



RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN (2025 – 2042)

**STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND BETWEEN RUGBY
BOROUGH COUNCIL AND BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL**

MARCH 2026

1. Organisations

- Rugby Borough Council (RBC)
- Blaby District Council (BDC)

2. Introduction

2.1. This Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) identifies areas of agreement and disagreement between RBC and BDC in relation to the Rugby Borough Local Plan (2025-2042) and supporting evidence base. This statement has been prepared to assist the examination of RBC's local plan and covers the administrative area of RBC.

2.2. Rugby Borough is located to the east of Coventry on the eastern edge of Warwickshire and borders the counties of Leicestershire (in which Blaby District is located) and Northamptonshire. Appendix 1 shows the geographical relationship of the local authorities.

2.4 RBC has fully engaged with BDC on the development of the councils' respective local plans from the outset. In accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, BDC has been formally consulted at every stage of consultation on RBC's local plan together with its accompanying Sustainability Appraisal and the Habitat Regulations Assessment.

2.5 RBC's Duty to Cooperate Compliance Statement outlines in detail the engagement activities and outcomes, together with the joint evidence base studies undertaken during the plan's preparation.

3. Strategic Matters

Areas of agreement

- **That RBC has worked collaboratively with BDC to ensure that all cross boundary strategic issues have been properly considered and where appropriate reflected in RBC's Proposed Submission Local Plan. Effective and ongoing joint working will continue to be undertaken.**

3.1 The strategic matters being addressed by the SoCG are:

- Strategic employment and the A5 corridor
- Strategic housing
- Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation

Strategic employment and the A5 corridor

3.2 It is agreed that RBC and BDC are in different functional economic market areas. It is agreed that neither authority has unmet need for employment land that it is asking the other to accommodate.

3.3 RBC's strategy for employment land focusses on delivery on the edges of Coventry and Rugby. Large new employment land allocations proposed are predominantly located on the western side of the borough away from the administrative boundary with BDC.

Strategic housing

3.4 It is agreed that RBC and BDC are in separate housing market areas. It is agreed that neither authority has unmet needs for housing that it is asking the other to accommodate.

Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation

3.5 It is agreed that in March 2025 RBC published a Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment which identifies a need for 94 pitches in the period 2024 to 2042. RBC has identified supply sufficient to accommodate 64 pitches. RBC wrote to all its neighbouring local authorities in Warwickshire, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire requesting assistance with accommodating the remaining shortfall in April 2025.

3.6 It is agreed that at the time the shortfall was quantified to be 47 pitches (subsequently revised to 30 pitches), BDC was working on the production of its own local plan. BDC has identified a shortfall of Gypsy and Traveller pitches as set out in a letter to RBC requesting assistance, dated 11 February 2026. Given the mutual requests for assistance, it is agreed neither Council is in a position to assist the other with regards unmet need for Gypsy and Traveller pitches.

3.7 RBC has identified supply sufficient to provide pitches through the period to 2036 and therefore can identify supply for years 1-5 and 6-10 consistent with Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (PPTS) paragraph 10. There is only a need to identify sites for years 11-15 onwards, "where possible", under PPTS paragraph 10b.

3.8 It is agreed that the majority of existing occupied G&T sites in Rugby borough, and the supply identified within the proposed Submission Local Plan are not located in proximity to the BDC administrative boundary, offering little evidence of a cross-boundary relationship.

Areas of disagreement

- **No areas of disagreement are identified.**

4. Further Joint Working


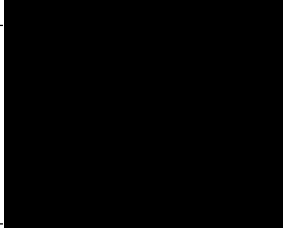
4.1. This Statement of Common Ground will be kept up to date through continuous engagement and cooperation between RBC and BDC.

5. Monitoring

5.1 This statement will be maintained by RBC and updated as necessary with BDC.


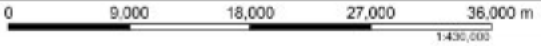
5.2 RBC will continue to work with BDC beyond the adoption of RBC's local plan for the monitoring and implementation of the plan.

6. Signatories

Signatur 	Si 
Jonathan Hodge, Group Manager - Planning & Strategic Growth, Blaby District Council	Nicola Smith, Strategic Director for Place, Rugby Borough Council
Date: 21/04/2026	Date:22.04.2026

Appendix 1 – Map of Rugby Borough and neighbouring authorities



Rugby Borough & Neighbouring Authorities		Date: 15/01/2026	Scale: 1:430,000 <small>(when printed A4)</small>	
 <p style="text-align: center;">1:430,000</p>		Drawn By: Jonathan Dobler	Rugby Borough Council Town Hall, Evans Way CV21 2RR	