

THE SHEFFIELD PLAN

Our City, Our Future

Sheffield Plan Duty to Cooperate
Statement
September 2020



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1. Introduction and Purpose of the Statement

- 1.1 The purpose of this statement is to set out the progress being made regarding the duty to cooperate in relation to production of the Sheffield Local Plan (what we are calling 'The Sheffield Plan'). The statement is being published alongside the Sheffield Plan Issues and Options document (July 2020) that has been produced under Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.
- 1.2 The Statement explains how engagement is taking place with policy-making authorities and other bodies and identifies the joint work that has been undertaken to date to develop the evidence base for local plans across Sheffield City Region. It also summarises the scope of the current SCR Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) and outlines the key issues that will be addressed in working towards a Sheffield Plan SoCG (to be published prior to submitting the Sheffield Plan to the Secretary of State for public examination).

2. What is the Duty to Cooperate?

- 2.1 The Localism Act 2011 (through the inclusion of Section 33A into the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004), introduced the concept of the duty to cooperate¹. It places a legal duty on local planning authorities, county councils and prescribed bodies² ‘to engage constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis’ to maximise the effectiveness of Local Plan preparation in relation to strategic matters.
- 2.2 Strategic matters are defined in the Act as:
- (a) Sustainable development that has or would have a significant impact on at least two local authority areas; and
 - (b) Sustainable development in a two-tier area where the development is a county matter, or has or would have a significant impact on a county matter (i.e. typically waste and minerals proposals).
- 2.3 The engagement required under the duty to cooperate includes, in particular, considering whether to consult on, prepare, enter into and publish joint approaches to the undertaking of local plans; and whether to publish joint local plans.
- 2.4 The Act also extends the purpose of the independent examination of a local plan to include determination as to whether the duty has been complied with³. At the examination, the Planning Inspector will assess whether the duty to cooperate requirement has been met. Where the duty has not been complied with, the Inspector will have to recommend the plan is not adopted⁴.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

- 2.5 The NPPF (2018) states in paragraph 24 that local planning authorities and county councils are under a duty to cooperate with each other, and with other prescribed bodies, on strategic matters that cross administrative boundaries. It also says that strategic policy-making authorities should collaborate to identify the relevant strategic matters which they need to address in their plans. They should also engage with the relevant bodies including Local Enterprise Partnerships, Local Nature Partnerships, the marine management organisation, county councils, infrastructure providers, elected mayors and combined authorities.

¹ Through inclusion of Section 33A into the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

² As set out in the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.

³ Through the inclusion of Section 20 (5) (c)

⁴ Procedural practice in Examination of Local Plans, Planning Inspectorate, June 2016.



- 2.6 The Framework 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. 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 such as objectively assessed needs for housing and employment and aggregate mineral requirements.
- 2.7 To demonstrate effective and on-going joint working, strategic policy-making authorities should prepare and maintain one or more statements of common ground (SoCG), documenting the cross-boundary matter being addressed and progress in cooperating to address these. Matters considered in discussions with neighbouring authorities include accommodating some of the identified need for development rather than losing Green Belt land and the provision and sharing of mineral resources to support development.

Planning Practice Guidance (PPG)

- 2.8 National Planning Practice Guidance on Plan-making (updated 2018) includes a section on Maintaining and Effective Cooperation. This further expands upon the duty to cooperate and explains the purpose and process of a statement of common ground. It states that the statement of common ground is a written record of the progress made during the process of planning for strategic cross boundary matters. The statement should document where effective co-operation is and is not happening, and should demonstrate at examination that the plan is deliverable over the plan period. It should include key strategic matters; governance arrangements for the cooperation process (including how to keep it up to date); state the plan-making authorities responsible for joint working; and list any additional signatories needed. Additional strategic matters which have not already been addressed in the statement should also be included together with a brief description on how the statement relates to any other statement of common ground covering all or part of the same area.



3. Engagement Arrangements

- 3.1 This section provides a summary of the engagement arrangements between Sheffield City Council and other policy-making authorities and prescribed bodies. A full list of relevant meetings and correspondence will be published as an appendix to the Statement of Common Ground that we intend to publish alongside the Publication Draft Sheffield Plan. Sections 4 to 6 below summarise the output from the engagement to date.

Sheffield City Region Local Authorities:

- Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council*
 - Bassetlaw District Council
 - Bolsover District Council
 - Chesterfield Borough Council
 - Derbyshire
 - Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council*
 - North East Derbyshire District Council
 - Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council*
- [*South Yorkshire local authorities that, together with Sheffield City Council, are constituent members of the Mayoral Combined Authority – see below].

- 3.2 The SCR Heads of Planning Group meets on a 6-8 week basis and has responsibility for producing the SCR Statement of Common Ground (see section 5 below) alongside other pieces of collaborative work including the preparation of new evidence and developing a shared planning approach on some service issues. All 9 Sheffield City Region local authorities are represented on the group, as well as Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire County Councils, the Environment Agency and Highways England.
- 3.3 Policy Managers from the authorities also meet periodically as the need arises.

Combined authority

- Sheffield City Region Mayoral Combined Authority (MCA)
- 3.4 Sheffield City Council and the 3 other South Yorkshire local authorities form the Mayoral Combined Authority. Bassetlaw, Bolsover, Chesterfield, Derbyshire Dales and North East Derbyshire District Councils are non-constituent partners.



- 3.5 The Sheffield City Region comprises the Mayoral Combined Authority, the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and the SCR Executive. Our main engagement on planning matters, including the Sheffield Plan, is via the SCR Executive and, at a Member level, through the Infrastructure Board and MCA.
- 3.6 Engagement on transport matters is taking place with the South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive (which is accountable to the MCA). The MCA brings together two statutory bodies; the South Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority (ITA) and the Economic Prosperity Board (EPB) in order to align political decision-making around strategic economic development and transport.

Prescribed bodies

- Civil Aviation Authority
 - Environment Agency
 - Highways Authority
 - Highways England
 - Historic England
 - Homes England (formerly known as the Homes and Communities Agency)
 - Natural England
 - NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups
 - NHS Commissioning Board
 - Office of Road and Rail (formerly known as the Office of Rail Regulation)
 - South Yorkshire Local Nature Partnership
 - South Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority (now part of the MCA – see above)
- 3.7 The Sheffield Plan will contain policies on minerals but our intention is to develop a separate joint waste management plan with the other South Yorkshire Districts (see paragraphs 4.15-4.16 below). We will engage with the following bodies on minerals matters:
- Yorkshire and Humber Aggregates Working Party (YHAWP)
 - East Midlands Aggregates Working Party (EMAWP)
- 3.8 The duty also applies to the prescribed bodies below. However, given the strategic issues which have been identified, we consider it is unnecessary to actively seek cooperation with these bodies, either because the Sheffield City Council area is not covered by such a body or their area of activity is not relevant to the district:
- Marine Management Organisation
 - Mayor of London



- Transport for London

Other bodies

3.9 Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) and Local Nature Partnerships (LNPs) are not subject to the requirements of the duty to cooperate but local planning authorities must cooperate with them and have regard to their activities when preparing their local plans, provided those activities are relevant to plan making. For the purposes of preparing the Sheffield Plan, the following bodies will also be treated as duty to cooperate bodies:

- Sheffield City Region Local Enterprise Partnership (SCR LEP)
- South Yorkshire Local Nature Partnership



4. Developing a Shared Evidence Base

- 4.1 This section outlines the joint work that has been undertaken, or that is on-going, to develop the evidence base that supports the Sheffield Plan.

Sheffield and Rotherham Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA)

- 4.2 The Joint Sheffield-Rotherham Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) 2018 was published in 2019. It assesses housing need for market and affordable housing across the strategic housing market area of Sheffield and Rotherham. It supersedes the previous SHMA reports published in 2013 and 2015⁵. The latest joint SHMA is available here:
<https://www.rotherham.gov.uk/downloads/download/99/strategic-housing-market-assessment-shma>
- 4.3 The SHMA identifies both local authorities as being self-contained housing markets, but with important cross-boundary migration links for certain groups of households.

Sheffield and Rotherham Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) – common methodology

- 4.4 Sheffield and Rotherham have developed a common methodology in relation to the Strategic Housing Land Assessment (SHLAA). The Sheffield and Rotherham SHLAA 2015 (with Rotherham): identifies land in Sheffield with potential for future housing development.
<https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/content/dam/sheffield/docs/planning-and-development/sheffield-plan/Strategic%20Housing%20Land%20-%20November%202015.pdf>

SCR Strategic Economic Land Assessment and Sheffield and Rotherham Employment Land Review

- 4.5 The Sheffield City Region Strategic Economic Land Assessment (SELA) (2020) identifies Sheffield and Rotherham as a Functional Economic Market Area (FEMA). This has also been agreed in the SCR Statement of Common Ground (July 2020) (see Section 5 below). The [SELA Summary Report](#) is available on the Sheffield City Region website.
- 4.6 A Joint Sheffield-Rotherham Employment Land Review (ELR) was published in 2015 and is available on our website. It assesses economic development needs and land supply objectively in line with the NPPF and NPPGs.

⁵ Separate SHMA reports for Sheffield and Rotherham were published in 2013 but a further joint SHMA report, published in 2015, provided an assessment for the Sheffield/Rotherham Strategic Housing Market Area.

<http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/content/sheffield/home/planning-development/sheffield-plan-background-studies-reports.html>

- 4.7 A revised version is due to be published by Sheffield City Region (it was commissioned as part of the work on the SELA). This will therefore be available before the Sheffield Plan is submitted to the Government.

Sheffield and Rotherham Joint Retail and Leisure Study

- 4.8 This study has been produced to inform decisions affecting the location, size and type of new retail and leisure development across both Rotherham and Sheffield local authority areas. It provides a shared understanding of the main issues relating to catchment areas, spending patterns and district centre turnover.

<https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/content/sheffield/home/planning-development/sheffield-plan-background-studies-reports.html>

The Sheffield City Region Combined Green Belt Review – A Common Approach

- 4.9 This was published in 2014 this sets out key stages for approaching Green Belt Review within individual authorities.

<https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/content/sheffield/home/planning-development/green-belt-review.html>

- 4.10 The Common Approach has informed the methodology used in the [Sheffield Green Belt Review \(2020\)](#). It also forms a key part of the duty to co-operate in respect of Green Belt issues, ensuring an appropriate level of consistency between authorities. It demonstrates that there has been constructive and active engagement on this key planning issue that crosses local authority boundaries.

Sheffield City Region Demographic Forecasts (2014 - 34)

- 4.11 This report was jointly commissioned by the 9 SCR local authorities to inform housing requirement figures in the emerging local plans. The report presents information for each authority in SCR relating to the future housing need based on a range of economic growth scenarios.

<http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/content/sheffield/home/planning-development/emerging-sheffield-plan-draft.html>

Sheffield City Region Transport Model (SCRTM)

- 4.12 This has replaced the Sheffield and Rotherham Transport Model and is being used to assess the cumulative impact on the transport network of the Local



Plan growth options, and assess potential mitigations. The working group membership includes Highways England.

AMID Innovation Corridor

- 4.13 A Large Local Major Fund DfT Outline Business Case is being developed jointly with Rotherham MBC on behalf of the SCR for the development of connectivity and capacity improvements relating to the Advanced Manufacturing Innovation District. Proposals emerging from this will also inform the SCR Transport Strategy, Sheffield Transport Strategy and Local Plan policies.

SCR Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIP)

- 4.14 Sheffield is leading on behalf of SCR on developing a LCWIP for the city region to identify infrastructure needs to encourage increased numbers of walking and cycling journeys. This is ongoing but once complete will inform the Sheffield Transport Strategy programme and Sheffield Plan policies.

South Yorkshire Joint Waste Plan

- 4.15 The new Sheffield Plan will not include waste management policies. Instead, the four South Yorkshire SCR local planning authorities are working together to produce a South Yorkshire Joint Waste Plan. We have recently issued a brief as part of the tender process for commissioning consultants to produce the evidence base for the new plan.
- 4.16 Once adopted, the South Yorkshire Joint Waste Plan will replace waste management policies in the Sheffield Core Strategy (2009) and in the joint Barnsley/Doncaster/Rotherham Joint Waste Plan (2012).



5. Sheffield City Region Statement of Common Ground

5.1 The local planning authorities across the former (pre-April 2020) SCR wide area have developed a Joint Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) covering several specific strategic matters of relevance to all the Local Planning Authority areas. The Statement has been agreed and signed by all nine Local Planning Authorities of Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham, Sheffield, Bassetlaw, Bolsover, Chesterfield, Derbyshire Dales, and NE Derbyshire, as well as also being signed by the Peak Park Authority, Derbyshire County Council and Nottinghamshire County Council. Each has taken it through their formal governance processes to agree to be a signatory to the Joint Statement.

5.2 Together, the authorities have agreed that the SoCG should focus primarily on the following strategic matters:

- Housing
- Employment
- Transport
- Digital connectivity

5.3 In addition, current working arrangements on several other strategic matters are summarised in the statement in order to illustrate the range of shared interests being progressed. These are developing and will continue to be reviewed in future updates of this statement. They include:

- Green Belt
- Energy and climate change
- Flood risk
- Minerals Planning
- Waste Planning
- Natural Environment
- Peak District National Park
- Health

5.4 The Statement will play an important role in supporting each Local Planning Authority to demonstrate the 'test of soundness' for their new Local Plans (as well as Local Plan reviews) by demonstrating how all the Authorities are collaborating on a wider level to meet their Duty to Cooperate. Details of governance arrangements are also set out in the Statement.

5.5 The SoCG was agreed by the Mayoral Combined Authority on 27 July 2020 and is available on the [SCR Website](#).



6. Scoping of Further Sheffield Duty to Cooperate Issues

- 6.1 As part of developing the Sheffield Plan Issues and Options document, we have been engaging with the policy-making authorities and other bodies to agree the scope of key duty to cooperate issues.
- 6.2 This section summarises the scope of the discussions to date and highlights any changes to the Sheffield Plan Issues and Options document and the associated supporting documents as a result of those

Sheffield City Region Local Authorities

- 6.3 We have produced draft scoping paper that has been circulated by the SCR Executive to all 9 local authorities that make up Sheffield City Region. Initial discussions on the scoping paper were held at a Policy Managers Meeting on 30 July 2020. Meetings with the local authorities will take place as part of the consultation on the Sheffield Plan Issues and Options document.
- 6.4 The paper identifies the following issues as requiring discussion with a view to producing a Sheffield Plan Statement of Common Ground:
- a) Housing
 - housing need
 - strategic housing sites
 - b) Employment Land/Economic Development
 - employment land supply
 - locations for logistics uses
 - Sheffield Growth Areas
 - future expansion of the Advanced Manufacturing Innovation District
 - Bassetlaw employment land allocations
 - c) Transport
 - d) Digital Infrastructure
 - e) Valued Landscapes
 - f) Biodiversity/Green Infrastructure
 - Habitat Regulations Assessment
 - Biodiversity Net Gain

Existing Statement of Common Ground

- 6.5 As part of North East Derbyshire's Local Plan (2014-2034), there is a Statement of Common Ground between North East Derbyshire and Sheffield City Council on Green Belt Review. This statement relates to the methodology



used in reviewing Green Belt parcels for inclusion in the two respective Local Plans. This is available at <http://www.ne-derbyshire.gov.uk/index.php/your-council/document-library/local-plan-exam-library/02-supporting-documents>

Peak District National Park Authority

- 6.6 Officers met with the Peak District National Park Authority (PDNPA) on 2 June 2020 and have agreed that the following issues should be considered through further discussions:
- a) Scale and type of growth proposed for different housing market areas – consideration of the implications for the national park (including additional travel and the potential impact of higher wage jobs on the demand for homes within the national park);
 - b) The potential to promote ‘nature recovery networks’ to improve biodiversity corridors (linking Sheffield’s Green Belt to the national park);
 - c) Methodology used to assess landscape character and implications for site selection;
 - d) Settlement hierarchy and the implications of growth for villages and hamlets;
 - e) Areas for renewable energy generation;
 - f) The impact of the Outdoor Strategy on the national park (visitor pressure; fire risk, etc);
 - g) Impacts of the Sheffield Plan on the Special Protection Area;
 - h) Use/re-use/conversion of buildings with cultural heritage; and,
 - i) Detailed wording of development management policies.
- 6.7 PDNPA has recommended that the Sheffield Plan should reference the 1949 Countryside Act, reflecting the fact that the City Council has a duty of care towards the national park.
- 6.8 Following recommendations from the PDNPA, we have included additional documents in the list of relevant plans, strategies and programmes in the Sheffield Plan Integrated Impact Assessment Scoping Report:
- PDNPA’s updated Biodiversity Action Plan ‘State of Nature’ report
 - PDNPA’s Climate Change and Buildings Planning Guidance

Sheffield City Region Mayoral Combined Authority

- 6.9 As noted above, the SCR Executive has been party to the discussions with the other SCR local authorities.
- 6.10 Discussions have also been held with the South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive on the following issues:



- a) Key transport issues, including:
 - the impact of Covid-19 on future travel patterns/transport;
 - facilitating active travel;
 - strategy-led growth – with a view to increasing the viability of the tram network; and,
 - implications of the South Yorkshire Bus Review.
- b) Spatial issues for different areas of Sheffield – and the role of transport modelling.
- c) Other plans and strategies that the Sheffield Plan needs to take into account.
- d) The draft List of Policy Themes and Outline of the Issues to be Covered.

6.11 A revised Sheffield City Region Transport Strategy for the period 2018 – 2040 was published in 2018. It sets out on a strategic level how we intend to better connect our major urban and economic growth centres to enable the better flow of people, goods, businesses and ideas across the City Region, as well as promoting our rural and visitor economies.

6.12 The Strategy identifies transport issues of city regional significance, including those with cross boundary implications, and sets out the agreed approach of the districts and SCR. It will therefore effectively acts as a statement of common ground. The Sheffield Transport Strategy was endorsed by SCC Cabinet in July 2018 and has been designed to align with the draft SCR Transport Strategy.

Prescribed Bodies

6.13 All the prescribed bodies have been contacted prior to publishing the Sheffield Plan Issues and Options document. At this stage, the main objective has been to check out baseline data and identify other strategies and plans related to their interests. This has helped inform the Integrated Impact Assessment.

6.14 We have also shared the Draft List of Policy Themes and Outline of the Issues to be covered. Any feedback received on this document has been incorporated into the published document. We have indicated to all the prescribed bodies that we intend to seek feedback from them on relevant draft strategic and local policies in advance of finalising the Publication Draft Sheffield Plan (under Regulation 19).

6.15 The following paragraphs summarise the scope of the discussions to date with each prescribed body.



Civil Aviation Authority

- 6.16 The CAA has been contacted but they have advised that they are unlikely to have useful input at this stage. Typically, the CAA require involvement in development projects only if a CAA owned building is involved, if the proposed development is occurring on the site of an airport, or if a local planning authority approves a project despite the objections of an airport. The airport licensee holder or operator is responsible for safeguarding their site.
- 6.17 The CAA will offer guidance when requested, including referring local planning authorities to organisational points of contact as appropriate.

Environment Agency

- 6.18 Discussions with the EA have covered:
- a) Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA)
 - b) Plans and Programmes for the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report
 - c) The scope of policies relating to:
 - flood risk
 - water resources
 - climate change and air pollution
 - renewable energy
 - locating industry near to housing
 - Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH)
 - Non-mains drainage
 - Biodiversity and Environmental net gain
- 6.19 We have informed the EA of our intention to deal with waste management issues in a new South Yorkshire Joint Waste Management Plan.

Highways Authority

- 6.20 Sheffield City Council is the Highways Authority for Sheffield. Discussions on the Sheffield Plan have therefore been held between the Planning Service and the Strategic Transport and Infrastructure Service. Those discussions have covered:
- a) Key transport issues (as highlighted in the Sheffield Transport Strategy (2019));
 - b) Spatial issues for different areas of Sheffield – and the role of transport modelling;
 - c) Other plans and strategies that the Sheffield Plan needs to take into account; and,
 - d) The draft List of Policy Themes and Outline of the Issues to be covered.



Highways England

- 6.21 Discussions to date have focused on:
- a) Key issues for Highways England – sustainable travel policies and congestion problems on the M1 junctions and A616;
 - b) Area-specific issues (M1 Junctions 33 and 34);
 - c) Sheffield Plan scoping – other relevant plans and strategies have been agreed;
 - d) Scope and content of policies – it has been agreed that the Policy Themes/Issues document covers the main strategic issues from an HE viewpoint; and,
 - e) Impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on future travel patterns.

Historic England

- 6.22 Historic England has provided feedback on the Draft List of Policy Themes and Outline of the Issues to be covered. Their suggested amendments have been incorporated into the revised version that has been published alongside the Issues and Options document.
- 6.23 Potential approaches to a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) have been discussed and Historic England has offered to review the shortlist of potential allocated sites later in the year. It was agreed that a HIA should be published alongside the Publication Draft Sheffield Plan (under Regulation 19).
- 6.24 We hope to agree the wording of the draft development management policies relating to heritage assets with Historic England in advance of the producing the Publication Draft Sheffield Plan.
- 6.25 On Historic England's recommendation, we have added the draft Heritage Strategy for Sheffield (City Partnership) to the list of policies, plans and programmes in the Sheffield Plan Integrated Impact Assessment Scoping Report.

Homes England

- 6.26 We met with Homes England on 5 August 2020 and have agreed that further discussions should focus on:
- a) affordable housing viability;
 - b) potential Homes England support to enable delivery of the Central Area Strategy and delivery in other strategic locations; and,
 - c) increasing support for Modern Methods of Construction (MMC) as part of a SCR-wide approach.



Natural England

- 6.27 Our engagement with Natural England to date has covered the following issues:
- a) Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) and opportunities for wider Environmental Gain (as part of the Sheffield Plan itself and the Sustainability Appraisal).
 - b) Inclusion of a map showing key biodiversity assets and opportunity areas within the Sheffield Plan.
 - c) Identification of any risk to biodiversity as part of the selection of allocated sites.
 - d) The [Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening Report](#) – we have amended the report to reflect Natural England’s comments.

NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs)

- 6.28 We have approached the CCG with a view to discussing future health infrastructure requirements but they have not responded to our correspondence. Our assumption is that the CCG is currently prioritising work on the response to the Covid-19 pandemic. We will continue to attempt to engage with them in advance of producing the Publication Draft Sheffield Plan.
- 6.29 We are, however, working with consultants who are working on behalf of the CCG to develop 3 new ‘Health Hubs’. Part of that work involves modelling future population growth based on the levels of growth being planned in the Sheffield Plan.

NHS Commissioning Board

- 6.30 As with the CCGs, we have contacted the NHS Commissioning Board but have not received a reply.

Office of Road and Rail

- 6.31 We wrote to the Office of Road and Rail on 29 May and 12 June but they have not yet responded. Further attempts to contact them will be made as part of the consultation on the Sheffield Plan Issues and Options document.

South Yorkshire Local Nature Partnership (SYLNP)

- 6.32 Through the SYLNP we are working with the other South Yorkshire local authorities, Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust and other bodies to develop a joint approach to Biodiversity Net Gain. The aim is to develop a consistent approach across all South Yorkshire local authorities.



6.33 Other joint South Yorkshire work includes the 'Nature Recovery Network' (NRN), which is part of a wider national strategy. This aims to map key biodiversity assets and opportunity areas in the region to improve and connect habitats. We will have access to the South Yorkshire NRN map which will be a live document and continually be updated. This could potentially be used for reference for producing and including a map within the Sheffield Plan on biodiversity assets and opportunity areas.

Yorkshire and Humber Aggregates Working Party (YHAWP)

6.34 Sheffield City Council is a member of the Yorkshire & Humber Aggregate Working Party. An officer attended the latest meeting (7 June 2020) and provided an update on plan progress. We intend to contact them as part of the consultation on the Issues and Options document to identify any issues that the Sheffield Plan needs to address.

East Midlands Aggregates Working Party (EMAWP)

6.35 SCC is not a member of the EMAWP but we intend to contact them as part of the consultation on the Issues and Options document.



7. Next Steps

- 7.1 A revised version of this statement will be produced as part of a Sheffield Plan Statement of Common Ground that will be published alongside the Publication (Pre-submission) version of the Sheffield Plan (scheduled to be published for consultation in July 2021⁶). If necessary, this will be further updated before the Sheffield Plan is submitted to the Secretary of State in January 2022.

⁶ As set out in the Sheffield Local Development