

**RECORD OF EXERCISE OF DELEGATED AUTHORITY BY OFFICER PURSUANT TO
REGULATION 13 OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES (EXECUTIVE ARRANGEMENTS)
(MEETINGS AND ACCESS TO INFORMATION) (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2012 &
THE OPENNESS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT BODIES REGULATIONS 2014**

<u>SUBJECT OF DECISION</u>	
Procurement of a Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment.	
<u>DECISION REFERENCE</u>	<u>SOURCE OF AUTHORITY AND REFERENCE</u> (i.e. Committee/ Constitution/Minute No. etc).
DO/43/2026 (LH)	2025/26 - Council meeting on 19th February 2025, resolved in the minutes number CL56. 2026/27 - Council meeting on 25th February 2026, resolved in the minutes number CL70. 3D.1 b) Take any action on matters relating to the day to day administration of services within their unit. 3D.1 c) Take any action to maintain the operation and effectiveness of services within their unit.
<u>DATE OF DECISION</u>	<u>DECISION MAKER (Name and Job Title)</u>
Friday 28 August 2026	 Louise Hryniw Assistant Director for Planning

RECORD OF THE DECISION

a) The issue

The aim and purpose of this proposed Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment (HEDNA) is to provide Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council with an objective, evidence-based and independent assessment of the housing and employment land need in the Borough. The findings of the study will provide the Council with a housing and employment requirement within the Borough.

b) The Decision

To procure a Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment.

REASON FOR THE DECISION

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2026) requires Local Planning Authorities to establish housing and economic land need to inform strategic policies in their Local Plans. The HEDNA establishes the overall number of homes needed in the area as a minimum over the plan period. The HEDNA will also consider the size, type and tenure of housing needed for different groups. A housing requirement may be identified to reflect growth ambitions linked to economic development or infrastructure investment. The HEDNA will establish the economic land need and have regard to national and local strategies, local business needs, wider needs and opportunities for economic growth and investment informed by relevant market signals.

The HEDNA is an independent assessment of the housing and economic land need of the borough. The work is undertaken by economists and planning professionals with experience of producing these assessments, which is not available within the Planning Policy team. Therefore, this piece of work is best outsourced.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED IN MAKING THE DECISION

Given the specialist nature of the work, it is not possible to produce the work without engaging specialist consultants.

WARD RELEVANCE

All.

FINANCIAL AND BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

£40,000 has been budgeted within Local Plan budget for 2026/27.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN WITH MEMBERS/OFFICERS

- Local Plan Committee Members.
- Portfolio Holder – Planning and Regulation.
- Assistant Director for Planning.

<u>ANY CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARED BY ANY MEMBER CONSULTED</u> N/A.
<u>IN RESPECT OF ANY DECLARED CONFLICT BY A CABINET MEMBER, ANY DISPENSATION GIVEN BY THE HEAD OF PAID SERVICE</u> (Note if the decision is a non-executive decision, no dispensation can be given). N/A.
<u>EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS (including any Equality Impact Assessment)</u> The successful supplier would be expected to comply with the Equality Act (2010).
<u>HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS</u> None.
<u>FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS</u> Covered under financial and budget implications.
<u>HEALTH EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS</u> None.
<u>SECTION 17 CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS</u> None.
<u>RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS</u> The HEDNA will form an important part of the evidence base for the next Local Plan. The HEDNA will be subject to examination by the Planning Inspectorate and will come under scrutiny from Inspectors and site promoters who will likely challenge the amount of land required for development. The document will help to ensure to housing and employment needs is up to date, reflects the needs of the Borough and is a robust piece of evidence to inform the policies of the new Local Plan. Without an up to date HENDA, the next Local Plan could be at risk of non-adoption. The Council could also be at risk of speculative applications which we would be unable to defend without robust, up-to-date evidence.
<u>SME (SMALL/MEDIUM ENTERPRISES) & LOCAL ECONOMY IMPLICATIONS</u> The required contract is SME friendly.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

The Specification outlines environmental requirements that the contractor is expected to support.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Compliance with the Contract Procedure Rules.

ANY OTHER COMMENTS

N/A.

**PLEASE RETURN TO THE MONITORING OFFICER AS SOON AS A DECISION IS
MADE OR AS REASONABLY PRACTICABLE THEREAFTER**