

Update to Braintree District Council Duty to Co-operate Statement (October 2017) (ref: SDBD005)

This statement is prepared by Chelmsford City Council ("Chelmsford") and Braintree District Council ("Braintree") and is supplemental to, and updates, Braintree's Duty to Co-operate Statement dated October 2017 (ref: SDBD005) ("the Statement").

A "Memorandum of Co-operation: Collaborative Working on Strategic Growth Priorities in North and Central Essex" between the NEAs, Chelmsford and Essex County Council was signed in June 2016.

That Memorandum identifies the key strategic issues that the authorities need to address collaboratively as being:

- a. transport infrastructure and connectivity;
- b. providing sufficient new homes;
- c. providing for employment
- d. addressing education and healthcare needs; and
- e. ensuring high quality outcomes.

The NEAs and Chelmsford share a Housing Market Area (HMA) and have developed a joint evidence base on housing need. This work included the development of a joint evidence based on housing need, which included assessing the scale and mix of housing and the range of tenures that the local population is likely to require over the plan period.

As part of the on-going engagement, Chelmsford and Braintree discussed the progress of the emerging Section 1 Local Plan and potential cross-boundary strategic issues.

As noted on page 13 of the Statement, Chelmsford is aware of and supportive of the approach taken by the NEAs to deliver the identified housing numbers.

After reviewing the Monks Wood proposal, Braintree concluded that it did not justify any change to their proposed Local Plan Strategy. Chelmsford agree that the Duty to Co-operate raises no expectation on their part that Braintree should highlight rejected Local Plan options or objection sites to them.

Signed on behalf of Braintree District Council

Emma Goodings

Head of Planning Policy and Economic Development

8th May 2018

Signed on behalf of Chelmsford City Council

Jeremy Potter

Planning and Strategic Housing Policy Manager

8th May 2018