



**Rutland**  
County Council

**Rutland Local Plan**  
**Statement of Engagement between**  
**Rutland County Council - Local Planning Authority, Local Highway**  
**Authority and Local Education Authority**

**December 2020**

## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 This Statement of Engagement (SoE) has been developed in order to demonstrate that Strategic Planning Matters have been satisfactorily addressed by different services of Rutland County Council in the development of the Local Plan. A map of the area is shown in section 4.
- 1.2 Rutland County Council is a Unitary Authority with the administrative functions for Local Planning, Local Highways and Local Education.
- 1.3 The Statement sets out the confirmed points of agreement between the Local Planning, Highways and Education service areas with regard to:
  - Provision of education infrastructure arising from proposed growth – including impacts arising from a New Garden Community at St George’s Barracks;
  - Addressing the impact of proposed growth on transport matters including provision of infrastructure and measures to mitigate any adverse transport impacts including those arising from a New Garden Community at St George’s Barracks;
- 1.4 The purpose of the Statement of Engagement is to demonstrate to the Inspector of the Rutland Local Plan and other parties that the service areas of Rutland County Council have engaged effectively in developing the Rutland Local Plan and in particular in relation to the key strategic matters above. The SoE seeks to confirm that agreement has been reached between the relevant service areas within the Council.
- 1.5 In two tier authorities a ‘Statement of Common Ground’ would be prepared between the parties in order to demonstrate effective engagement. The Local Highway Authority are a ‘prescribed body’ for the purposes of the Duty to Cooperate. The Local Education Authority perform an essential function that impacts on the ‘Strategic Planning Matters’ addressed in the Local Plan.
- 1.6 The Statement provides a framework for the delivery of the Duty to Co-operate duties and obligations arising from Section 110 of the Localism Act 2011 and paragraphs 24 to 27 of the National Planning Policy Framework (2019). The statement is prepared in accordance with the Planning Practice Guidance.

## **2. Background**

- 2.1 Rutland County Council is a public body that is the Local Planning, Highways and Education Authority for its administrative area. The Local Highway Authority is a 'Prescribed Body' for the purposes of the Duty to Cooperate.
- 2.2 The development of the 'Rutland Local Plan' has involved ongoing cooperation between these service areas in order to ensure that strategic matters are appropriately addressed.
- 2.3 This 'Statement of Engagement' reflects the agreed position between the various service areas within Rutland County Council for submission to the Inspector for the Rutland Local Plan Examination.
- 2.4 The Rutland Local Plan is seeking to deliver at least 2,340<sup>1</sup> houses during the plan period (2018 to 2036) but has some flexibility which allows for some 2,940<sup>2</sup> houses during the plan period.
- 2.5 The emerging Rutland Local Plan seeks to allocate 18 housing sites and a new Garden Community at the St George's Barracks site at Edith Weston. The new Garden Community proposes delivery of some 1,000 houses between 2018 and 2036 (as part of a larger development for some 2,215 houses). In addition, policy H4 proposes 'no more than 650 houses' within Rutland County on land north of Stamford as part of an 'Urban Extension' which falls mostly within South Kesteven District. All new developments have the potential to impact on Local Highways capacity and Education provision.
- 2.6 The purpose of this Statement of Engagement is to confirm ongoing and effective co-ordination between the Rutland County Council service areas on these matters. The statement seeks to confirm that effective discussions have taken place and to agree the position between the parties regarding the Strategic Matters referred to in paragraph 1.3 above.

### **3. Areas of Agreement**

#### Provision of education infrastructure arising from proposed growth

- 3.1.1 The emerging Rutland Local Plan (RLP) seeks to deliver at least 2,340 houses during the plan period and flexibility allows for some 2,940 dwellings. The housing development proposed in the Rutland Local Plan will require commensurate growth in social infrastructure including local schools<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Some 130 per year based on the 'Standard Method' for calculating housing need.

<sup>2</sup> Including Allocations, completions since 2018 and commitments.

<sup>3</sup> Rutland County Council also has duty under Section 6 of the Childcare Act to secure sufficiency of childcare

- 3.1.2 The Infrastructure Delivery Plan sets out the necessary provision of new or expanded schools and the financial contributions required in order to deliver these facilities. It identifies the need for a new primary provision at Stamford north and St George’s Barracks, but that there is currently insufficient capacity within secondary schools to accommodate growth proposed<sup>4</sup>. This will be regularly reviewed.
- 3.1.3 A new two form entry primary school (with potential to expand to a three form entry school) is proposed as part of the development of the St George’s Barracks New Garden Community and a new 2 form entry primary as part of the Stamford north development
- 3.1.4 The financial contributions are primarily those required to increase capacity in primary schools in Rutland County. There is currently insufficient capacity within secondary schools to accommodate growth proposed in Rutland County. This will continue to be monitored to ensure that there is capacity in the short and longer term.
- 3.1.5 The provision of other education facilities are proposed as financial contributions through the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) to increase capacity through extension or expansion at existing schools as required.

Local Planning Authority and Local Education Authority agree that:

- 3.1.6 The proposed additional school provision and financial contribution requirements through CIL (as set out in the table below) represent the agreed infrastructure improvements necessary to accommodate the increases in student numbers at primary and secondary schools during the specified timescales for delivery.

Location	Infrastructure Required	Timescale for Delivery
St George’s Barracks	2 Form Entry (420 place) primary School with potential to expand to a 3 form entry school.	2025 - 2030
Stamford North	Provision of a primary School as part of the development within the administrative area of South Kesteven District	To be confirmed

<sup>4</sup> School capacity assessment data (Nov 2020) indicates that this academic year secondary provision is at 97.5% of capacity and will be oversubscribed for each of the four academic years commencing between September 2021 and September 2024 with the following 2 years approximately back to 99% capacity. A feasibility study has been undertaken to increase capacity at Catmose College

All other sites	Financial contributions to existing schools through CIL including at Oakham C of E Primary School	Various
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Table 1 – Proposed education requirements arising from allocations in the emerging Rutland Local Plan.

- 3.1.7 Other than the proposed expansion and relocation of Edith Weston Academy to St George’s Barracks New Garden Community to accommodate pupil numbers generated by the additional growth, no additional primary schools are currently required to be located within Rutland County.
- 3.1.8 A new primary school will be delivered as part of the development of Stamford North but this will be located within the administrative are of South Kesteven District and funded through developer contributions across the whole development site.
- 3.1.9 The education requirements set out paragraphs 6.8 to 6.14 and Appendix 1 of the ‘Infrastructure Delivery Plan’, which accompanies the Local Plan are an accurate short term forecast of the likely student yields arising from growth and the necessary funding required to deliver increases in capacity for primary and secondary education. This will be regularly reviewed. Funding for education provision will be sought through the Council’s Community Infrastructure Levy.
- 3.1.10 Subject to provision of a new two form entry primary school (with potential to expand to a three form entry school) at St George’s Barracks and provision of new primary school to serve the Stamford north development, and financial contributions through CIL towards extending existing schools, no insurmountable school capacity issues have been identified as a result of the proposed levels of growth in the emerging Local Plan.
- 3.1.11 There are currently no insurmountable capacity issues at secondary schools in Rutland County although the most recent school capacity forecasts indicate that there is some potential for this to change over the plan period, which would result in the need for additional capacity which will be secured through CIL contributions to expand existing secondary schools where necessary. This will be addressed through ongoing monitoring.

## 3.2 Transport – mitigation and delivery of key infrastructure

- 3.2.1 Rutland County Council has produced evidence that seeks to assess the transport impacts and implications of growth proposed in the emerging Local Plan within and beyond the administrative boundaries of Rutland County. Evidence has mainly been provided in the form of Transport Assessments.

The evidence seeks to assess impacts on the local and wider highway network and suggest proposed mitigations measures.

- 3.2.2 The main impacts on the Local Highway network resulting from growth proposed in the Local Plan arise from developments at St George's Barracks (policy H2&H3) and Stamford North (policy H4).
- 3.2.3 A Transport Assessment (TA) has been undertaken to understand and identify any impacts on the existing local highway network (LHN) as a direct result of the New Garden Community at St George's Barracks. Four junctions were identified as having insufficient capacity and requiring mitigation as a result of the proposed development.
- 3.2.4 The A1 trunk road passes through the administrative area of Rutland County. Proposed growth at Stamford North Urban Extension has the potential to increase vehicular movements on the strategic and local highway network. Rutland County Council in conjunction with Lincolnshire County Council has sought to assess the impacts of proposed growth on the Strategic Road Network (A1). Highways England, the Authority responsible for the Strategic and Trunk Road network have been engaged in the development of the Rutland Local Plan in the context of the impacts of proposed growth on the A1 and this is the subject of a separate Statement of Common Ground. Highways England has not raised objections to the Local Plan based on transport grounds and are satisfied that any adverse impacts are capable of being mitigated.

The Local Planning Authority and Local Highway Authority agree that:

- 3.2.5 The 'Transport Assessments' produced in association with the Local Plan and those prepared as part of the consideration of St George's Barracks (New Garden Community) and Stamford North provide an appropriate evidence base to understand the implications of growth on the highway network for the purposes of the Local Plan allocations.
- 3.2.6 The findings of the Transport Assessments and associated reports have identified impacts on links and junctions including the identification of junctions that would, as a result of development, be above their operating capacity.
- 3.2.7 The Junction improvements identified will mitigate the impacts of growth at St George's Barracks and on the surrounding highway network. The following

measures, as set out in paragraph 7.9 of the Infrastructure Delivery Plan, are appropriate improvements that will seek to mitigate the impacts of growth.

- A606/Normanton Road – Upgrading of the junction to a mini-roundabout;
- A6003/Lyndon Road – Provision of a new roundabout;
- A606/Main Street, Empingham – Proposed improvements to the junction layout;
- Wytchley Road/Normanton Road – Installation of a mini-roundabout.
- Wytchley Road – carriageway widening
- Edith Weston Road/Manton Road/Pennine Drive – mini roundabout improvements

3.2.8 The transport mitigation measures proposed to the junction of the A1 and A606 at Stamford will help to minimise the impacts of growth on the Local Highway and Strategic Road Network.

3.2.9 Other measures incorporated within the emerging Local Plan (including policy SD1(Sustainable development principles) and EN3 (Delivering good design) offer a satisfactory approach to encouraging modal shift and future proofing the transport network to respond to technological changes, including:

- The installation of bus priority measures to promote modal shift;
- Seeking to maximise sustainable travel take-up; and
- Encouraging the provision of electrical vehicle charging opportunities and other responses to low carbon travel and improved technology.

3.2.10 The public transport improvements proposed in the Local Plan offer an appropriate approach including:

- Pump priming to support bus service provision during the early phases of development at St George's Barracks;
- Support for additional school bus/taxi transport provision generated by new developments.

3.2.11 Transport Assessments have provided robust evidence that any adverse transport impacts resulting from the proposed New Garden Village at St George's Barracks and Urban Extension at Stamford North can be satisfactorily mitigated by improvements to junctions and links and measures to encourage modal shift.

#### 4.0 Governance

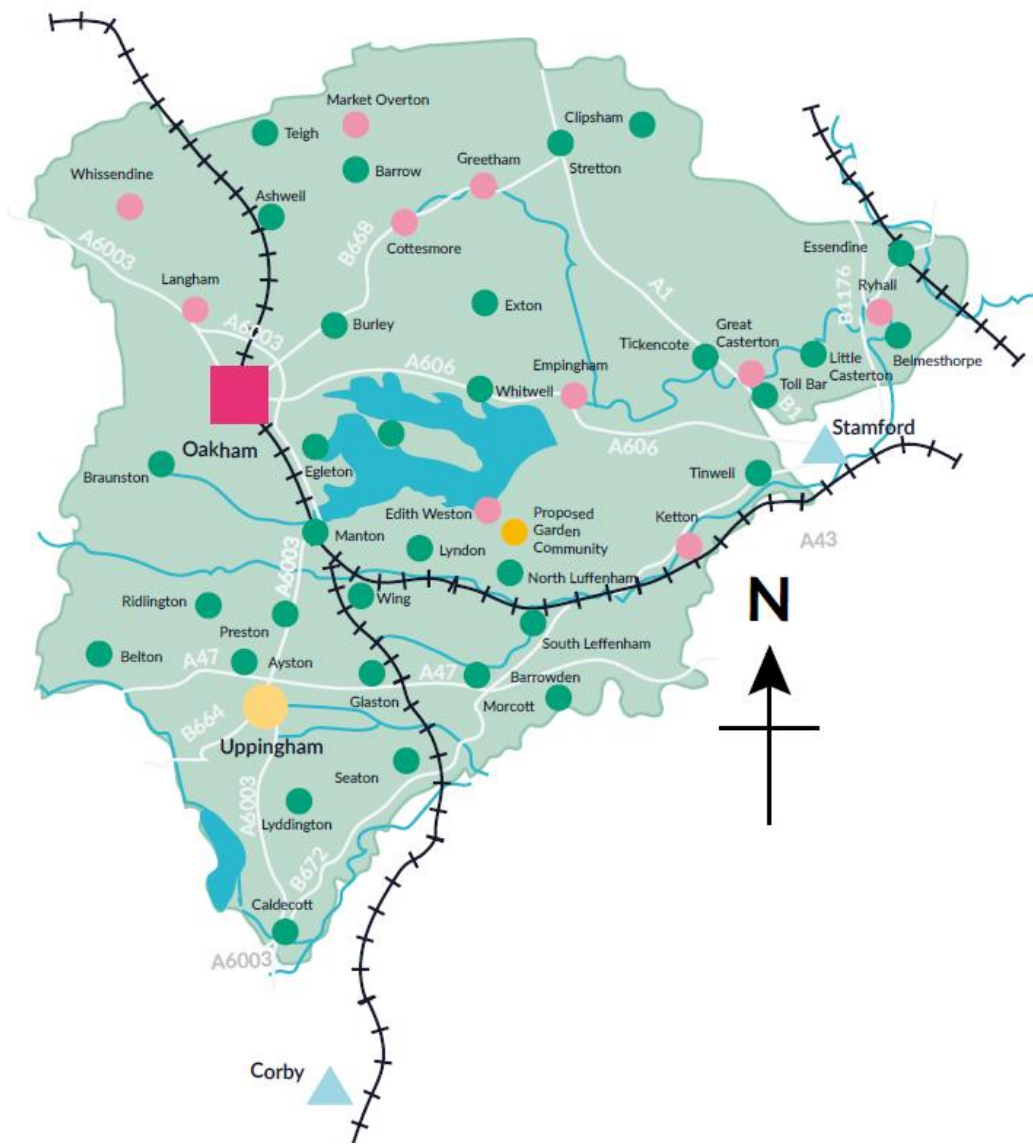
4.1 Rutland County Council is the Local Authority for transport and education. There is a commitment to work together as one Council in the delivery of public services, including the production of the Local Plan.

4.2 In terms of governance arrangements the service areas agree to adopt the principles of open communication and the sharing of information. More specifically:

- To keep each service areas service areas well informed on both an informal and formal basis of matters arising which are likely to have significant cross-departmental implications;
- To work together to achieve identified outcomes in relation to strategic matters;
- To review and update this Statement in light of any material change in circumstance such as: major changes to legislation or guidance; material changes to policy and strategy in the emerging plans; and
- To adopt positive principles of cooperation;

5.0 Map of Strategic Planning Area

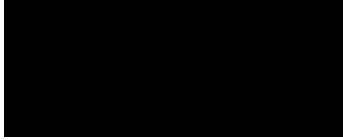




**Statement of Engagement**

**Signed on behalf of the Local Planning Authority**

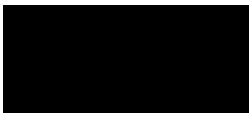
**Roger Ranson**



**Planning Policy Manager**

**Signed on behalf of the Local Education Authority**

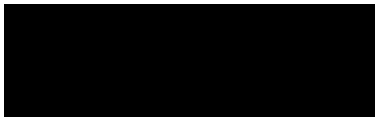
**Gill Curtis**



**Head of Learning and Skills**

**Signed on behalf of the Local Highway Authority**

**Andy Tatt**



**Interim Principal Highways Manager**