

Your ref  
Our ref SLPR Draft Submission  
Ask for Philip Stephenson/Sarah Matile  
Email [REDACTED]



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9 November 2020

Dear Sir / Madam,

### **LDC Representations to Solihull Local Plan - Draft Submission Plan Consultation**

Thank you for consulting Lichfield District Council on the Solihull Local Plan – Draft Submission Plan. LDC previously provided comments in response to the Local Plan Review Supplementary Consultation and welcomes the revision to the plan period to 2036 to align with the Strategic Growth Study.

The comments below focus on the outstanding primary area of concern from Lichfield District Council's perspective which relates to housing provision and the contribution towards the unmet housing need arising from within the Greater Birmingham & Black Country Housing Market Area (GBBCHMA). It is noted that the GBBCHMA authorities published an updated Housing Needs and Supply Position Statement in July 2020. This sets out the latest agreed position between the authorities.

One of the key challenges identified with the Draft Submission Plan is meeting the housing needs across the Borough which includes assisting with accommodating some of the HMA wider shortfall. Lichfield District Council is concerned that given the approach taken within the Draft Submission Plan, Solihull Council is not committed to fully addressing the GBHMA shortfall and this is particularly significant given the geographic context and transport links between Solihull Borough and Birmingham.

The Draft Submission Plan sets out that Solihull would test a contribution of 2,000 dwellings and Paragraph 228 details that the contribution towards the HMA is 2,105 which comprises of the difference between the identified supply and the Borough's local housing need. Whilst the approach towards calculating the Borough's own local housing requirement and the site selection process is noted and appears to be soundly based, Lichfield District Council is conscious that the contribution of 2,105 dwellings towards the GBHMA shortfall is lower than the



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contribution proposed by neighbouring authorities such as Lichfield District and North Warwickshire. Therefore, further sites may need to be identified and released from the Green Belt.

Lichfield District Council welcomes continuing dialogue with SMBC as the plan progresses to examination through the Duty to Cooperate process.

Yours faithfully

Sarah Matile  
**Spatial Policy and Delivery Officer**



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