Local Plan Review Action Plan - Phase 1 Evidence

1c | Constraints Mapping – Eastern Sub Area

Original baseline work to be updated and analysed in the context of any decisions around the extent of a Plan Review and strategy options – Summer 2024

2a | Housing Need Study

Consultants appointed December 2023 to produce this evidence with the following key milestones:

1. Inception Phase (Dec 2023)

Inception Meeting,

Review of Policy & Evidence, HMA & Sub-Geographies, Housing Stock & Supply Trends and Housing Market Dynamics

2. Overall Housing Need (Jan – end April 2024)

Demographic Review, Overlay of Econ & Affordable Need

Finalising Conclusions

Interim Report & Meeting

3. Affordable Housing Need (Jan - end March 2024)

Household survey

Survey Response Analysis

Affordable Need Modelling

4. Housing Mix & Market Segments (Mid Feb – early April 2024)

Size/Type of Homes

Older Persons & Specialist Needs

Other Specific Groups

5. Reporting (April – end May 2024)

Update Parish/Town Councils on the outcomes of the above evidence gathering

Finalising Draft Report & Meeting

Engagement on Draft Findings

Final Report & Summary

2b	Housing Land Availability Assessment (LAA)	
2f	Gypsy and Traveller LAA	Undertake jointly
3c	Employment LAA	
5?	Biodiversity off-setting – call for sites	

Bid submitted to Proptech innovation fund for fully automated site assessment software. If successful we will benefit from significant time savings in assessment work, so work on this theme is on hold until Mid February.

Timescales for the following tasks will be dependent upon the success of the bid, but aim to complete the task by end of 2024:

- Update joint LAA methodology with neighbouring authorities (BDC/ BaDC /CBC) (Feb March 2024)
- Either update inhouse automated site assessment tool or integrate Urban Intelligence system through Prop Tech Fund (March May 2024)
- Inform Parish/Town Councils of call for sites process and timescales

- Undertake a public call for sites (May/June 2024 if manual process or August/Sept with automated system) to include Parish/Town Councils
- Data entry for site assessment (July November 2024)
- Produce LAA report

2d | Five Year Housing Land Supply

Following changes to the NPPF (Dec 2023) LPA's with an adopted Local Plan that is less than 5 years old are not required to demonstrate a five year supply of housing land in order for the Plan to carry full weight in decision making. This will remain the case for NEDDC until November 2026. However, in the interests of monitoring housing delivery (as required by the Council's Annual Monitoring Report) and understanding the ongoing supply position officers intend to continue to undertake this work.

- Undertake survey work to monitor housing delivery on a site-by-site basis (March April 2024)
- Input data to SMART monitoring package (April May 2024)
- Contact site owners to identify anticipated build out on larger sites (i.e. over 50 dwellings) (May-June 2024
- Communicate the outcome of this exercise to Parish and Town Councils
- Report on supply position and housing trajectory for plan period (June-July 2024)

3a Employment Study - incorporating Employment Land Need Assessment, Assessment of Existing Sites, Strategic Warehousing & Logistics Study and possibly Retail/Town Centres Study

Evidence to be commissioned jointly with Bolsover District Council and Chesterfield Borough Council. Timescales below are indicative and subject to change given joint working arrangements.

- Review national policy changes and local economic environment.
- Prepare specification and undertake invitation to tender to appoint specialist consultant (February May 2024).
- Initial output to agree extent of employment study required, i.e. light touch update or wholesale review (July-August 2024).
- Subject to above:
 - o Inform Parish and Town Councils of the scope and timescales for the review
 - Agree methodology for economic forecasting (Autumn 2024)
 - Undertake study elements (Autumn/Winter 2024)
 - o Review outputs and relationship with housing needs
 - Final report (Spring 2025??)

5c Biodiversity

Appoint consultants to prepare an evidence-based, strategic 'Plan for Nature' comprising:

- Nature Recovery Network (NRN) modelling to bring together existing habitat data.
- Identifying the key strategic gaps and opportunities for enhancement in biodiversity in the district.
- Reviewing the Council's land assets to identify those suitable for BNG.
- Consider the case for 15% and 20% net gain requirements and how this could be achieved in light of the baseline net gain evidence.

Key stages (indicative):

- Prepare specification and undertake tender process (February March 2023)
- Consultant to undertake research modelling and site assessments (April July 2023)

- Interim Report (August 2024)
- Final Report (September 2024)

6a Design Codes

Design Codes are a key element of the government's reforms for plan-making. There are also linkages with the council's Successful Places Guidance, which will require updating.

The Council has been successful in securing government 'Skills Funding', the successful bid was based upon upskilling members of staff in the area of conservation and design and included the preparation of design codes. A detailed project programme will be prepared once we have received further details on the funding arrangements and timeframes.

The information that we have to date indicates that the funding will be provided from April 2024 and the programme will last for 12 months. We are currently awaiting a Memorandum of Understanding from DHLUC and confirmation of any phasing arrangements to the payment. Consultants will be produced to lead the drafting codes for 2 areas of the District over the 12 month programme. After the 12 months, the drafts will need to be taken through to adoption and coding undertaken of other parts of the District.

7a | NEDDC Climate Change Action Plan

- Review evidence national & local (including DCC outputs) (May August 2024)
- Work with Climate Change officer to identify actions that can be embedded in the Local Plan (tbc)

7c | Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA)

Evidence to be commissioned jointly with Bolsover District Council and Chesterfield Borough Council. Timescales below are indicative and subject to change given joint working arrangements.

- Consult with Parish/Town Councils (local data), Environment Agency (EA) and Lead Local Flood
 Authority (LLFA) to identify the scope of review and extent of new modelling required (March 2024)
- Prepare specification and undertake invitation to tender to appoint specialist consultant (April May 2024).
- Key modelling and assessment work undertaken (June September 2024).
- Interim Report and consultation (if required) (October 2024).
- Final SFRA report for sign off by the three LPAs.