



STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND

between

LONDON BOROUGH OF ENFIELD

and

Adjoining Local Highway Authorities:

Hertfordshire County Council (HCC)

Essex County Council (ECC)

London Borough of Waltham Forest (LBWF)

London Borough of Haringey (LBH)

London Borough of Barnet (LBB)

December 2024

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of the Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) is to set out areas of common agreement between the London Borough of Enfield (LBE) and the adjoining Local Highway Authorities (LHA) and any areas of disagreement in relation to the emerging Enfield Local Plan 2019 – 2041, key strategic matters affecting the natural environment.
- 1.2 In relation to strategic planning matters, section 33A (1) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (PCPA 2004) indicates that Local Planning Authorities have a duty to cooperate with bodies (or other persons) within subsection (9) and paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of subsection (1), in section 33A(1) of the PCPA 2004. This approach is also a requirement of national planning policy. Paragraph 35 of the National Planning Policy Framework seeks to ensure that the Local Plan is deliverable over the plan period and based on effective joint working on strategic matters that have been dealt with rather than deferred, as evidenced by the statement of common ground.
- 1.3 The Duty to Cooperate was established in the Localism Act 2011. The Duty to Cooperate requires all Local Planning Authorities (LPAs), county councils and public bodies such as local highway authorities to engage constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis in relation to cross-boundary issues.
- 1.4 This Statement of Common Ground acts as the framework for LBE delivery of duties and obligations under the Localism Act 2011 and accords with Paragraph 27 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF – 2023) which requires LPAs to produce and publish one or more Statements of Common Ground. This is detailed further in the government's Planning Practice Guidance (PPG).
- 1.5 This Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) covers the Local Planning Authority area of the London Borough of Enfield. The adjoining local highway authorities are:
- Hertfordshire County Council (HCC)
 - Essex County Council (ECC)
 - London Borough of Waltham Forest (LBWF)
 - London Borough of Haringey (LBH)
 - London Borough of Barnet (LBB)

2. Background and Governance

- 2.1 Transport is one of the key strategic issues in the Enfield Local Plan, and the Duty to Cooperate (DtC) process includes working with the statutory stakeholders to identify and address cross boundary impacts. The National

Planning Policy Framework sets an expectation that Local Plans should be prepared with the active involvement of local highways authorities, other transport infrastructure providers and operators and neighbouring councils, so that strategies and investments for supporting sustainable transport and development patterns are aligned.

2.2 In London most strategic transport issues beyond borough boundaries are addressed by the London Plan, although Enfield and its neighbouring LHAs meet regularly to address cross boundary matters relevant to the ongoing plan making and local transport infrastructure delivery.

2.3 This SoCG sets out the confirmed points of agreement, or otherwise between the parties with regard to strategic planning matters arising from planning policy proposals in the emerging Enfield Local Plan (2019 – 2041), specifically in relation to:

- Strategic Opportunity Areas
- Walking and Cycling Network Development
- Ongoing Network Monitoring

Hertfordshire County Council:

2.4 Hertfordshire County Council is the highway authority to the north of Enfield, looking after the transport network and developing its policy and vision. In 2018 HCC adopted the Local Transport Plan 4 (2018-2031) setting out how *“transport can help deliver a positive future vision for Hertfordshire by having a major input into wider policies such as economic growth, meeting housing needs, improving public health and reducing environmental damage whilst also providing for safe and efficient travel”*.

2.5 Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) is strongly supporting a modal shift toward sustainable modes of transport and has identified key corridor movements and relevant initiatives to support and facilitate travel within the County. HCC is working with Hertsmere and Broxbourne Councils on managing transport impacts and connectivity to the Local Plans and proposed development in the pipeline including, in proximity to Enfield, housing projections in Potters Barn, Cheshunt Lakeside, Cheshunt Football Club, Goffs Oak and Sunset Film Studios. The closest LBE growth areas to HCC are Crews Hill, Chase Park and the industrial and employment area in the east of the borough.

Essex County Council:

2.6 Essex County Council (ECC) is the highway authority for the area to the north-west of LBE, covering the area to the east of HCC and to the north of

LBWF. There is no direct highway connection with ECC, but the M25 past junction 25 links into ECC. ECC have recently supported the Epping Forest District Council in the preparation of their Local Plan which was adopted in February 2023.

LB Waltham Forest:

- 2.7 London Borough of Waltham Forest (LBWF), to the east of Enfield is connected via key highways (A110 A406) providing critical links across the Lea Valley Park and Lea River. The Meridian Water, within the Upper Lee Valley opportunity area is in proximity of LBWF. LBWF is also in the process of updating its Local Plan having adopted the Part 1 of the new Local Plan in February 2024 and is currently undertaking a review of Part 2 (Site Allocations).
- 2.8 LBWF is broadly supportive of Enfield's policy agenda of encouraging investment in active and sustainable transport infrastructure. They are keen that Enfield actively reduce car parking, ensuring it does not undermine the active and sustainable travel program and supports meeting MTS targets on vehicle trip reduction and road safety through vision zero.

LB Haringey:

- 2.9 London Borough of Haringey (LBH), to the south of Enfield, shares key highway links such as the A1055 linking Tottenham Hale and Northumberland Park to Meridian Water, the A1010 Fore Street a lively high street and important bus corridor and the A105 Green Lanes to the west and the A10, and part of the TLRN. The New Southgate opportunity area is shared between Enfield, Barnet and Haringey. LBH is working on a new Local Plan, which is intended to run from 2024 to 2039. The Council has recently concluded the call for sites and will publish a report later in 2024.
- 2.10 LBH has been engaging with Enfield and reiterate their desire for joint working to continue with a focus on ensuring that any transport and highways impacts on Haringey are suitably mitigated.

LB Barnet:

- 2.11 London Borough of Barnet (LBB), to the west of Enfield, has also recently undertaken a review of its Local Plan. The Council has received the report of the panel that conducted the examination in public of the draft Plan, which concludes that the draft Barnet Local Plan 2021 to 2036 is legally compliant, sound and in general conformity with the London Plan. The Council will now proceed to formally adopt the Plan in February 2025. Enfield and Barnet share major connecting routes include the A110 (Cat Hill), A1003/

A109 (Friern Barnet Road) and A406 (North Circular Road), while the boroughs share the London Plan New Southgate Opportunity Area.

2.12 LBB recommends that LB Enfield works with adjoining neighbouring boroughs on cross-boundary works and initiatives, including road works, active and public transport routes and related measures. These will be of particular importance should the London Mayor proceeds with plans for expansion of the Superloop bus network and further orbital strategic public transport interventions. There will be a particular need to work together to ensure growth in the New Southgate OA is supported by appropriate sustainable transport measures and to continue to support the case for Crossrail 2 and/or improvements to the Great Northern mainline rail line needed to support growth.

2.13 LBB note that the Council's recent Strategic Transport Assessment has shown a number of junctions in the northeast of Barnet that are already near capacity, however, the additional traffic flows modelled should not cause undue concern at this stage and can appropriately be addressed through the development management process if necessary.

3. Enfield Local Plan Consultations

3.1 From an early stage in the Local Plan process, LBE engaged with LHA's in discussions about the range of strategic issues around the Local Plan and the assessment methodology and progress.

3.2 Likewise, LBE has provided input in the ongoing Local Plan reviews of its adjoining planning and highway authorities.

4. Agreed Matters

4.1 All parties agree that they have a positive working relationship and a track record of joint working in partnership projects.

4.2 All parties recognise the challenge of delivering sustainable transport especially cross-boundary and recognise the need for continued network monitoring and demand management to promote sustainable travel.

5. Areas of Common Ground

5.1 LBE and HCC agree to monitoring the cross-boundary network, in particular working jointly with National Highways on monitoring junctions 24 and 25 of the M25. The Enfield Local Plan could have to have a minor detrimental effect on Junction 24 roundabout, in response to a National Highways request Enfield have identified and tested a potential mitigation improvement scheme for the roundabout and have shared this with HCC. Both parties have an

aspiration to support growth in proximity of each other administrative areas and will work to promote a sustainable cross-boundary travel strategy to:

- Manage network demand through the application of sustainable travel policies (Crews Hill, Chase Park).
- Monitor and improve network safety (Cattlegate Road and links from Crews Hill to Potters Barn and Cuffley village).
- Promote and enhance cross-boundary active travel links.
- Work collaboratively to identify public transport solutions with the aim to decrease short and medium distance car travel.

5.2 LBE agrees to continue to work collaboratively with LBWF and LBH particularly on matters regarding growth in the Upper Lee Valley opportunity area, Meridian Water. LBE will continue to consult with LBWF and LBH on opportunities to promote active travel and support faster and more reliable bus links cross boundaries.

5.3 LBE, LBB and LBH agree to work on the joint planning framework for New Southgate and meet their neighbouring, strategic and London Plan commitments and ensure any infrastructure requirements arising from the framework are captured within the boroughs' Infrastructure Delivery Plans.

6. Outstanding Matters

6.1 At this stage, there are no outstanding matters.

AGREEMENT

Local Planning Authority:	Name of signee:	Position held:	Date of signing:	Signed:
LB Enfield	Brett Leahy	Director of Planning & Growth - Environment & Communities Enfield Council		
Hertfordshire County Council	Rupert Thacker	Director of Transport for Hertfordshire	10/12/2024	
Essex County Council	Graham Thomas	Head of Planning and Sustainable Development, on behalf of Steve Evison – Director for Sustainable Growth	08/01/2025	
LB Barnet	Neeru Kareer	Assistant Director Planning & Building Control	06/01/2025	
LB Haringey	Maurice Richards	Head of Transport and Travel	03/01/2025	
LB Waltham Forest	Anthony Hall	Assistant Director for Highways and Parking Services	06/01/2025	