

Authority Monitoring Report 2015-16: Duty to Co-operate

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1 Introduction

1.1 This report deals with duty to co-operate issues over the monitoring period December 2015 to December 2016.

1.2 This AMR should be read in conjunction with other topic based AMRs such as:

Progress against the Local Development Scheme

Housing

Economy

Community Infrastructure Levy

2 Context

2.1 The duty to co-operate is both a 'legal' and 'soundness' test. The legal test is initially examined by the appointed planning inspector when the Plan is submitted. It cannot be fulfilled once the Examination stage is reached. As a result of this, and the need to meet the soundness test, local planning authorities (LPAs) need to provide robust evidence of the efforts they have made to co-operate on strategic cross boundary matters. This evidence will need to identify who the authority has co-operated with, the nature and timing of co-operation, and how it has influenced the preparation and content of the Local Plan.

Localism Act

2.2 The Localism Act came into effect in November 2011, and established the duty to co-operate in the planning of sustainable development. The Act amended the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. Section 33(A)(4) of the amended 2004 Act sets out what are strategic matters. It requires a LPA to engage constructively, actively and on an on-going basis in relation to strategic matters with other LPAs and designated bodies.

Local Planning Regulations 2012 (as amended)

2.3 The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations sets out those bodies that are prescribed for the purposes of Section 33A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 :

- Environment Agency
- Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England (known as Historic England)
- Natural England
- Mayor of London
- Civil Aviation Authority
- Homes and Communities Agency
- Each clinical commissioning group established under section 14D of the National Health Service Act 2006
- National Health Service Commissioning Board
- Office of Rail Regulation
- Transport for London
- Each Integrated Transport Authority
- Each Highways Authority
- Marine Management Organisation

2.4 The bodies prescribed for the purposes of section 33A(9) of the Act are each Local Enterprise Partnership. Local Nature Partnerships have also been added to the list of prescribed bodies.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

2.5 The NPPF was published in March 2013, and replaced the majority of Planning Policy Guidance and Policy Statements. It sets out the presumption in favour of sustainable development. Para. 156 provides further detail on the following strategic priorities which public bodies have a duty to co-operate on (in particular those that cross administrative boundaries):

the need for homes and jobs in the area;
the provision of retail, leisure and other commercial development;
the provision of infrastructure for transport, telecommunications, waste management, water supply, wastewater, flood risk and coastal change management, and the provision of minerals and energy (including heat);
the provision of health, security, community and cultural infrastructure and other local facilities; and
climate change mitigation and adaptation, conservation and enhancement of the natural and historic environment, including landscape.

2.6 The National Planning Practice Guidance also provides further advice on this matter.

3 Duty to Co-operate

3.1 Co-operation on Bracknell Forest documents

Comprehensive Local Plan (CLP)

Evidence base

3.1 See Section 3.3 'Co-operation on Bracknell Forest Evidence Base'.

Start date letter (Regulation 18)

3.2 The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 require (Regulation 18) that:

1. A local planning authority must—
 - (a) notify each of the bodies or persons specified in paragraph (2) of the subject of a local plan which the local planning authority propose to prepare, and
 - (b) invite each of them to make representations to the local planning authority about what a local plan with that subject ought to contain.
2. The bodies or persons referred to in paragraph (1) are —
 - (a) such of the specific consultation bodies as the local planning authority consider may have an interest in the subject of the proposed local plan;
 - (b) such of the general consultation bodies as the local planning authority consider appropriate; and
 - (c) such residents or other persons carrying on business in the local planning authority's area from which the local planning authority consider it appropriate to invite representations.
3. In preparing the local plan, the local planning authority must take into account any representation made to them in response to invitations under paragraph (1).

3.3 The specific consultation bodies are 'statutory consultees' such as the Environment Agency, Highways England, Historic England, and Natural England. General consultation bodies are voluntary bodies, those which represent the interests of different racial, ethnic or nationality groups, those which represent interests of different religious groups, those which represent the interests of disabled persons and those which represent the interests of persons carrying on business in the area.

3.4 To meet the requirements of Regulation 18, consultation is required to notify potential stakeholders of the Council's intention to prepare a Plan, and to invite comments on what the Plan should contain. This consultation exercise was carried out between 21 October and 2 December 2015.

3.5 The consultation was publicised on the Council's website and approximately 4,400 letters and emails were sent out informing stakeholders of the Council's intention to prepare a CLP and the policy topics to be covered. In total 24 consultees responded to the consultation.⁽¹⁾ The main points were as follows:

Local people were not made aware of the consultation and more detail was needed;
On the whole consultees supported the principle of a CLP;

1 <http://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/local-plan-consultation-on-scope-summary-of-responses.pdf>

The majority of responses were concerned with detailed matters that it is intended to cover under the proposed policy topics, which will be developed into policies in the next stage of CLP production;

Comments were also received which were not directly related to the scope of the CLP but concerned with broader issues including the process of producing the plan;

Comments were not received on all suggested CLP policy topic areas.

Issues and Options

3.6 A further “Issues and Options” consultation was carried out between 13 June to 25 July 2016. Bracknell Forest Council produced a full “Issues and Options” document and stakeholders were invited to respond to a range of questions set out in the “Issues and Options” document. In total, the Council received 1,324 responses from 83 respondents.

3.7 To assist stakeholders in responding to this stage of document preparation, the Council produced:

a summary leaflet – setting out what the new Local Plan intends to do, why we need a new local plan, requesting comments on the vision, objectives, range of issues to be covered and the suggested approach;

a short questionnaire, asking about some of the key issues for the future;

An extended questionnaire setting out 46 questions on the vision, objectives, the range of policy topics to be covered in the emerging CLP and the suggested policy approach.

3.8 At the time of writing this AMR, all comments received were being analysed, for consideration as part of the next stage of CLP document preparation, the “Preferred Option”. As the Preferred Option is prepared, it is necessary to consider the Council’s response to the submitted comments and decide how they are to be taken into account in the draft policies and supporting text.

Duty to co-operate

3.9 At an early stage in the Plan process the Council needs to identify the strategic cross boundary issues that will be considered through the CLP and the relevant duty to co-operate bodies that have an interest in them, particularly where this relates to delivery of the CLP. The following table sets out in summary form the likely cross boundary issues and relevant duty to co-operate bodies. It also highlights cross boundary working that is already taking place on a number of these issues. The Council consulted with the duty to co-operate bodies between October and December 2015 on its Duty to Co-operate Framework, alongside the above Regulation 18 consultation.

3.10 The Duty to Co-operate Framework has been prepared to identify the strategic matters that will be considered through the Comprehensive Local Plan and to identify the relevant duty to co-operate bodies that will have an interest in those issues. This will provide the framework for future engagement.

3.11 Organisations which were identified as duty to co-operate bodies were consulted on a table setting out proposed strategic matters and the relevant duty to co-operate bodies. Based on this information views were sought on:

Whether the duty to co-operate matters have been identified

Whether the relevant duty to co-operate bodies have been identified to address the matters

3.12 Comments were received from stakeholders during the consultation period and assessed. Where appropriate, amendments were made to the Duty to Co-operate consultation list. The Table in 3.1 has been updated to include these amendments, and to reflect consultation responses. ⁽²⁾

2 <http://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/local-plan-duty-to-cooperate.pdf>

Table 3.1 Summary of Duty to Co-operate Issues and relevant bodies

Duty to Co-operate Issue ⁽³⁾	Relevant Duty to Co-operate bodies	Potential issues to be agreed with the relevant bodies	What is already being done?
Homes needed in the area (including Traveller needs)	Western Berkshire HMA Authorities Eastern Berkshire HMA Authorities Other local authorities in adjoining housing market areas Thames Valley Berkshire LEP Highways England	Must identify and meet the objectively assessed housing needs across the housing market area (HMA) unless conflict with the NPPF. Must identify and meet identified pitch and plot needs for Travellers within the area. Co-operation on issues relating to the provision of housing, such as highways matters.	Work undertaken jointly across Berkshire to identify the HMA(s). Work being undertaken jointly across Berkshire to identify housing needs across the HMA(s). Lead Planning Members of all the Berkshire LPAs have formed a SHMA Reference Group. Joint methodology for undertaking housing land availability assessments being discussed. Joint methodology for undertaking Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments (GTAA) has been agreed with other Berkshire Authorities. The Bracknell Forest GTAA is being refreshed in light of the publication of the new Planning Policy for Traveller Sites, August 2015.
Strategic Framework for Growth	Berkshire Authorities Other local authorities in adjoining housing market areas	Assessment of the high level options for the pattern of growth across the Berkshire HMAs.	Work has been undertaken with the support of the Planning Advisory Service (PAS) on the feasibility of producing a strategic planning framework (or frameworks) for the Berkshire HMAs.

3 Duty to co-operate issues relate to the list of strategic issues set out in paragraph 156 of the National Planning Policy Framework, which can be downloaded at https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/6077/2116950.pdf

Duty to Co-operate Issue ⁽³⁾	Relevant Duty to Co-operate bodies	Potential issues to be agreed with the relevant bodies	What is already being done?
	Thames Valley Berkshire LEP		The Western Berkshire HMA includes Bracknell Forest, along with Reading Borough, West Berkshire Council and Wokingham Council. Working together, the councils have agreed upon and published the Western Berkshire Housing Market Area Strategic Planning Framework. This is a non statutory document that the four authorities have developed in consultation with the Thames Valley Berkshire LEP. This sets out high level opportunities to help meet needs and demonstrates that the four authorities are working collaboratively on this matter.
Jobs needed in the area	Local authorities within the Functional Economic Market Area (FEMA) Thames Valley Berkshire LEP Other local authorities in adjoining FEMAs Highways England	Must identify and meet employment needs across the FEMA. Must ensure delivery of the wider ambitions of the Thames Valley Berkshire LEP. Co-operation on issues relating to the provision of jobs, such as highways matters.	Work undertaken to identify the FEMA that Bracknell Forest sits within – the study being extended to include all Berkshire Authorities. Joint EDNA has now been published for the Central Berkshire FEMA.

3 Duty to co-operate issues relate to the list of strategic issues set out in paragraph 156 of the National Planning Policy Framework, which can be downloaded at https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/6077/2116950.pdf

Duty to Co-operate Issue ⁽³⁾	Relevant Duty to Co-operate bodies	Potential issues to be agreed with the relevant bodies	What is already being done?
Provision of retail, leisure and other commercial development	<p>Adjoining local authorities and those with competing retail centres⁽⁴⁾</p> <p>Highways England</p>	<p>Must identify and meet retail and other town centre use needs – relationship with development in other centres within or close to the catchments for Bracknell Forest town centres, particularly Bracknell town centre.</p> <p>Co-operation on issues relating to the provision of commercial development, such as highways matters.</p>	<p>A strategic level retail and commercial leisure study has been commissioned jointly with Wokingham Borough, West Berkshire and Reading Borough Councils.</p>
Provision of infrastructure for transport, telecommunications, waste management, water supply, wastewater, flood risk and coastal change management, and the provision of minerals and energy (including heat)	<p>Adjoining local authorities and those located within the Western Berkshire Housing Market Area and Central Berkshire Functional Economic Market Area</p> <p>Highways England</p> <p>Thames Valley Berkshire LEP</p> <p>Utility providers</p>	<p>Cross boundary water supply and waste water</p> <p>Delivery of appropriate transport infrastructure capacity/ improvements arising as a result of the CLP (and other local plans, including Minerals and Waste) which may be outside the Borough.</p>	<p>Meetings have been held with adjoining Highway Authorities including Hampshire and Surrey County Councils covering cross boundary transport and infrastructure issues.</p> <p>It has been agreed and the necessary arrangements have been put in place to prepare a joint Minerals and Waste Plan. Discussions and negotiations have been on-going. Bracknell Forest, Reading Borough, Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead and Wokingham Borough Councils continue to work jointly on this document. Hampshire County Council Traded Services will be undertaking the plan on behalf of the four authorities</p>

3 Duty to co-operate issues relate to the list of strategic issues set out in paragraph 156 of the National Planning Policy Framework, which can be downloaded at https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/6077/2116950.pdf

4 Wycombe District Council have asked to be informed as work progresses on this issue

Duty to Co-operate Issue ⁽³⁾	Relevant Duty to Co-operate bodies	Potential issues to be agreed with the relevant bodies	What is already being done?
	Environment Agency		<p>and a timetable for the plan's production has been agreed in the Local Development Scheme of each of the Councils.</p> <p>Working with Highways England on their delivery of the M3 and M4 smart motorways projects.</p> <p>Worked with the LEP to secure £9m of funding towards strategic transport improvements.</p> <p>Worked with Wokingham Borough on improvements to 'Coppid Beech' roundabout.</p> <p>Working with Hampshire and Surrey Councils on improvements to the 'Meadows' roundabout.</p> <p>Data is also being shared between Bracknell Forest and neighbouring (local transport) authorities to facilitate co-ordinated transport planning.</p>
Provision of health, security, community and cultural infrastructure and other local facilities	Bracknell and Ascot Clinical Commissioning Group Adjoining local authorities	Ensure that sufficient health related infrastructure arising as a result of the CLP (and other local plans) can be provided either in Bracknell Forest or elsewhere as appropriate.	Two meetings with the CCG have been undertaken, looking at the long term plans for health provision in the Borough. Contact has also been made with the NHS and information about projected increase in population to ward level, along with possible development sites have been provided to them.

3 Duty to co-operate issues relate to the list of strategic issues set out in paragraph 156 of the National Planning Policy Framework, which can be downloaded at https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/6077/2116950.pdf

Duty to Co-operate Issue ⁽³⁾	Relevant Duty to Co-operate bodies	Potential issues to be agreed with the relevant bodies	What is already being done?
<p>Climate change mitigation and adaptation, conservation and enhancement of the natural and historic environment, including landscape</p>	<p>Environment Agency</p> <p>Thames Basin Heaths SPA Authorities</p> <p>Natural England</p> <p>Historic England</p> <p>Blackwater Valley Authorities</p> <p>Local Nature Partnership</p> <p>Hampshire County Council</p> <p>Relevant Local Wildlife Trusts (Surrey (SLT) and Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire (BBOWT))</p> <p>Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)</p>	<p>Protection of the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area</p> <p>Delivery of cross boundary landscape protection</p> <p>Cross boundary delivery of water quality improvements</p> <p>Heritage Assets</p> <p>Operation of Strategic Access Management and Monitoring (SAMM) fund</p> <p>SPA and SANG related issues</p> <p>SANG monitoring</p> <p>Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and Section 106 issues</p>	<p>Well established cross boundary mechanisms set up in relation to the TBH through the Joint Strategic Partnership Board and associated officer groups.</p> <p>Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANGS) Capacity Agreement with Surrey Heath Council to enable house building within its administrative area, by using capacity in Bracknell Forest SANGS.</p> <p>Continued working relationship between the Council and Natural England on Thames Basin Heaths Projects.</p> <p>Extensive partnership working to set up SAMM via a legal process.</p> <p>Day to day running of SAMM project.</p> <p>Sharing good practice regarding SANG issues including their monitoring.</p> <p>Operation of securing financial and other contributions via CIL and Section 106 Agreements.</p> <p>General SPA issues and updates.</p>

3 Duty to co-operate issues relate to the list of strategic issues set out in paragraph 156 of the National Planning Policy Framework, which can be downloaded at https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/6077/2116950.pdf

3.2 Co-operation on other Local Planning Authority documents

3.13 The following provides an overview of the period 1st December 2015 to 31st December 2016.

Table 3.2 Summary of co-operation on other Local Planning Authority documents

LPA	Document	Relevant Document Stage and Action taken
BERKSHIRE		
Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead (RBWM)	Duty to Co-operate	<p>Meeting on 22 December 2015 chaired by RBWM at their offices. Aim of meeting as being part of duty to co-operate process to help progress local plan. Other local authorities represented at meeting – South Bucks District Council, Slough Borough, Reading Borough, Bracknell Forest, West Berkshire and Wokingham Borough Councils.</p> <p>Meeting on 29 September 2016, attended by representatives from Bracknell Forest Council, Frimley Health Foundation Trust and RBWM.</p>
	Hurley and Walthams Neighbourhood Plan	<p><u>Pre-submission consultation</u> Responded to consultation, February 2016</p> <p><u>Publication Stage</u> Responded to consultation, September 2016</p>
Slough Borough	Local Plan	<p><u>Duty to Co-operate scoping</u> Responded to consultation, December 2015</p> <p><u>Regulation 18 Local Plan Consultation</u> Responded to consultation, January 2016</p>

LPA	Document	Relevant Document Stage and Action taken
Wokingham Borough	Local Plan	<p><u>Duty to Co-operate Scoping</u> Responded to consultation, May 2016</p> <p><u>Issues & Options:</u> Responded to consultation, September 2016</p>
Berkshire wide	Minerals and Waste	<p><u>Local Plan</u> Joint Minerals & Waste Local Plan is at an early stage and is being progressed by Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead, Bracknell Forest, Reading Borough and Wokingham Borough Councils.</p> <p><u>Western Berkshire Housing Market Area Strategic Planning Framework</u> Non statutory document prepared jointly by West Berkshire, Bracknell Forest, Reading Borough and Wokingham Borough Councils.</p>
HAMPSHIRE		
Hart	Local Plan	<p><u>Local Plan</u> Refined housing options, vision & objectives, responded January 2016</p> <p><u>Duty to co-operate</u> Duty to Co-operate meeting arranged, attended by West Berkshire, Wokingham Borough and Bracknell Forest Councils, July 2016</p>
	Green Infrastructure Strategy	Attended workshop, November 2016
SURREY		
Guildford Borough Council	SPD	Draft Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area SPD, responded October 2016

LPA	Document	Relevant Document Stage and Action taken
Runnymede Borough Council	Draft Employment Land Review	Responded to consultation, April 2016
	Local Plan	Unmet needs in Runnymede, responded April 2016 Issues, options & preferred approaches together with unmet needs, responded August 2016
	Duty to Co-operate	Duty to co-operate workshop, attended April 2016 Memorandum of Understanding, responded September 2016
Spelthorne Borough Council	Functional Economic Market Area Report	Responded to consultation, March 2016
Waverley	SPD	Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area Avoidance Strategy Review consultation, responded April 2016
BLACKWATER VALLEY		
Blackwater Valley Authorities	Strategic Issues	Attended meeting, November 2015.
LONDON		
Greater London Authority (GLA)	New London Plan	<u>Duty to co-operate</u> Technical workshop on GLA Sub National Projection Model, attended June 2016
	Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment	SHLAA Methodology consultation, responded December 2016

LPA	Document	Relevant Document Stage and Action taken
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE		
Aylesbury Vale	Local Plan	<u>Draft Local Plan</u> Responded to consultation, August 2016
Chiltern District Council & South Bucks District Council	Local Plan	<u>Issues & Options</u> Endorsed Wokingham Borough and Reading Borough Councils' comments, March 2016 <u>Green Belt Preferred Options</u> Responded to consultation, December 2016
Wycombe District Council	Local Plan	<u>Draft New Local Plan</u> Responded to consultation, July 2016
WIDER SOUTH EAST		
	Shared Response to New London Plan Duty to Co-operate Delivery of Housing Strategic Infrastructure Planning	Wider South East Officer Working Group Summit pre-meeting, attended November 2016 Wider south east summit Shaping the New London Plan, issues for the next year, attended December 2016

3.3 Co-operation on Bracknell Forest Evidence Base

3.14 The following provides an overview of discussions that have taken place during 1st December 2015 to 31st December 2016, including a number of topic areas which will support the CLP.⁽⁵⁾

Table 3.3 Summary of co-operation on Bracknell Forest Evidence Base

Evidence	Progress
<p>Duty to Co-operate Framework</p>	<p>The purpose of this Duty to Co-operate Framework is to identify the strategic matters that will be considered through the CLP and to identify the relevant duty to co-operate bodies. This will provide the framework for future engagement.</p> <p>A targeted consultation on the scope of this Framework was undertaken for 6 weeks from 21 October 2015 to 2 December 2015. The organisations which were identified as duty to co-operate bodies were consulted on a table setting out proposed strategic matters and the relevant duty to co-operate bodies. Based on this information views were sought on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • whether the duty to co-operate matters have been identified, and; • whether the relevant duty to co-operate bodies have been identified to address the matters. <p>As a result of the consultation exercise, the consultation framework was amended. This is a living document and as the evidence base progresses, additional strategic matters may emerge which will necessitate further co-operation.</p>
<p>Gypsies and Travellers</p>	<p>Bracknell Forest Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA):</p> <p>Work on a Bracknell Forest GTAA has been undertaken by ORS (who also produced the Berkshire wide methodology for carrying out Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessments). However, this work was carried out on the 2012 version of the Planning Policy for Traveller Sites, that has now been replaced by a new document published in 2015. The Study is therefore being refreshed and work is on-going.</p>

⁵ The programme of evidence base studies which will inform the Comprehensive Local Plan can be viewed at <http://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/evidencebaseforcomprehensivelocalplan>

Evidence	Progress
Housing	<p>Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA):</p> <p>The Council together with other Berkshire Unitary Authorities (Reading Borough Council, RBWM, Slough Borough Council, West Berkshire Council and Wokingham Borough Council), and the Thames Valley Berkshire Local Enterprise Partnership, commissioned consultants GL Hearn to carry out a two part study looking at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Establishing the relevant housing market areas within BerkshireEstablishing the relevant objective assessment of housing need within Berkshire <p>The SHMA identified two housing market areas (HMAs). A western Berkshire HMA comprising Bracknell Forest, Wokingham Borough, Reading Borough and West Berkshire Councils, and an eastern Berkshire HMA comprising Slough Borough Council, the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, together with South Bucks District Council. This study was completed in February 2016.</p> <p>The Western HMA authorities have continued to work together throughout the process, resulting in a Western Berkshire Housing Market Area Strategic Planning Framework being published in December 2016. This identifies the strategic opportunities which exist in the market area, which could help to meet housing and other needs over the next 20 years. The Study outlines a number of areas of search agreed between the local authorities. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Town centre intensification at Reading and Bracknell. Also at Newbury and Wokingham , with regard to historic features;Infrastructure to support Crossrail at Twyford;.Strategic Infrastructure including third Thames crossing;Exploration of a new Garden Village at Grazeley/ Mortimer;Areas of search on Wokingham and Bracknell Forest borders.

Evidence	Progress
<p>Economy</p>	<p>Berkshire Functional Economic Market Area (FEMA):</p> <p>Consultants NLP were appointed to identify and define the relevant FEMAs for authorities located within Berkshire.</p> <p>The commissioning authorities have continued to work together throughout the process. The FEMA identified three economic market areas, with Bracknell Forest located within the Central Berkshire FEMA, along with Reading Borough, Wokingham Borough and parts of the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead. This study was completed in February 2016.</p> <p>A subsequent study was commissioned by the Central Berkshire FEMA authorities relating to an 'Economic Development Needs Assessment' (EDNA), which was completed by NLP in October 2016. This provides information about the future quantity of land or floorspace required for economic development uses (business, industrial, warehousing and storage uses).</p>
<p>Strategic Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessment</p>	<p>The Issues and Options Consultation did not include the publication of any site information. As sites therefore would not be set out for comment until the Preferred Option stage, it was considered that this could be perceived by the stakeholder community as too late a stage to enable people to have a real chance of influencing which sites are proposed for allocation in the CLP.</p> <p>As a result the SHELAA was subject to a public consultation exercise from 21 November to 19 December 2016. It was made available for comment on the Council website and consultees on the Council local plan database were contacted about the consultation exercise. It makes available for comment sites which have been submitted to the Council and those parcels of land which could be made available for development over the CLP plan period. The sites included as part of this consultation exercise have not been endorsed by the Council. To assist understanding, a draft methodology for site selection was also included for comment.</p> <p>At the time of writing this AMR, work was being carried out assessing the comments that had been submitted during the above consultation exercise.</p>

Evidence	Progress
<p>Retail and Commercial Leisure Study</p>	<p>Consultants GVA have been appointed by Bracknell Forest, Reading Borough, Wokingham Borough and West Berkshire Councils, to undertake a retail and commercial leisure study. It focuses on the main town centre uses, excluding offices, and will determine the quantitative and qualitative needs for retail and town centre uses over the plan period. The study takes account of the current regeneration of Bracknell Town Centre.</p> <p>Work is on-going and the study is expected to be completed early 2017.</p>
<p>Landscape</p>	<p>Landscape Character Assessment:</p> <p>Consultants LUC were appointed in December 2014 to undertake:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Landscape Character Assessment of the Borough (excluding land within settlements); A 'recommendations report', setting out recommendations on landscape designation policies, 'gaps', and Green Belt village boundaries (from a landscape character perspective). <p>Both studies were completed in September 2015.</p>
<p>Green Belt Review</p>	<p>Amec Consultants were appointed in January 2016 by Wokingham Borough and Bracknell Forest to undertake a Green Belt Review. It involves an assessment of the Green Belt against the five purposes set out in the NPPF:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas; To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another; To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment; To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns; To assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land. <p>In addition to the above, a separate element was completed for Bracknell Forest solely, assessing the Green Belt villages.</p> <p>The above study and a summary report were completed in June 2016. This includes a section on consultation that was undertaken in the preparation of the study.</p>

Evidence	Progress
<p>Bracknell Forest Playing Pitch Strategy</p>	<p>Bracknell Forest Council in conjunction with consultants 4 Global have undertaken work on the Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS). This has involved working to Sport England guidance to assess the supply and demand of playing pitches in the Borough now and in the future. It has involved formal stages which have needed to be signed off by Sport England and the relevant National Governing Bodies for Sport (for football, rugby, cricket, hockey and tennis). Local sports clubs have been consulted as part of the process including 4 Global and Council Officers attending a quarterly Football Steering Group chaired by the local MP. When completed it will serve as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> an evidence base for making new planning policies; a strategy for the Council to follow when delivering and managing sports pitches; set recommendations for project improvements to pitches.
<p>Bracknell Forest Play, Open Space and Sports Study</p>	<p>Bracknell Forest Council have commenced work on the Play, Open Space and Sports Study (POSS) which updates the 2007 PPG17 study and looks at the supply and demand of open spaces and their functions (for children's play, nature, sports etc.) now and in the future.</p>
<p>Transport</p>	<p>Bracknell Forest Council has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Been involved in dialogue/engagement with neighbouring authorities on cross boundary transport issues eg. working with Wokingham Borough Council, Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, Surrey CC, Hart and Hampshire on various schemes including their Strategic Development Locations; Been involved in dialogue with other Berkshire Unitary Authorities via the Development Plans Group, Berkshire Strategic Transport Forum and the Berkshire Thames Valley Local Economic Partnership; and, Continued to share modelling data with neighbouring authorities including Wokingham Borough, Windsor and Maidenhead and Hart.
<p>Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area</p>	<p>Bracknell Forest Council has been involved in the following matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Car park monitoring arrangements with Natural England; regarding The Lookout Car Park Charging scheme; Attending the Joint Strategic Partnership Board (JSPB) and its associated officer group meetings including individual dialogue with neighbouring local authorities (see Table 3.1 above);

Evidence	Progress
	<p>Attending the Access Management and Monitoring Partnership (AMMP) meetings; and,</p> <p>General on-going dialogue with Natural England on SPA related matters.</p>
<p>Phase 1 Ecological Surveys</p>	<p>John Wenman Ecological Consultancy were appointed in November 2016 to undertake phase 1 ecological surveys of potential sites for the Comprehensive Local Plan. As the appointment of consultants is very recent, duty to co-operate activities will be outlined in the next Annual Monitoring Report.</p>
<p>Bracknell Forest Green Infrastructure Study</p>	<p>Consultants TVERC were appointed in November 2016 to carry out a review of green infrastructure. As the appointment of consultants is very recent, duty to co-operate activities will be outlined in the next Annual Monitoring Report.</p>
<p>Strategic Flood Risk Assessment</p>	<p>JBA Consulting were appointed in December 2016 to prepare a level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment for the borough. As the appointment of consultants is very recent, duty to co-operate activities will be outlined in the next Annual Monitoring Report.</p>
<p>Minerals and Waste</p>	<p>An officer from the Council has attended meetings with the other Berkshire Authorities, and thereby helped to ensure on-going dialogue on mineral and waste matters.</p> <p>Hampshire County Council Traded Services have been commissioned to prepare the Joint Minerals and Waste Local Plan, covering the plan period to 2036, on behalf of Bracknell Forest, Reading Borough, Wokingham Borough and the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead. A focused call for sites is anticipated in early 2017, followed by an Issues and Options consultation later in the year. Progress on the Plan will be reported through subsequent 'Progress against the Local Development Scheme' Authority Monitoring Reports.</p>

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Nepali

यस प्रचारको सक्षेपं वा सार निचोड चाहिं दिइने छ ठूलो अक्षरमा, ब्रेल वा क्यासेट सून्नको लागी । अरु भाषाको नक्कल पनि हासिल गर्न सकिने छ । कृपया सम्पर्क गनुहोला ०१३४४ ३५२००० ।

Tagalog

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Urdu

اس دستاویز کے خلاصے یا مختصر متن جلی حروف، بریل لکھائی یا پھر آڈیو کیسٹ پر ریکارڈ شدہ صورت میں فراہم کئے جا سکتے ہیں۔ دیگر زبانوں میں اس کی کاپی بھی حاصل کی جا سکتی ہے۔ اس کے لیے براہ مہربانی ٹیلیفون نمبر 01344 352000 پر رابطہ کریں۔

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Portuguese

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