



FINAL HEDNA joint press release - Issued 30/01/2017

Study of future growth in Leicester and Leicestershire is released

Key evidence about the future need for housing and employment land in Leicester and Leicestershire has been published.

The Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment (HEDNA) has looked at a wealth of evidence, including population, household and economic growth projections, to assess the need for housing and employment land over the next 20 years.

The report says there is a need for 117,900 homes in Leicester and Leicestershire between 2011 and 2036 to meet the demands of a growing population. This equates to 4,716 homes per year.

It also identifies a need for up to 215 hectares of land for office development, 165 hectares for manufacturing, and 117 hectares of land for warehouse and distribution floor space.

As the study period starts in 2011, some of the development will already have taken place or land will have been identified by the local authorities involved.

The study is an important part of the evidence base for Local Plans and the Strategic Growth Plan being prepared jointly by the City, County, Borough and District Councils and the Leicester and Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership (LLEP).

Cllr Trevor Pendleton, who chairs the group of councillors overseeing the preparation of the Strategic Growth Plan, said: "The HEDNA is a very high-level document that tells us what the expected need is for housing and employment land over the next 20 years.

"We know from experience that new development can be contentious and that's why we are sharing the HEDNA at an early stage. This is a completely transparent process.

“There is still a long way to go, but the local authorities and the LLEP are committed to working together to plan a sustainable future for Leicester and Leicestershire.”

The executive summary and full HEDNA report can be found on the Strategic Growth Plan [website](#).

Notes to editors

The HEDNA is a key study which will form part of the evidence base for Local Plans and will feed into the Strategic Economic Plan being revised by the LLEP.

Local Plans are prepared at Borough, District and City level and direct where development should, and should not, be accommodated.

The Strategic Growth Plan is being prepared jointly by the city, county, borough and district councils together with the Leicester and Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership. This will provide a framework for the future growth of Leicester and Leicestershire up to 2050.

The preparation of the Strategic Growth Plan is being overseen by senior councillors from each local authority. An initial consultation on the Strategic Growth Plan was held in 2016 and a second stage is due to be held later this year (2017).

The HEDNA looks at projections based on past population and demographic trends, with adjustments made (where necessary) for higher migration to support economic growth, and/or to address affordability issues, responding to an analysis of market signals and evidence of the need for affordable housing.

The housing and employment needs evidence in the HEDNA will need to be brought together with wider evidence, including land availability and infrastructure, environmental, and other considerations through the plan-making process to identify where new housing can be delivered and to set future housing and employment land targets.