# Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council

# Borough Plan Review (2021 - 2039)



Statement of Common Ground between

Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council

and Waste Recycling Group (Central)

Limited

Strategic Site: SHA3

January 2024

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#### **Organisations**

- Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council (NBBC).
- Waste Recycling Group (Central) Limited (WRG).

#### Introduction

This Statement of Common Ground has been prepared to establish the main areas of agreement between NBBC and the landowner of strategic housing allocation site SHA3, WRG. WRG is part of FCC Environment, one of the UK's largest waste and resource management companies. This Statement identifies where further work is required to achieve soundness and demonstrate deliverability to the Planning Inspector.

NBBC has fully engaged with WRG on the development of the Council's Local Plan from the outset. In accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, WRG has been formally consulted at every stage of consultation on the Borough Plan Review together with its accompanying Sustainability Appraisal and the Habitat Regulations Assessment. WRG made representations to all three stages of consultation on the Borough Plan Review (representation number 108 in relation to the Regulation 19 consultation). The Duty to Cooperate Compliance Statement outlines in detail the engagement activities and outcomes undertaken during the Plan's preparation.

WRG support the allocation of SHA3 within the Borough Plan Review. This Statement of Common Ground relates specifically to matters raised, in their representations, regarding the proposed allocation. However, the representations do also raise other matters relating to policies within the Plan.

## **Description of the Site**

Strategic housing allocation SHA3 is a sustainable and deliverable housing allocation in the Camp Hill area of Nuneaton. The site encompasses HSG11 to the east of the canal which was allocated for 200 dwellings in the extant 2019 Borough Plan. Once the Borough Plan Review is adopted, this previous allocation will be included in strategic housing allocation site SHA3.

## **Planning Status**

An application for 400 dwellings and a Local Centre is currently under consideration. Advanced pre-application discussions have taken place and a revised outline planning application for the development of up to 400 dwellings was submitted in January 2024 and the previous applications have been withdrawn.

### Strategic matters

#### **Areas of Agreement**

- WRG is the landowner of site SHA3 within the Borough Plan Review (2021-2039), which is allocated for at least 350 dwellings.
- That NBBC has worked collaboratively with WRG throughout the Plan making process to ensure the site is available, viable and deliverable for the development of at least 350 dwellings.

#### Strategic Policy DS4 / Strategic Housing Allocation Site SHA3

WRG is supportive of SHA3's inclusion in the Borough Plan Review. It is considered that the site's allocation would contribute towards the soundness of the Local Plan given its clear compliance with the Plan's overarching strategy and objectives and its consistency with national policy. It would clearly comply with the overarching approach to the distribution of strategic development sites within the Development Plan, particularly the objective of bringing forward sites in sustainable locations in the main settlements and the promotion of brownfield land.

#### Strategic Housing Allocation Site - SHA3

WRG considers this strategic allocation, within the Borough Plan Review, to be suitable, achievable and deliverable, for at least 350 dwellings, within the plan period (2021-2039).

## Promoters anticipated build out rates

It is anticipated that the development will commence in 2025/26 at a build out rate of circa 50 dwellings per year, subject to market conditions and the granting of planning permission.

## **Deliverability Statement**

In WRG's experience the key considerations in demonstrating whether a site is deliverable in the context of emerging allocations in a development plan is whether it benefits from a willing landowner and/or developer, there are no commercial/legal reasons that would prevent development, and there are no environmental/techncial matters that would prevent development or render it unviable.

WRG has already expressed their firm commitment to bringing forward residential development at Judkins Quarry, and there are no land ownership or restrictive legal covenants on the site that would prevent it coming forward for development. The Company has also recently prepared and submitted a planning application for the development of up to 400 homes on the site. The planning application was accompanied by a suite of technical / environmental assessment reports, addressing the following matters:

- Highways and Access
- · Archaeology and Heritage
- Ecology (including an assessment of Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG))
- Arboriculture
- Landscape and Visual
- Flood Risk and Drainage
- Noise
- Air Quality
- Sustainability
- Health Impact
- Ground Conditions
- Design (Design and Access Statement and Design Code)

None of the abovementioned reports have identified any technical / infrastructure related issues that would render it unsuitable or unviable for residential development.

## **Further joint working**

This Statement of Common Ground will be kept up to date through continuous engagement and cooperation between NBBC and WRG.

### Monitoring

This Statement will be maintained by NBBC and updated as necessary with WRG.

NBBC will continue to work with WRG beyond the adoption of the Borough Plan Review for the monitoring and implementation of the Plan.

## **Signatories**

Signature:	Signature:
Maria Bailey, Assistant Director for	David Molland, Group Estates &
Planning, NBBC	Property Manager, FCC Environment
Date: 22/01/24	Date 29/01/2024

## Appendix A

