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Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities

09 July 2021

**Name of Cabinet Member:**

Cabinet Member for Housing and Communities – Councillor D Welsh

**Director Approving Submission of the report:**

Director of Streetscene and Regulatory Services

**Ward(s) affected:**

All

**Title:**

Response to Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council (NBBC) Public Consultation

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**Is this a key decision?**

No.

Although the matters within the report affect all wards in the city, it is not anticipated that the impact will be significant

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**Executive Summary:**

This report proposes a response to the Issues and Options consultation currently being undertaken by Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council.

**Recommendations:**

The Cabinet Member is requested to:

1. Approve the submission of the proposed response in Appendix II

**List of Appendices included:**

Appendix I – NBBC Issues and Options consultation  
Appendix II - draft response to consultation

**Background papers:**

None.

**Other useful documents:**

None.

**Has it been or will it be considered by Scrutiny?**

No.

**Has it been or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?**

No.

**Will this report go to Council?**

No.

## **Report title: Response to Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council (NBBC) Public Consultation**

### **1. Context (or background)**

- 1.1 NBBC adopted their current Local Plan in June 2019 and have recently triggered a Local Plan review. The first stage of the Review is an Issues and Options public consultation, which launched 11 June 2021 and closes 06 August 2021. The consultation document can be found in Appendix I.
- 1.2 Coventry and Nuneaton & Bedworth are part of the same Housing Market Area (HMA), along with Stratford, Rugby, Warwick and North Warwickshire, and as such both authorities have a Duty to Cooperate. Evidence of cooperative working is a key part of the Local Plan process and therefore it is appropriate for Coventry City Council to respond to this consultation.
- 1.3 As part of the Duty to Cooperate a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was agreed between all authorities in the HMA to apportion the un-met Housing Need of Coventry, and this was taken into account in the drafting and examination of all Local Plans in the HMA, including the current NBBC Local Plan.
- 1.4 As part of the NBBC Issues and Options consultation it is stated in paragraph 7.8 that NBBC will be *“withdrawing from the current memorandum of understanding (MoU) and will seek to negotiate an appropriate arrangement with sub-regional partners.”*
- 1.5 Given that the MoU is an integral part of meeting the sub-region’s Housing Need it is important that the Council respond to this intention formally through the consultation process, and a draft response can be found in Appendix II.
- 1.6 It should be noted that, although disappointed with the decision to withdraw from the MoU, Coventry City Council remain committed to working proactively and constructively with neighbouring authorities.

### **2. Options considered and recommended proposal**

- 2.1 The Cabinet Member could choose not to respond to this particular consultation. However, as the matter raised in the above points concerns meeting the City Council’s un-met Housing Need, it is considered important to make an appropriate representation to the consultation.

### **3 Results of consultation undertaken**

- 3.1 No consultation has been undertaken as part of this report.

### **4 Timetable for implementing this decision**

- 4.1 The consultation closes on 06 August 2021 and so a response will be submitted prior to this.

### **5 Comments from the Director of Finance and the Director of Law and Governance**

- 5.1 Financial implications

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

## 5.2 Legal implications

There are no legal implications associated with this report.

## 6 Other implications

### 6.1 How will this contribute to achievement of the Council's Plan?

This report itself does not respond to any of the council key priorities or objectives within the One Coventry Corporate Plan.

### 6.2 How is risk being managed?

There are no risks associated with this report

### 6.3 What is the impact on the organisation?

No direct impact.

### 6.4 Equalities / EIA

A full Equality and Impact Assessment (ECA) was undertaken as part of developing the Local Plan. As part of that analysis, the Council had due regard to its public sector equality duty under section 149 of the Equality Act (2010).

### 6.5 Implications for (or impact on) climate change and the environment

There are no implications identified.

### 6.6 Implications for partner organisations?

There are no implications identified.

#### **Report author:**

#### **Name and job title:**

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#### **Service**

Streetscene and Regulatory Services

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