Any objectives and policies that are developed based on, or influenced by the Strategic Vision, should take the opportunity to draw out the synergies between the historic environment and the guiding principles and definition of</p>	Noted. Options relevant to the historic environment are set out in the second Regulation 18 consultation document.

Record of Co-operation: Historic England			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		good growth. The historic environment should be given specific consideration where appropriate.	
Duty to Co-operate Meeting	14 June 2021	<p>A duty to co-operate meeting took place with Historic England.</p> <p>OxCam Arc</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Historic Environment Records for the entire OxCam Arc are being collated. This should be accessible via Oxfordshire County Council. <p><u>Broad Locations for Growth</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An appropriate and proportionate evidence base is needed. ▪ Question around how geographically specific broad locations will be. Historic England able to provide advice on very broad areas. <p><u>Evidence Base</u></p> <p>A proportionate Heritage Impact Assessment will be needed to inform the Oxfordshire Plan. If this is left until the local plan stage, it may be too late to realise opportunities and/or avoid negative impacts. Historic England able to review a draft Heritage Impact Assessment brief.</p> <p><u>Policy Approach</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Exploring how the Oxfordshire Plan can add value beyond NPPF/local plans. ▪ Uncertainty around forthcoming planning reforms. ▪ Aiming to set a positive strategy for the for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment. Difficult to achieve at this early stage. Focus efforts once growth locations are identified. 	<p>Opportunities and impacts related to the historic environment are identified at a high level and will be tested, including through the second Regulation 18 consultation. A more detailed assessment will be undertaken to inform the Oxfordshire Plan’s spatial strategy and broad locations for growth prior to Regulation 19.</p> <p>Informal engagement outside of statutory stages of consultation will be undertaken as part of the identification of the Oxfordshire Plan’s spatial strategy and broad locations for growth prior to Regulation 19.</p>

Record of Co-operation: Historic England			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conservation Officer input also likely to be of value. <p><u>Spatial Options</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Historic England likely to be nervous about an Oxford focused strategy. Concern that this could result in pressure to build higher. High risk of impacts on heritage assets due to the historic nature of the city. <p>It was agreed that a statement of common ground was not needed at the second Regulation 18 stage.</p>	

Record of Co-operation: Homes England

This record summarises co-operation to date (up to the second Regulation 18 consultation) with Homes England.

Record of Co-operation: Homes England			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
Oxfordshire Growth Board	ONGOING	Homes England is an associate member of the Oxfordshire Growth Board.	The Growth Board discusses items relevant to the Oxfordshire Plan such as evidence base studies.
Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal	ONGOING	The role of Homes England in the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal is both as the operational arm of Government overseeing the Deal but also a partner and critical friend. They act as the liaison with Government, informally checking on progress with Deal targets reporting back as appropriate but also act as a critical friend to Oxfordshire, advising and mentoring on issues, challenges and opportunities arising from the project. Crucially they sit on the Oxfordshire Growth Board and supporting officer groups that oversee the	The Oxfordshire authorities will continue to work with Homes England as the commitments made in the Housing and Growth Deal are delivered, and in the longer term as appropriate.

Record of Co-operation: Homes England			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
		delivery of the Deal and so are involved in overseeing its operational governance.	
SCI Consultation	Nov 2018 - Jan 2019	Homes England did not submit comments on the SCI.	N/A
Stakeholder Launch Event	Dec 2018	A Homes England representative attended this event and provided input.	Stakeholder feedback from this event fed into the first Regulation 18 consultation document.
SA Scoping Report Consultation	Jan - Mar 2019	Homes England did not submit comments on the SA Scoping Report.	N/A
Regulation 18 Consultation (1)	Feb - Mar 2019	Homes England did not submit comments through the first Regulation 18 consultation.	N/A
Call for Ideas	Mar-Apr 2019	Homes England did not make a Call for Ideas submission.	N/A
Duty to Co-operate Scoping Exercise	May 2019	Homes England did not respond to the duty to co-operate scoping exercise.	N/A
Stakeholder Event	May 2019	Homes England did not attend this event.	N/A
Oxfordshire Open Thought	Jun - Aug 2020	Homes England did not make a submission via Oxfordshire Open Thought.	N/A
Strategic Vision Consultation	Nov 2020 - Jan 2021	Homes England did not comment on the Strategic Vision.	N/A

Record of Co-operation: Natural England

This record summarises co-operation to date (up to the second Regulation 18 consultation) with Natural England.

Record of Co-operation: Natural England			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	How this has shaped the Oxfordshire Plan
Biodiversity / Natural Capital Working Group	ONGOING	As part of this working group, Natural England has fed into the development of the biodiversity and natural capital evidence base. This includes feeding into the review and refinement of SA alternatives and testing.	This is helping to ensure that the Oxfordshire Plan and its evidence base are joined up with Natural England's ambitions, priorities and best practice.
SCI Consultation	Nov 2018 - Jan 2019	Natural England did not submit comments on the SCI.	N/A
Stakeholder Launch Event	Dec 2018	A Natural England representative attended this event and provided input.	Stakeholder feedback from this event fed into the Regulation 18 (1) consultation document.
HRA: Proposed Approach	Dec 2018	Natural England reviewed the proposed HRA approach and made a number of comments relating to the sensitivities of protected habitats, the proposed approach to screening and the proposed approach to assessing air quality, water levels/quality and recreational pressure.	The HRA methodology was updated in response to Natural England's technical advice.
SA Scoping Report Consultation	Jan - Mar 2019	Natural England made the following comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The SA should align with any similar work undertaken for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc. ▪ The SA should consider natural capital and ecosystem services. ▪ The SA should consider green infrastructure. ▪ Local documents should be considered under other plans, policies and programmes of relevance. ▪ Additional baseline information should be considered. ▪ An additional SA objective could address natural capital. 	The Oxfordshire authorities, with the SA consultants working on their behalf, reviewed all of the comments received in relation to the SA Scoping Report and considered where the SA Scoping Report required amendments. This process is set out in detail in Appendix 3 of the revised SA Scoping Report (LUC, May 2019).

Record of Co-operation: Natural England			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	How this has shaped the Oxfordshire Plan
Regulation 18 Consultation (1)	Feb - Mar 2019	Natural England suggested that spatial planning at the Oxfordshire-scale provides an opportunity to take a natural capital approach to understanding priorities and opportunities to improve Oxfordshire’s environment, including the principles of environmental net gain, a Nature Recovery Network and connecting people with the environment to improve health and wellbeing. Natural England provided a number of suggestions as to how these principals could be further integrated into the plan.	Improving environmental quality is a key theme in the emerging Oxfordshire Plan. Ambitious policy options are identified at the second Regulation 18 stage. An extensive natural capital and nature recovery evidence base has been developed.
Call for Ideas	Mar-Apr 2019	Natural England suggested that the Oxfordshire Plan provides an opportunity to identify a Nature Recovery Network for Oxfordshire and local Nature Recovery Areas.	Establishing a Nature Recovery Network for Oxfordshire is a preferred policy option in the second Regulation 18 consultation document.
Duty to Co-operate Scoping Exercise	May 2019	<p>Natural England agreed with the strategic matters identified but noted that other matters (for example commercial development, community facilities and other infrastructure) may also affect the natural environment and early discussion in relation to these matters would be welcomed.</p> <p>Natural England advised that soils (including Best and Most Versatile agricultural land) and Natural Capital should be strategic matters.</p>	<p>Engagement with Natural England will be undertaken under the duty to co-operate in relation to relevant strategic matters throughout the plan-making process in order to maximise the effectiveness of the Oxfordshire Plan. The strategic matters identified at this stage will be the starting point for this engagement. However, it is recognised that the strategic matters relevant to Natural England may require review/refinement as work on the Oxfordshire Plan progresses. Discussions with Natural England in relation to relevant strategic matters will be ongoing throughout the plan-making process.</p> <p>It was agreed that soils and natural capital would be considered as part of the Biodiversity / Natural Environment / Green Infrastructure strategic matter.</p>

Record of Co-operation: Natural England			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	How this has shaped the Oxfordshire Plan
Stakeholder Event	May 2019	A Natural England representative attended this event and provided input.	Stakeholder feedback from this event fed into the review of the Oxfordshire Plan’s vision, aspirations and objectives.
HRA: Distance Based Risk Zones	May - June 2019	Natural England reviewed the proposed methodology for developing distance based risk zones. Natural England accepted the proposed 10km lower risk buffer. Natural England was satisfied with the proposed buffers for water and recreational impacts and commented on the recommended screening distance for air quality.	The HRA pre-screening ‘distance-based risk zones’ work was progressed with Natural England’s agreement.
HRA: Distance Based Risk Zones	Sept- Oct 2019	Natural England reviewed the draft distance based risk zones report. Natural England was generally satisfied with the buffer zones identified in the report on the basis that they will be used at a high level to inform thinking on the distribution of growth and will be followed by full HRA work once a draft plan has been produced. Natural England made some specific comments relating to protected habitats’ sensitivities and the consideration of air quality issues.	It is agreed that this work provides a useful starting point to begin to consider the risk of effects on protected sites, at a high level, when starting to consider the distribution of growth in Oxfordshire to 2050. It is agreed that a comprehensive HRA should be undertaken at the appropriate time.
Duty to Co-operate Meeting	18 Dec 2019	A meeting took place with Natural England where the following matters were discussed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Oxfordshire Plan project update and next steps; ▪ Emerging evidence base - Habitats Regulations Assessment, Sustainability Appraisal, Natural capital, Nature Recovery Network and Nature Recovery Strategy, Oxfordshire Wildlife and Landscape Study, Green Infrastructure, and Water Cycle Study. ▪ Cost recovery arrangements. ▪ Strategic matters for the Oxfordshire Plan. ▪ Oxfordshire’s Local Nature Partnership position. 	It was agreed that soils and natural capital would be considered as part of the Biodiversity / Natural Environment / Green Infrastructure strategic matter.

Record of Co-operation: Natural England			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	How this has shaped the Oxfordshire Plan
		The inclusion of soils as a strategic matter was discussed. The Oxfordshire Plan should assess and address impacts on Best and Most Versatile Land across the whole of Oxfordshire.	
Oxfordshire Open Thought	Jun - Aug 2020	Natural England did not submit comments via Oxfordshire Open Thought.	N/A
Strategic Vision Consultation	Nov 2020 - Jan 2021	<p>Natural England made the following comments:</p> <p><u>Defining Good Growth</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The natural environment should feature more strongly. ▪ The cross-cutting role of natural capital should be flagged. ▪ It should include contributing to nature’s recovery. <p><u>Guiding Principles</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Should seek not only to enhance Oxfordshire’s natural capital assets, but also to grow them. ▪ Nature’s recovery should be included within the guiding principles in terms of protecting and restoring the County’s valuable habitats and species and improving ecological resilience through creating ecological networks. <p><u>Strategic Influencers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agree with the identification of the 25 Year Environment Plan and draft Oxfordshire Nature Recovery Network within this. ▪ Suggest that the Oxfordshire Environment Board and Biodiversity Action Group are also included, with recognition that there is also a process underway to form an Oxfordshire Local Nature Partnership. ▪ Under the emerging Environment Bill, there will also be a requirement to produce a Local Nature Recovery Strategy 	Amendments were made to the Strategic Vision to take account of comments received prior to the Strategic Vision being agreed by the Oxfordshire authorities.

Record of Co-operation: Natural England			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	How this has shaped the Oxfordshire Plan
		<p>(LNRS). It would be helpful to flag this as a future Strategic Influencer.</p> <p><u>Desired Outcomes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Welcome the desire to become carbon neutral and move towards a carbon negative future. ▪ Welcome recognition of the natural environment’s role in helping to achieve this. ▪ Suggest that the role of nature-based solutions in mitigating the impacts of climate change is also included. We recommend that consideration is given to the potential land-use changes that will occur to achieve Net Zero, particularly that these are compatible with enabling the valued landscapes and biodiversity of the County adapt to the impacts of climate change. 	
Emerging Policy Options	Mar – Apr 2021	Natural England reviewed and provided comments on an early draft of the emerging policy options under the ‘Addressing Climate Change’ and ‘Improving Environmental Quality’ themes, prior to the formal second Regulation 18 consultation.	Recommendations from Natural England were taken into account in the production of the second Regulation 18 consultation document.
Duty to Co-operate Meeting	6 May 2021	<p>A duty to co-operate meeting took place with Natural England. The emerging policy options under the addressing climate change and improving environmental quality themes were discussed, as were key elements of the evidence base such as the HRA, nature recovery network and natural capital mapping.</p> <p><u>Natural Environment</u></p> <p>Nature Recovery Network - Flexible wording needed to recognise that the requirement to produce a Local Nature Recovery Strategy is likely to come forward during the plan</p>	<p><u>Natural Environment</u></p> <p>Recommendations from Natural England were taken into account in the production of the second Regulation 18 consultation document.</p>

Record of Co-operation: Natural England			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	How this has shaped the Oxfordshire Plan
		<p>period. Something similar is also likely to come forward for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc.</p> <p>Biodiversity Net Gain – A 20% minimum requirement being considered/proposed for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc.</p> <p>Natural Capital – The Oxfordshire Plan should emphasise the importance of natural capital. This will have strong links to other areas including the nature recovery network and air quality.</p> <p>Climate change – links to the Nature Recovery Network and potential for carbon sequestration should be recognised.</p> <p><u>Habitats Regulations Assessment</u> Questions around how to assess and mitigate likely significant effects when we are dealing with: i. Broad areas for growth. (Detailed allocations to come through local plans.) ii. Longer timeframe. (Greater uncertainty the further ahead you plan. Hard to model travel patterns/modes.) This issue was also flagged at the West of England EiP. Further discussion with Natural England would be valuable.</p> <p>It was agreed that a statement of common ground was not needed at the second Regulation 18 stage.</p>	<p><u>Habitats Regulations Assessment</u> Further engagement to take place with Natural England in relation to the HRA methodology.</p>

Record of Co-operation: The Office of Rail and Road

This record summarises co-operation to date (up to the second Regulation 18 consultation) with The Office of Rail and Road.

Record of Co-operation: The Office of Rail and Road			
Engagement Type	Date	Summary	Impact of co-operation on the plan-making process
SCI Consultation	Nov 2018 - Jan 2019	The Office of Rail and Road did not submit comments on the SCI.	N/A
Stakeholder Launch Event	Dec 2018	The Office of Rail and Road did not attend this event.	N/A
SA Scoping Report Consultation	Jan - Mar 2019	The Office of Rail and Road did not submit comments on the SA Scoping Report.	N/A
Regulation 18 Consultation (1)	Feb - Mar 2019	The Office of Rail and Road did not submit comments through the first Regulation 18 consultation.	N/A
Call for Ideas	Mar-Apr 2019	The Office of Rail and Road did not make a Call for Ideas submission.	N/A
Duty to Co-operate Scoping Exercise	May 2019	The Office of Rail and Road did not respond to the duty to co-operate scoping exercise.	N/A
Stakeholder Event	May 2019	The Office of Rail and Road did not attend this event.	N/A
Oxfordshire Open Thought	Jun - Aug 2020	The Office of Rail and Road did not make a submission via Oxfordshire Open Thought.	N/A
Strategic Vision Consultation	Nov 2020 - Jan 2021	The Office of Rail and Road did not comment on the Strategic Vision.	N/A

Appendix 3

Minutes of Future Oxfordshire Partnership Meetings held on 13th June 2022 and 27th September 2022

Minutes

OF A MEETING OF THE



The Future Oxfordshire Partnership

HELD ON TUESDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2022 AT 2.00 PM

COUNCIL CHAMBER, CHERWELL DISTRICT COUNCIL, BODICOTE HOUSE, BODICOTE, BANBURY, OX15 4AA

Present:

Councillor Barry Wood (Chair), (Cherwell District Council), Claire Burnett, (Homes England), Professor Alistair Fitt, (Universities representative), Jonathan Fleming, (Environment Agency), Councillor Alex Hollingsworth, (Oxford City Council), Angus Horner, (OxLEP business representative - science vale), Councillor Liz Leffman, (Oxfordshire County Council), Daniel Leveson, (Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire & West Berkshire ICB), Councillor Dan Levy, (West Oxfordshire District Council), Jeremy Long, (OxLEP - Chair), Miranda Markham, (OxLEP business representative - Bicester), Councillor David Rouane (South Oxfordshire District Council) and Councillor Emily Smith, (Vale of White Horse District Council).

Officers: Lorna Baxter, (Oxfordshire County Council, Ian Boll (Cherwell District Council), Andrew Down, (Future Oxfordshire Partnership), Caroline Green (Oxford City Council), Susan Harbour, (South and Vale Councils), Giles Hughes (West Oxfordshire District Council), Kevin Jacob, (Future Oxfordshire Partnership), John McLauchlan, (Oxfordshire County Council), Babatunde Ogundele (Future Oxfordshire Partnership), Yvonne Rees (Cherwell District Council), Rosie Rowe, (Oxfordshire County Council), Paul Staines (Oxfordshire Growth Deal Team), Mark Stone, (South and Vale Councils) and Nigel Tipple (Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership).

Other councillors: Councillor Katherine Miles, Chair of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership Scrutiny Panel.

15. Apologies for absence; declarations of interest and Chair's announcement

Apologies for absence were submitted from Councillor Susan Brown, Oxford City Council, (substituted by Councillor Alex Hollingsworth), Councillor Andy Graham, West Oxfordshire District Council, (substituted by Councillor Dan Levy), Emma Hill, Environment Agency representative, (substituted by Johnathan Fleming), Iain Littlejohn, Chair Oxfordshire Skills Board, and Catherine Turner, Homes England, (substituted by Claire Burnett).

There were no declarations of interest.

It was noted that the meeting was being livestreamed and that a recording of the meeting would be available for a period of 12 months [here](#).

16. Minutes

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership held on 13 June 2022 be approved as a correct record of the meeting.

17. Public participation

At the beginning of the item, the Chair commented that full [written responses](#) to public speakers as submitted would be provided in due course, but that the points raised would be taken into consideration as part of the Partnership's discussion of the substantive agenda items they related to. A summary of the submitted questions is presented below:

Ian Green, on behalf of the Oxford Civic Society, made an address setting out several recommendations relating to the ending of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 programme. He commented on the achievements made during the preparation of the Plan and suggested that the Partnership agree to the holding of public discussions on making the best use of this work.

The Oxford Civic Society recognised that in order to update the Local Plans of the district and city council, some form of agreement would need to be reached regarding both distribution and an Oxfordshire growth rate – this will be necessary as part of the legislative requirements of the Duty to Cooperate. As it is also important to continue to seek to optimise strategic infrastructure investment, Mr Green recommended that the Partnership publicly identify the strategic transport implications of each local authority establishing its own rate, pace, and distribution of housing growth. He also proposed that the Partnership agree that there should be a public debate on how the council's separate Local Plans could be coordinated, synchronised, and integrated into Oxfordshire's strategic plans.

Finally, because an Oxfordshire spatial plan would have been a useful tool to optimise strategic investment and achieve economic, social, and environmental goals, the Partnership was asked whether the ending of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 programme was a mistake which could send a negative message to HM Government and private sector investors.

Suzanne Mclvor, on behalf of Need Not Greed Oxfordshire (NNGO), referred to the preparation of Oxford City Council's Preferred Options document for its Local Plan 2040 which was due to go for public consultation at the start of October. As part of these activities, Oxford City had signalled its intention to commission work to establish its housing need using a methodology agreed with as many of its neighbouring authorities as possible. Mrs Mclvor expressed NNGO's view that Oxford City did not intend to adopt the standard method of calculating housing need but were instead attempting to find an alternative method which would result in higher levels of housing. In addition, Oxford City would also be looking to other districts to help with the housing needs that could not be met within its own boundaries.

The Partnership was also informed that independent planning consultants commissioned by the Cherwell Development Watch Alliance had, after a review of the Oxfordshire

Growth Needs Assessment, concluded that based on projections from the Office for National Statistics there was an argument that a lower housing need figure could apply in Oxford City. In light of these issues the Partnership was asked if it:

1. Agreed that the Duty to Cooperate was not a duty to cater for the growth ambitions of any particular local authority.
2. Agreed that, given the fact that the OGNA was heavily criticised by a wide range of parties:
 - a. It would not be appropriate to use the same consultants in taking forward preparation of an evidence base for any of the emerging Local Plans
 - b. The tendering process for any such consultants should consider the amount of work they carry out for developers.

Professor Richard Harding, on behalf of CPRE Oxfordshire, referred to the end of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 programme and the concerns of the CPRE given its support for spatial planning within Oxfordshire. In their view it was unfortunate that the councils pursuing what the CPRE regard as an aggressive growth agenda could not be persuaded that this would be in conflict with the Oxfordshire Strategic Vision. The Partnership was asked:

1. How the public could be provided with a transparent and clear explanation as to where it had been possible through the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 programme for councils to reach agreement and where it had not, including reasons.
2. If, as had been indicated, the inability to reach agreement had related to housing need alone, was it not possible to move forward with a broad spatial strategy that could guide development
3. That there had been a number of strong emerging policies such as zero carbon that logically would best be applied at Oxfordshire level. Had these policies been agreed to, and if so, how could they now be taken forward. If they had not, how could they be agreed through a Local Plan based approach?
4. How could policies on renewables to taken forward?

Councillor Charlie Hicks, Oxfordshire County Council, had submitted a written question relating to the application of County Council policies – as set out in the Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (LTCP) – to the criteria used for the review of the Homes from Infrastructure programme (Hfi). The Partnership was asked whether officers had been guided by the policies agreed at the start of the Housing and Growth Deal or whether references in past papers which suggested that the LTCP should be aligned to the work of the Partnership were correct. Councillor Hicks stated that if it was determined that Oxfordshire County Council policies did have weight for decisions relating to the Hfi, in his review the current review of that programme would have to be rerun.

Dr Alison Hill, on behalf of Cyclox, made an address in relation to the review of the Homes from Infrastructure programme (Hfi). In their view, higher priority had been given to road schemes which Cyclox consider would increase road traffic than to those projects which would promote and encourage active travel. Dr Hill expressed particular concerns regarding the suggested changes to the Woodstock Road scheme (which would have created the first safe cycling infrastructure along any of Oxford's roads and had been developed following extensive stakeholder engagement) and the cost of the proposed Oxpens Bridge scheme (which is in the view of Cyclox in the wrong location). Overall, it was felt that the process leading up to the consideration of the proposals had been

opaque, had not involved stakeholders and had failed to address the policies of the Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (LTCP).

Robin Tucker, on behalf of the Coalition for Healthy Streets and Active Travel (CoHSAT), made an address in relation to the review of the Homes from Infrastructure programme (Hfi). CoHSAT requested that the Partnership take into consideration that, although not part of the Hfi programme, these schemes funded by the national Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF1) process were already contrary to the Local Transport and Connectivity Plan and the climate policies of Oxfordshire County, Vale of White Horse District and South Oxfordshire District Councils.

CoHSAT were also of the view that the impact of cost increases to capital works had fallen most heavily on sustainable transport with the proposed deletion of the Milton Heights project and significant reductions to the Woodstock Road scheme. In addition, they have concerns regarding both cost and location of the Oxpens Bridge proposal.

Councillor Lawrence Fouweather, Oxford city Council, asked several questions regarding the review of the Homes from Infrastructure programme (Hfi). He expressed concerns regarding the decision-making process and commented that there was a danger of it being seen as decisions being made behind closed doors without oversight, scrutiny, or public engagement.

Councillor Fouweather also asked whether members of the Partnership had taken the opportunity to reevaluate the proposals in view of the concerns expressed about the Oxpens Bridge scheme and went on to enquire if they had considered the cost benefit of this project compared to that at Milton Heights. He also wanted to know whether the Partnership had been able to properly factor in the various ways of using funding to support active travel on the Woodstock Road (including the scheme already paid for through the Housing and Growth Deal) and whether consideration had been given to how the impact of the large development in the North of Oxford might be supported.

18. Future Oxfordshire Partnership Scrutiny Panel update

The Chair invited Councillor Katherine Miles, Chair of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership Scrutiny Panel to present the recommendations from the Panel meeting held on 20 September 2022 which had been circulated in advance.

Councillor Miles outlined that the Panel's recommendations related to the two substantive items on its agenda, the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 update, and the review of the Housing from Infrastructure programme (Hfi).

In considering the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 update, the Panel had noted the ending of the programme and expressed concerns that the councils might not go beyond their legal obligations under the Duty to Cooperate (thus resulting in the loss of the valuable work already undertaken). They, therefore, strongly supported recommendations two, three and four of the report concerning how a Local Plan approach might be taken forward and the creation of an Oxfordshire Planning Advisory Group.

With regard to the review of the Hfi, the Panel found the late receipt of the slides relating to this item to be unacceptable and expressed serious concern regarding the prioritisation criteria used within the review.

Update on the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Programme

1. That the Future Oxfordshire Partnership agree the principle that the district, City and County Councils should continue to cooperate and collaborate on county wide future spatial planning matters related to the former Oxfordshire Plan 2050 work programme, with the support of a planning advisory group. In doing so, they should aspire to achieve policy coherence and coordination in respective local plans. These topics for collaboration should include, but are not limited to, the Green Belt, carbon reduction, nature recovery, housing density and proximity of housing to employment sites, and active travel infrastructure connecting housing to urban centres.

Review of the Housing from Infrastructure Programme

2. That the Partnership respond to the concerns of the Panel and requests for further information as set out above.
3. That in addition to the consideration of the housing units accelerated by a particular scheme within the period of the Housing and Growth deal, the Partnership give higher priority to consideration of Active Travel factors, as a theme to determine the revised Hfl programme. This is to ensure in the absence of existing infrastructure, there is the creation of new safe walking and cycling infrastructure linking developments to nearby settlements.
4. That where a scheme is proposed to be removed from the Hfl programme and linked development has already taken place (e.g., Milton Heights), the Partnership reconsider its prioritisation weighting to include it in the Hfl programme or else do all it can to encourage and facilitate the identification of replacement funding.

19. Housing and Growth Deal Reports

(a) Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal Progress Report - Year 5, Quarter 1, 2022/23

The Partnership considered a report updating them on the progress of the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal at the end of the first quarter of the fifth and final year (2022/23) – it also incorporated the position at the end of 2021/22.

Paul Staines, Interim Head of Programme, informed members that the data showing the delivery for the Homes from Infrastructure programme (Hfl) at the end of 2021/22 was below target for the first time during the Deal period (albeit when measured against the original five years).

RESOLVED: That the Future Oxfordshire Partnership notes the progress as at the end of the first quarter of the fifth year, June 2022 of the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal, incorporating the update as of the end of Quarter 1, 2022/2023.

(b) Update on the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Programme

The Partnership considered a report which provided an update following the announcement of the cessation of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 programme and the transition to a process focused upon Local Plans.

Giles Hughes, Senior Responsible Officer for the Oxfordshire Plan 2050, referred to the statement issued by the city and district council leaders about the cessation of the

programme. This had explained that unfortunately it had not been possible to reach a consensus position on an approach towards housing and as a consequence it had not been possible to continue with the development of the Oxfordshire Plan.

Nevertheless, as set out in the report, there were many areas where there was a broad agreement between the councils. It was, therefore, important that this work should be taken forward in a way that was both compatible with a Local Plan based process and which went beyond the Duty to Cooperate. Consequently, the report lists detailed principles about how this could be achieved. The councils also remain committed to the Oxfordshire Strategic Vision 2050 and taking forward the Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy. A key recommendation is that the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Advisory Group should be renamed and refocused to facilitate this.

Councillor Smith commented that as the Chair of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Advisory Group she echoed Mr Hughes remarks. She also welcomed the Scrutiny Panel's support of the report's recommendations. While Councillor Smith had been disappointed that it had not been possible to agree on a process to determine housing need, she emphasised that a lot of good work had been achieved through the Plan process which they should be proud of including in the Oxfordshire Strategic Vision.

If the Partnership agreed to the recommendation to continue with a renamed and refocused advisory group, Councillor Smith commented that the county would still be able to work together and undertake strategic planning discussions on cross-boundary issues. It was also felt that this would contribute to mitigating some of the concerns expressed by the public speakers at the meeting.

In discussion, Councillor Leffman spoke to the importance of integrating the work around the Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy into the work of the revised advisory group because of the need for an Oxfordshire wide strategy.

Councillor Hollingsworth, whilst commenting that it was a matter of regret that the Oxfordshire Plan 2020 would not continue, stated that a lot of valuable collaboration had taken place. He supported the recommendations as an opportunity to take forward the best of the Plan work. Other parts of the country had worked together on spatial planning issues and there was value in shared policy and evidence base collection.

The Chair echoed the comments made, emphasizing that there was value to be gained by a collaborative approach on Oxfordshire wide matters. Whilst the Duty to Cooperate did not mean a duty to agree, close working was vitally important (for instance through mechanisms such as Statements of Common understanding).

Councillor Rouane commented that the money spent in the development of the Plan had delivered many pieces of good work that would continue to be valuable. He supported the refocussing of the advisory group and highlighted the opportunities for joint working on issues such as solar farms.

RESOLVED: That Future Oxfordshire Partnership:

1. Notes that Local Plans for the City and Districts will provide the framework for the long-term planning of development in Oxfordshire.

2. Supports the principles set out in paragraph 16 of the report outlining how the partners will take forward the Local Plan based approach.
3. Notes that the end of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 work programme requires a review of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Advisory Group's name and terms of reference.
4. Request that Officers develop draft terms of reference for a refreshed Planning Advisory Group of all six principal authorities for consideration at a future meeting.

(c) Review of Homes from Infrastructure Programme Part 2

The Partnership considered proposals which represented the outcome of a joint approach across all local authority officers to seek to rebalance the Homes from Infrastructure programme (Hfi). John McLauchlan, Head of the Infrastructure Planning Office, Oxfordshire County Council, commented that:

- The concerns expressed by the Scrutiny Panel regarding report process were acknowledged. Because of the joint and collective approach to the development of the proposals there had been a degree of additional complexity to the sign off process which had unfortunately delayed circulation of the proposals to the Panel. This was regretted and lessons would be learnt.
- A review of the Programme was required because it had become imbalanced resulting in a need for a net reduction of £6.495m.
- While the criteria used to review the individual schemes within the programme had sought to recognise nuances around issues such as active travel and connectivity, a key part of the assessment criteria was the acceleration of housing as stipulated within the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal. Other considerations included the protection of external funding already allocated within the Oxfordshire system.
- Proposals to remove schemes from the programme or to reduce the Hfi funding allocated to them did not mean that they were no longer regarded as vital infrastructure projects within the county. It remained a collective priority to seek to find alternative funding for those schemes.
- Unfortunately, as a result of the significant inflationary pressures facing the construction industry, the original programme was no longer deliverable and it was felt that that current proposals was the most balanced programme that could be achieved.

Councillor Leffman, commenting on the proposals as both Leader of Oxfordshire County Council (the responsible authority for the Hfi programme) and as the Chair of the Infrastructure Advisory Group, stressed to the Partnership that the proposals before them represented the best available outcome of a programme review based on a total funding envelope of £150m. Nevertheless, it was important to highlight that if HM Government did not make the final expected instalment of £30m (which had been expected in September) it would be necessary to revisit the review based on a budget of £120m. It also had to be recognised that there were significant inflationary cost pressures which were likely to persist in the medium term.

Councillor Leffman appreciated and understood the concerns raised by the public speakers and the Scrutiny Panel in relation to active travel, but while its promotion remained a key objective, the Hfi had not been designed with it as a key criterion. Officers from across the county would still, however, continue to look for potential alternative funding mechanisms – including the possible application of S106 funding.

The Chair echoed Councillor Leffman's comments regarding the objectives of the Hfl programme. It had been designed and agreed with the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal as a housing investment fund to support the acceleration of housing delivery and was not a transport fund. There was, nevertheless, a need to be ready to be able to bid at short notice for any extra sources of funding that might become available.

Councillor Levy agreed that the situation was unfortunate and acknowledged that given the circumstances the proposals represented the best available outcome. He stated that in his opinion, active travel and housing were inextricably linked and reminded the meeting that all of the local authorities represented were committed to the promotion of sustainable, healthy alternatives to the car – road schemes, therefore, did not need to be at the heat of housing delivery.

Moreover, while Councillor Levy acknowledged that the proposals had been considered by the appropriate body in the shape of Infrastructure Advisory Group, he, nevertheless, stated that in his view it was not entirely clear how the choices and decisions had been arrived at because the details of the assessment working had not been made available.

Councillor Smith stated her discomfort with the decision before the Partnership. While she understood and appreciated the acute time pressures, if the matter was before her own council, she would have expected additional information to have been made available regarding the proposals – thereby, allowing the public to understand the decision being made. Councillor Smith also made reference to the Scrutiny Panel's query regarding the identity of the final decision makers (the Partnership or Oxfordshire County Council). In addition, she expressed the view that if there were to be deals in the future with HM Government to fund infrastructure over several years, there should be an insistence that the budget be index-linked.

Councillor Smith acknowledged that the Hfl programme was intended to provide infrastructure to accelerate and unlock the delivery of the 100,000 new homes agreed too. Therefore, in looking at the proposals the main consideration was housing and the importance of protecting funding that would bring forward the largest numbers of homes (for example, Lodge Hill junction and Witney). While recognising this fact, she was, however, unclear about the reasoning behind some of the changes to other schemes – in particular, the reduction in the allocation for the proposed Milton Heights bridge which would not only have unlocked 70 additional homes, but also enabled residents from Milton Heights to walk and cycle to Milton Park in line the ambitions contained with the Local Transport and Connectivity Plan. Notwithstanding these specific concerns, Councillor Smith understood the need for schemes to be deliverable within a short time scale and also recognised the objective of not losing funding. Therefore, on balance, she was prepared to support the proposals, but reiterated that removal of funding through the Hfl programme did not mean the scheme was not considered to be important and officers would work with others to achieve this.

The Chair, in summing up, commented that his understanding was that the proposals had to be endorsed by the Partnership, but that their implementation rested with Oxfordshire County Council as the accountable body. He did, however, recognise that there was merit around considering how similar type of issues might be considered in the future to improve processes. With regard to the consideration of the index linking of the Housing and Growth Deal budgets, this was a valid point, but when it had been originally negotiated, inflation had been at historically low levels.

RESOLVED: That the changes to the Home from Infrastructure Programme as set out in the circulated presentation be endorsed by the Future Oxfordshire Partnership.

(d) Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal Financial Report Quarter 1, Year 5

The Partnership considered a report that set out the financial position of the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal. The report covered the various funding streams within the Deal at the end of Quarter 1 2022/23 – it also incorporated the position at the end of 2021/22.

Lorna Baxter, Director of Finance, Oxfordshire County Council, in presenting referred to the risk to the Homes from Infrastructure programme (Hfl) resulting from the delay in the receipt of £30m from HM Government. The actual spend to date for the Hfl programme stood at £110m at the end of March 2022, with a further £5.5m spend in the first quarter of 2022/23. Considering the receipt to date of £120m of the expected Hfl funding and that confirmation of the final £30m was still awaited, it was necessary to come to a view on when a pause to any further contractual commitments would be required.

The Partnership was informed that the capacity fund element of Deal funding had been received in full. While there was not a requirement to repay any of that funding, part of capacity fund had been to support the delivery of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050. An update on the use of the remaining funding related to the Plan would be provided at the next meeting.

In addition, the Partnership was reminded that the financial data set out in Appendix 1 to the report represented the financial position prior to the changes to the Hfl programme agreed under the previous item.

RESOLVED: That the Future Oxfordshire Partnership note the financial position as of end June 2022 incorporating the position as at the end of 2021/2022.

20. Update following the Joint Workshop between the Health & Wellbeing Board and the Future Oxfordshire Partnership

Members considered a report updating them on actions to address the common areas of concern identified at joint workshop between the Future Oxfordshire Partnership and the Oxfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board. Rosie Rowe, Healthy Place Shaping Lead, Oxfordshire County Council, in presenting commented that the areas of concern identified included: obesity, access to green space, active travel, air quality, retrofit of housing, promotion of behavioural change in support of climate change, engagement with the Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and West Berkshire Integrated Care System, (BOB ICS), Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership and social prescribing.

The report had originally been written for the Partnership's meeting in July and, therefore, following its cancellation there were now several additional updates to bring to the attention of members.

In relation to the engagement of the new ICS with climate action, a lot of activity was underway as part of the Pathways to a Zero Carbon Oxfordshire (PaZCO) workstream to produce actions that would set out detailed and specific deliverables to achieve Net Zero targets.

A paper on social prescribing was scheduled to go to the Oxfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board in due course. This would set out a strategy for Oxfordshire designed to

help people with health needs that could be addressed through activities within their own community. It would also demonstrate the link between health and place.

The Partnership was also informed that as the local ICS started to mature, the intention was for there to be more place-based working (with the potential for further joint workshops as part of the ICS Place Partnership).

Professor Fitt stated that he had been unsure what the long term future of Health and Wellbeing Boards were in the context of the wider policy developments but commented that they had been useful forums for the sharing of knowledge amongst partners. Ms Rowe responded that her understanding was that Health and Wellbeing Boards would continue and that the Integrated Care Partnership Strategy would be based upon their plans. Dan Leveson, Oxfordshire Director of Place, commented that the work around the development of places had begun within the ICS and that he intended to avoid unnecessary duplication and work within existing strategies wherever possible.

Councillor Rouane thanked Ms Rowe for the report, stating that he had found the joint workshop very useful in stimulating creative thinking and that as a result he had followed up on several issues concerning South Oxfordshire.

The Chair welcomed the report and commented that it was very important that the necessary routes existed for the NHS and local authorities to work together for the benefit of resident's health and wellbeing – the need to plan for access to green space and encourage its use by the public being one example. Councillor Leffman also referred to the importance of green space and the need to focus upon a prevention agenda by both local authorities and the NHS. Further joint meetings could be useful.

In relation to the retrofitting of housing, the Chair referred to the workforce shortage of people with appropriate retrofitting skills and knowledge to really address the scale of the issue. Ms Rowe commented that this could in part fit into the work that the Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership was developing. However, some measures and support to assist people with their energy costs were quite straightforward, for instance the advice service funded by Oxfordshire local authorities.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Future Oxfordshire Partnership and Oxfordshire's Health & Wellbeing Board note the action being taken to address common areas of concern.
2. That the Boards note that they will continue to discuss common issues of concern either through specific joint workshops or through potential future Integrated Care System structures established to support place working in Oxfordshire.

21. Advisory Group Notes

(a) Infrastructure Advisory Group update

Councillor Leffman referred to the notes of the Infrastructure Advisory Group held on 25 May 2022.

RESOLVED: That the update be noted.

(b) Housing Advisory Group update

The Partnership considered the notes of the Housing Advisory Group held on 19 April 2022 and 5 July 2022.

RESOLVED: That the update be noted.

(c) Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Advisory Group update

Councillor Smith referred to the notes of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 Advisory Group meeting held on 16 June 2022. These outlined both the time pressures relating to the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 and the concerns expressed by several members that an early draft of the Plan did not reflect the ambitions of the Oxfordshire Strategic Vision.

Although the Advisory Group had also held a meeting in July, after the ending of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 programme the notes from this had yet been approved. Officers would, therefore, be consulted regarding a mechanism for agreeing these following the earlier decision to refocus and rename the Advisory Group.

RESOLVED: That the update be noted.

(d) Environment Advisory Group update

Councillor Rouane, in addition to referring to the notes of the Environment Advisory Group meeting held on 21 June 2022, also provided a verbal report of the meeting held on 20 September 2022. He mentioned the five workshops relating to the PaZCO (Pathways to a Zero Carbon Oxfordshire) workstream – as set out within the notes – and commented that action plans were now in place for all of the tasks arising from them.

Members of the Partnership were also encouraged to consider attending or sending a representative to the Oxfordshire Local Nature Partnership Forum scheduled for 12 October 2022. It was agreed to circulate appropriate details.

RESOLVED: That the update be noted.

22. Future Oxfordshire Partnership Forward Plan

Kevin Jacob, Senior Democratic Services Officer, presented the Partnership's Forward Plan.

The Chair commented that it was important that the Programme both reflected the commitments that the members of the Partnership had made in respects of working together and took account of the nine outcomes of the Oxfordshire Strategic Vision.

In discussion, it was proposed that it could be helpful to adapt the existing Oxford to Cambridge Arc update into a broader item that would reflect/cover developments relating to all the different organisations that had Partnership representation (for example, England's Economic Heartland and the Local Nature Partnership).

Councillor Smith suggested the addition of an item relating to the proposals for a new reservoir south of Abingdon – if the project went ahead, it would have implications far wider than that of the Vale of White Horse. Given the expectation that the public consultation on the project would start in November, officers were asked to reflect on how best the Partnership could consider the issue.

Jeremy Long, Chair of OxLEP suggested the addition of an item providing an update on the Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership.

RESOLVED: That the Future Oxfordshire Partnership Forward Programme and suggested additions be noted.

23. Confirmation of the re appointment of a representative from the Oxfordshire Strategic Transport Forum to the Infrastructure Advisory Group

The Partnership considered the recommendation of the Infrastructure Advisory Group that a representative of the Oxfordshire Strategic Transport Forum be re-appointed as non-voting co-opted member of the Group for the 2022/2023 year.

RESOLVED: That a representative of the Oxfordshire Strategic Transport Forum be re-appointed as a non-voting co-opted member of the Infrastructure Advisory Group for the 2022/2023 year.

24. Updates on matters relevant to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership

Nigel Tipple, Chief Executive of the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership, provided an update on the joint work (between the local authorities, OxLEP, the universities and other stakeholders) that was about to commence on refreshing the economic baseline data relating to the Local Industrial Strategy and the Economic Recovery Plan. The outcomes of this exercise would be brought back to the Partnership for engagement in due course.

Work was also in progress concerning the new Employer Representative Bodies who are due to take on the responsibility for Local Skills Improvement Plans.

25. Dates of next meetings

The Partnership noted the date of future meetings as set out in the Agenda.

The meeting closed at 3.31 pm

Minutes

OF A MEETING OF THE



The Future Oxfordshire Partnership

HELD ON TUESDAY 13 JUNE 2023 AT 2.00 PM

THE LONG ROOM, OXFORD CITY COUNCIL, TOWN HALL, ST ALDATE'S,
OXFORD, OX1 1BX

Present:

Members: Councillor Susan Brown (Chair), (Oxford City Council), Professor Alistair Fitt, (OxLEP Chair), Councillor Andy Graham, (West Oxfordshire District Council), Angus Horner, (OxLEP), Councillor Liz Leffman, (Oxfordshire County Council), Lucy Manzo, (Environment Agency), Peter Nolan, (OxLEP), Councillor David Rouane, (South Oxfordshire District Council), Councillor Bethia Thomas, (Vale of White Horse District Council), Professor Irene Tracey, (OxLEP Universities representative), Catherine Turner (Homes England) and Councillor Barry Wood

Non-voting members: Ian Boll (Cherwell District Council), Becky Chesshyre, (Future Oxfordshire Partnership), Emma Coles (Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership), Bill Cotton, (Oxfordshire County Council), Andrew Down, (Future Oxfordshire Partnership), Caroline Green (Oxford City Council), Susan Harbour, (South and Vale District Councils), Giles Hughes (West Oxfordshire District Council), Kevin Jacob, (Future Oxfordshire Partnership), Alex Jeffery (Future Oxfordshire Partnership), Babatunde Ogundele (Future Oxfordshire Partnership), Martin Reeves (Oxfordshire County Council), Paul Staines, (Oxfordshire Growth Deal Team), (Nigel Tipple (Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership) and Beth Wilks (Future Oxfordshire Partnership)

Guests: Jeremy Long, (Co-Chair, Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership) and Professor Jan Royall, (Co-Chair, Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership).

Other councillors: Councillor Katherine Miles, (Future Oxfordshire Partnership Scrutiny Panel Chair)

1. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair for the 2023/2024 year

Kevin Jacob, Senior Democratic Services Officer for the Future Oxfordshire Partnership opened the meeting and welcomed those present before calling for nominations for the office of Chair.

Councillor Bethia Thomas proposed Councillor Susan Brown as Chair of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership for the year 2023/2024 and this was seconded by Councillor Liz

Leffman. There being no other nominations this was confirmed by the voting members of the Partnership present.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Susan Brown be elected as Chair of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership for the 2023/2024 year.

Councillor Brown took the Chair at this point and proposed that Councillor Liz Leffman be elected as Vice-Chair of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership for the 2023/2024 year and this was seconded by Councillor Andy Graham. There being no other nominations this was confirmed by the voting members of the Partnership present.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Liz Leffman be elected as Vice-Chair of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership for the 2023/2024 year.

2. Apologies for absence; declarations of interest and Chair's announcements

Apologies for absence were submitted from Emma Hill, Environment Agency, (substituted by Lucy Manzo), Dan Leveson, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West ICB, Iain Littlejohn, Chair of the Oxfordshire Skills Board and Miranda Markham, OxLEP.

There were no declarations of interest.

[It was noted that the meeting was being livestreamed and that a recording would be available for a period of 12 months.](#)

3. Minutes

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership held on 20 March 2023 be approved as a correct record of the meeting.

4. Public participation

[The full text and final written response to the questions below can be found here.](#)

Ian Green, Chair of the Oxford Civic Society stated that the Society had been delighted to see the draft Terms of Reference for the Planning Advisory Group on the Agenda but had a number of comments and suggestions. The role of the advisory group as a forum for Oxfordshire wide strategic planning matters was welcomed, but it was suggested that more emphasis needed to be placed on the provision of a wider ranging strategic planning forum.

In the view of the Society whilst the ability of the advisory group to work with and invite other relevant organisations to its meetings was welcomed, it was unnecessarily qualified to specific individual meetings. It was also felt that meetings of the advisory group should be held in public.

With regard to the advisory group's future work programme, it was suggested that one of the gaps in Oxfordshire's strategic planning related to infrastructure investment planning and that the advisory group should examine the issue through a sub-group looking at innovative funding sources. This would be consistent with Partnership's own suggestions

and the Society's own report relating to the importance of integrated development planning published in July 2022.

Finally, the Partnership was challenged to examine the reasons why it had not been possible to progress the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 and to satisfy itself that the proposed Planning Advisory Group Terms of Reference addressed them.

In response, the Chair indicated that a full written response would be provided but commented that the Oxford Civic Society's support for a strategic planning forum was welcomed. The proposed Terms of Reference for the Planning Advisory Group made clear that Local Plans for the City and District councils now provided the framework for long term planning across Oxfordshire. Individual councils retained sovereignty over the content of local plans through their own internal processes, as local planning authorities. The advisory group would provide the mechanism for councils to work cooperatively and constructively in developing respective plans and strategies.

None of the Partnership's advisory groups were decision making and all met in private so as to provide an opportunity for the cabinet member representatives from each local authority to come together along with expert witnesses when appropriate. This approach was felt to have been a useful way of operating and the provisions within the Planning Advisory Group were consistent with the other advisory groups.

5. Future Oxfordshire Partnership Scrutiny Panel update

The Chair invited Councillor Katherine Miles, Chair of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership Scrutiny Panel, to present the recommendations from the Panel's meeting held on 6 June 2023.

Councillor Miles summarised the Panel's recommendations as circulated to the Partnership but expressed concern on the Panel's behalf that it had not had opportunity to comment and express its views on the Developing a Place Narrative for Oxfordshire report on the basis that at the time of the Panel meeting the report was not ready. The Partnership was urged not to take any binding actions concerning place narrative proposals without them first being considered by the Scrutiny Panel.

[The Chair thanked Councillor Miles for her introduction and commented that the Partnership's full response to recommendations would be given in writing.](#)

With regard to the Place Narrative item the Chair responded that she wished to reassure the Scrutiny Panel that the proposals were not related to Local Plans and these would remain within the sovereignty of the City and District councils. The paper in its current form was an initial explanation with a second more detailed report due to come back to a later Partnership via the Scrutiny Panel if the principle of further work was supported at the meeting.

The Chair commented that the Panel's recommendations relating to the Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership (OIEP) would be passed onto the respective Chairs of the OIEP subgroups so that they could be taken into consideration as the OIEP's strategy was delivered.

The Panel's recommendation regarding the importance of considering the needs of future generations as part of current policy setting and delivery was welcomed. The Partnership

was also happy to look at examples of best practice related to Green Finance and specific points around local area energy planning and the wider delivery of the Net Zero Route Map and Action Plan.

6. Updates to Future Oxfordshire Partnership Terms of Reference and Memorandum of Understanding

The Partnership considered a report and attached appendices which set out proposed revisions to the Partnership's Terms of Reference and the Memorandum of Understanding in place between the six Oxfordshire principal local authorities. Andrew Down, Future Oxfordshire Partnership Director informed the meeting that the proposed adjustments were required in response to changes within the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal and also to make explicit reference to the Oxfordshire Strategic Vision and to remove references to the Oxfordshire Plan 2050.

RESOLVED: That the revised Terms of Reference and Memorandum of Understanding be endorsed by the Future Oxfordshire Partnership. These will take effect following approval by each local authority Cabinet.

7. Updates to Future Oxfordshire Partnership Advisory Group Terms of Reference

The Partnership considered a report and attached appendices which set out proposed amendments to the terms of reference of the three existing advisory groups, housing, infrastructure and environment, in addition to draft terms of reference for the proposed Planning Advisory Group. Andrew Down, Future Oxfordshire Partnership Director introduced the report.

The Chair thanked officers for their hard working in drafting the suggested changes.

RESOLVED: That

1. the updated terms of reference for the three active advisory groups as set out in appendix one, two, and three be agreed.
2. the terms of reference for the proposed Planning Advisory Group as set out in appendix four be agreed.
3. authority be delegated to the FOP Director to make minor or typographical amendments to the terms of reference in consultation with the chairs of the advisory groups.

8. Future Oxfordshire Partnership Appointments 2023-2024

The Chair proposed and it was seconded by Councillor Andy Graham that the following appointments be made en bloc for the 2023/2024 year.

1. Housing Advisory Group Chair – Cllr Barry Wood
2. Environment Advisory Group Chair – Cllr David Rouane

3. Infrastructure Advisory Group Chair – Cllr Liz Leffman
4. Planning Advisory Group Chair – Cllr Andy Graham and;
5. To note that the Oxford to Cambridge Pan Regional Partnership Board nomination will continue to rotate with the Future Oxfordshire Partnership’s Chair. (In the event that the Chair is unavailable or is a member of the collaboration board in another capacity, the Vice-Chair should be the FOP’s representative.)
6. To note that the England’s Economic Heartland Strategic Transport Forum nomination will continue to rotate with the Future Oxfordshire Partnership’s Chair.
7. To note that the Partnership’s representative on the Oxfordshire Local Nature Partnership will continue to be the Chair of the Environment Advisory Group.

RESOLVED: That the following Future Oxfordshire Partnership related appointments be made for the 2023/2024 year:

1. Housing Advisory Group Chair – Cllr Barry Wood
2. Environment Advisory Group Chair – Cllr David Rouane
3. Infrastructure Advisory Group Chair – Cllr Liz Leffman
4. Planning Advisory Group Chair – Cllr Andy Graham and;
5. To note that the Oxford to Cambridge Pan Regional Partnership Board nomination will continue to rotate with the Future Oxfordshire Partnership’s Chair. (In the event that the Chair is unavailable or is a member of the collaboration board in another capacity, the Vice-Chair should be the FOP’s representative.)
6. To note that the England’s Economic Heartland Strategic Transport Forum nomination will continue to rotate with the Future Oxfordshire Partnership’s Chair.
7. To note that the Partnership’s representative on the Oxfordshire Local Nature Partnership will continue to be the Chair of the Environment Advisory Group.

9. Progress Report from the Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership

The Partnership considered a report setting out an update on the progress of the Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership, (OIEP) priorities and the launch and uptake of the OIEP Charter. A copy of the draft OIEP Delivery Plan 2023/2024 and draft OIEP Strategy 2023/2026 were attached for information.

[Emma Coles, OIEP Manager gave a presentation summarising the main points of the report.](#)

Jeremy Long, Co-Chair of the OIEP thanked the Partnership for the contribution of its members towards the funding of the OIEP Manager post in the previous 12 months and to Emma Coles personally for her hard work and dedication over that period.

He commented that it was important to continue the momentum and progress made into the next 12 months. He paid tribute to the University of Oxford for its financial contribution towards the work of the OIEP and to Professor Irene Tracey for the establishment of a post which incorporated engagement with local communities. The OIEP Charter and pledges remained an effective way to communicate the aims and objectives of the OIEP and he was grateful for the activity of City and District council economic development officers for their continued assistance in sharing and promoting the OIEP.

The Chair commented that the Partnership was delighted to see the progress made to date with results already beginning to be realised. It was important therefore that the OIEP's work continued at pace.

Jan Royall, Co-Chair added that assistance of local authorities in supporting the OIEP was gratefully received, but that in addition to this every effort was being made to engage with the business community and with voluntary groups as it was recognised that the partnership needed to be wider than local councils alone and that budgets were finite. The need for action around economic inclusivity was something demonstrated and evidenced in all its meetings and work and the aim of the OIEP was to build upon and not duplicate the already excellent work on inclusivity within the county.

In discussion, Councillor David Rouane referred to the scaling up of activity and then asked whether there was a sense of how much current activities in the inclusive activity programme should and could be scaled up in order to make a real and measurable impact or alternatively, would the onus be on the promotion of demonstrator type projects that others would implement. Members were informed that the OIEP was in many cases building on existing best practice, but that it was fully recognised that it was necessary to shift the dial around inclusivity as a result of making a real impact. This was necessary because Oxfordshire economy was not yet inclusive and as a result, both people and businesses were suffering. As an example of the OIEP's activity, it was assisting the Growing Minds project in seeking to raise around £100k. This could only be achieved through partnership working but was just the beginning of what could be achieved.

A number of members of the Partnership spoke to work being undertaken by the OIEP in partnership with others to promote pathways into work for ex-offenders leaving prison such as the planned open day for employers at Bullingdon Prison and the potentially significant mutual benefits to ex-offenders, employers, and society, in particular in light of the high rates of vacancies within the county.

The work of the OIEP in supporting the delivery of early years provision was also very important and it was pleasing to note that a number of organisations which had signed up to Charter Pledges were also releasing their staff to act as volunteers. Councillor Liz Leffman commented that it was important that this resource was prioritised into the areas of the county with the highest need. Jeremy Long responded that the OIEP had coordinated a map for the ARCh that showed areas with vacancies for readers so resource could best be matched with need.

With regard to the challenge of scaling up activity in order to make a real impact, Jeremy Long stressed the importance of further communications to further promote awareness of the Charter and pledges. Experience to date suggested that when communications was undertaken it was effective, but often feedback from organisations was that they were committed to supporting economic inclusivity and recognised the benefits to their own organisations of doing so, but did not know where to look to offer their support.

Professor Irene Tracy highlighted the contribution that the universities could make and referred to the Continuing Education Department of the University of Oxford which was celebrating its 150th year. There was a potential opportunity for lifelong learning, education, assisting people back into the workplace and discussions were taking place as to what assistance could be provided.

RESOLVED: That Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership update report be noted.

10. A Place Narrative for Oxfordshire

The Partnership considered a report which set out an initial explanation of the opportunity to develop a place narrative for Oxfordshire, an early-stage view of the project and its purpose and an invitation to the Partnership to engage further.

Bill Cotton, Corporate Director for Environment and Place, Oxfordshire County Council introduced the report and answered members' questions. It was highlighted that the project was one of overall placemaking. Whilst there was a strong established vision for Oxfordshire, there were lots of projects, strategies, plans etc. It was a complex picture that could be a challenging story to communicate and to explain to potential investors, HM Government, and indeed local communities. Oxfordshire was a very diverse county, with an impressive range of businesses and organisations located within it but had challenges. The purpose of place narrative piece was to develop a powerful shared story for the county which everyone could support and which could be communicated to investors and HM Government so as to secure investment focussed on the county's needs. A facilitated approach would be used to create the narrative with input from all sections of stakeholders using as many images and graphical information as possible.

It was stressed that the proposed place narrative was not an attempt to create additional strategies or policies. Nor was it a bid for an Oxfordshire unitary council and it was not linked to Local Plans or spatial planning.

The Partnership was informed that it was intended that Oxfordshire County Council would lead on the commissioning of consultants to assist in the process and it was hoped that members of the Partnership would become involved in the various groupings that would be established and as conduits about the work with their own local communities and stakeholders.

A detailed discussion of the paper took place with a number of technical questions around the proposals asked of officers, including what the differences would be between the proposed work and that already undertaken as part of refresh of the Oxfordshire Strategic Economic Plan, (SEP) and whether case study examples existed of the benefits of a place narrative existed. Bill Cotton responded that the work was intended to build upon the SEP work and gave examples of counties that followed such an approach.

Councillor Liz Leffman referred to a discussion held by the Infrastructure Advisory Group around the need to be more optimistic around future funding opportunities for infrastructure including looking at inward investment and the need to be proactive in preparing for bidding opportunities. It was important to have a vision for the infrastructure that was needed and to be able to articulate that vision constantly in all external funding bids. Oxfordshire needed to be in a position of setting the narrative around its overall infrastructure requirements rather than simply reacting to specific HM Government bidding

opportunities on an individual basis which were not always successful or successful only in part. To create healthy places for residents to live with convenient access to transport there was a challenge around funding without relying on developer contributions or HM Government funding and a need to take the initiative.

Whilst supportive of the principal of a place narrative and needed for such an approach, Councillor Bethia Thomas expressed concern over the pace with which the proposals were being brought forward and that whilst the current report set out an initial proposal there was still a significant amount of detail around the proposals that was not clear, for example whether it was focussed on public health or infrastructure or whether the narrative would be more closely related to a marketing strategy. In the absence of sufficient information that there would be improvement to lives of residents it was difficult to commit to use of officer resources and time.

Councillor David Rouane echoed the concern expressed by Councillor Thomas regarding the commitment of finite officer resource. Based upon the information within the current report he was not fully clear as to whether the purpose of the proposals was to create a document that was essentially a marketing tool for the county, whether it was a strategy document or whether it sought to set out the current situation or future ambitions of what Oxfordshire could be. Whilst acknowledging the assurance that the work was not related to a unitary governance position, the links to place narrative work in other counties had in the case of Hampshire been used in a subsequent unitary bid.

Professor Irene Tracey referred to the need and advantages to be gained by presenting a coherent outward facing narrative around Oxfordshire's ambition and vision. It was likely that in the future there would continue to be national focus towards investment outside of the Southeast and therefore it was particularly important to have a compelling narrative if future funding opportunities were to be secured. In addition, there was a need for coordinated and strategic approach to securing private sector investment from leading companies which there was opportunity for the University of Oxford to assist with through its significant convening influence.

Councillor Barry Wood commented that from his experience major employers often approached local councils as local planning authorities directly to seek their advice and as points of contact. He expressed concern that there was a risk of duplication if this was not mitigated against as part of the development of the proposals.

Angus Horner welcomed the proposals as needed but agreed that the report needed to continue to be developed further and duplication avoided. He commented that since the renaming of the Partnership there had yet to be a strategic level debate looking forward 25 years, let alone into the next century around the impact that current changes would mean and the impact on Oxfordshire's place narrative. By way of example, the population of Oxford had grown significantly over the previous 100 years and consideration needed to be given to the impacts of future population growth and Oxfordshire's other ambitions set out in the Oxfordshire Vision for Long Term Sustainable Development.

Giles Hughes, Chief Executive of West Oxfordshire District Council and Caroline Green, Chief Executive of Oxford City Council both referred to the importance of developing further detail in a future report, but that in their view there was benefit of progressing the proposals. Caroline Green commented that this would allow for the consideration and input from senior officers via the Partnership's Executive Officer Group.

At this point, the Chair suggested that in light of the points made during the discussion and breadth of the ideas discussed, the report be noted on the basis that a more detailed report would be presented at the July meeting. Before then, further stakeholder engagement should take place around the contents and detail of the report including discussion at the Executive Officer Group.

RESOLVED:

1. That the report be noted.
2. That a further report setting out further details and intended outputs be presented to the Partnership in July.

11. Delivering the Oxfordshire Strategic Vision for Long Term Sustainable Development

Beth Wilks, Future Oxfordshire Partnership Manager gave a presentation as set out in the Agenda which set out progress in developing opportunities for joint working to support the delivery of the Oxfordshire Strategic Vision for Long Term Sustainable Development. Key points included in the presentation included:

- Mapping and engagement work to identify potential opportunities for collaborative working undertaken and planned.
- To date some 50 additional opportunities for collaborative working had been identified. The majority of these ideas together with existing workstreams were to be taken forward to an assessment and filtering stage involving officer input and steering to identify a number of impactful projects with an offline workshop anticipated in September 2023.
- A number of workstreams such as the scoping of the next phase of the Oxfordshire Infrastructure were to be taken forward into delivery.

RESOLVED: That the update be noted.

12. Key Partnership Activity and Delivery in the Energy Space

The Partnership considered a report which set out overview of key partnership activity and programmes of work within the Oxfordshire Energy space which aimed to realised net zero ambitions and/or support to tackle local grid constraints. Beth Wilks, Future Oxfordshire Partnership Manager gave a presentation setting out the key highlights of the report.

The Chair referred to a recent meeting between representatives of the councils and representatives of three Distribution Network Operators, (DNOs) covering Oxfordshire. During this meeting it had become apparent that the DNOs were only able to plan on the basis of developments that had already been granted planning permission whereas as local planning authorities, the councils were aware of likely upcoming developments in their local area which had yet to reach the start of the formal planning process. In addition, the trend towards decarbonisation of energy whilst welcome was likely to increase future demands on the electricity and therefore it was very important that councils were able to feed into the grid planning process given the long lead in time for the approval of grid projects.

RESOLVED: That the Future Oxfordshire Partnership agrees to:

1. Notes the report and takes advantage of opportunities to proactively raise awareness of activity currently underway in the energy space within Oxfordshire, to support collaboration and join-up, and prevent duplication.
2. Ensure respective organisations are actively engaged in work alongside key stakeholders to develop and deliver a local area energy planning approach for Oxfordshire, to support in realising net zero ambitions, as outlined in the endorsed Oxfordshire Net Zero Route Map and Action Plan.
3. Ensure respective organisations are contributing to annual Distribution Future Energy Scenarios (DFES), to ensure Distribution Network Operator (DNO) modelling of generation, storage, and demand, takes into account planned housing and business development, as well as decarbonisation plans and ambitions.

13. Advisory Group updates

(a) Infrastructure Advisory Group update

Councillor Liz Leffman referred to the notes of the Infrastructure Advisory Group meetings held on 27 February 2023 and 17 April 2023 as included in the Agenda.

At the February meeting, a key aspect emerging from the advisory group's discussion was the need for a wider definition of infrastructure that would include consideration of energy and water issues and a greater consideration of rural infrastructure needs.

It was highlighted that an update was expected from England's Economic Heartland as to outcomes of its connectivity study on the Oxford to Swindon corridor. This was important because scope of the study included projects such as the Cowley branch line.

RESOLVED: That the update be noted.

(b) Housing Advisory Group Update

Councillor Susan Brown as the outgoing Chair of the Housing Advisory Group referred to the notes of the Housing Advisory Group meetings held on 28 February 2023 and 18 April 2023.

Councillor Brown referred to the paper and the advisory group's discussion at its April meeting regarding Housing Revenue Accounts, (HRA). Unfortunately, it appeared that there was currently no practical pathway for district councils to re-establish HRA accounts should they wish to do so. Councillor Brown indicated that this was an issue that she would continue lobby about.

It was brought to the Partnership's attention that it was intended that members of the Housing Advisory Group visit the Graven Hill self-build develop site in Bicester in July.

RESOLVED: That the update be noted.

(c) Environment Advisory Group update

Councillor David Rouane referred to the notes of the Environment Advisory Group meeting held on 2 March 2023 and 20 April 2023.

Councillor Rouane also commented on the Oxfordshire Local Nature Partnership Annual Forum which had taken place on 6 June 2023. Discussions had centred around the development of an Oxfordshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy from the perspective of different habitat types.

RESOLVED: That the update be noted.

14. Future Oxfordshire Partnership Forward Plan

Kevin Jacob, Future Oxfordshire Partnership Democratic Services Officer referred to the Forward Programme as set out in the Agenda and highlighted that in light of the anticipated workshop provisionally scheduled for 26 September it was intended to keep the Partnership agenda for that date as light as possible.

In addition an item on the development of place narrative for Oxfordshire would be added to the Forward Programme.

15. Updates on matters relevant to the Future Oxfordshire Partnership

No issues were raised under this heading.

16. Verbal reports from key strategic partnerships supporting delivery of the Oxfordshire Strategic Vision

Professor Alastair Fitt commented on the progress of the establishment of the Oxford to Cambridge Pan-Regional Partnership. Recruitment for a number of key posts had already been undertaken or were in progress and the standard of candidates applying for all the roles had been impressive.

Dr Richard Hutchins had been appointed as Managing Director of the Pan Regional Partnership and was now in post. A preferred candidate had been selected for the role of Chair of the Partnership and it was hoped that further details of that appointment could be announced in due course.

Interviews had also been held for non-executive directors and it was expected that it was possible that it would be possible to appoint to more than two of these posts. He commented that it was particularly welcome that so many candidates had expressed an interest in becoming non-executive directors as these roles were not remunerated.

Councillor Liz Leffman provided an update as acting Chair of England's Economic Heartland on its recent meeting which had included an update from East-West Rail on their proposed route plan. A key point of the update had been the importance of solving issues around the London Road Level Crossing in Bicester.

In addition, East West Rail had been challenged around their initial plans for the use of diesel trains on the Oxfordshire end of the route, but East West Rail had undertaken to their utmost to not use diesel trains. As the redevelopment of Oxford station was currently on schedule it was expected that East West Rail services would commence from Oxford station at the end of 2024.

The Partnership was also informed that EEH was looking at the issue of the promotion of active travel across local authority boundaries within the EEH area to ensure join up of infrastructure such as cycle ways.

Finally, Councillor Leffman informed the Partnership that she had suggested that the EEH host a bus workshop to explore as a region how services could be improved and different ways of working with bus companies be explored.

RESOLVED: That the updates be noted.

17. Dates of next meetings

The dates of future meetings as set out in the Agenda were noted.

The meeting closed at 4.00 pm