

**Maidstone Borough Local Plan 2016 Examination**

**Statement of Common Ground**

**As agreed between**

**Maidstone Borough Council**

**and**

**Sevenoaks District Council**

**November 2016**

## **INTRODUCTION**

1. This Statement of Common Ground has been prepared jointly by Maidstone Borough Council ('MBC') and Sevenoaks District Council ('SDC').
2. This Statement sets out confirmed points of agreement between MBC and SDC on the key cross boundary issues with regard to the Maidstone Borough Local Plan 2016 ('the Local Plan') and its supporting evidence base, with the aim of assisting the Inspector during the Examination of the Local Plan. It should be read in conjunction with the Duty to Co-operate Compliance Statement (SUB 008) which was submitted with the Local Plan.

## **AGREED MATTERS**

### **Objectively assessed need for housing**

3. The Local Plan provides for Maidstone borough's full objectively assessed need for housing at the base date of 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 within Maidstone borough's boundaries. It is agreed that MBC does not require SDC to accommodate a proportion of its objectively assessed need for housing.
4. SDC is in the early stages of preparing a new SDC Local Plan which will cover the period to 2035. SDC is currently undertaking evidence gathering work to inform a public consultation in 2017, with submission for examination scheduled for 2018 and adoption envisaged in 2019.
5. SDC is not yet in a position to confirm if its objectively assessed needs for housing will be met within Sevenoaks District. The SDC Local Plan 2017 consultation document is expected to propose options for responding to development needs. It is likely to be during 2018 when

SDC will be clearer about its ability, or not, to progress sustainable development that meets identified needs in either its own area or housing market area.

6. It is agreed that Maidstone borough and Sevenoaks district lie within separate housing market areas.

#### Duty to Co-operate

7. It is agreed that there are no outstanding issues under the Duty to Co-operate between MBC and SDC. SDC is satisfied that MBC has fully complied with the Duty to Co-operate in the preparation of the Local Plan.
8. It is agreed that the two councils will continue to co-operate and work together on strategic cross-boundary issues.

#### MATTERS NOT AGREED

9. [none]

#### AGREEMENT

Signed On behalf of Maidstone Borough Council		
Name & position	Signature	Date
Rob Jarman, Head of Planning & Development	<i>R. LL. Jarman</i>	16/11/16

Signed On behalf of Sevenoaks District Council		
Name & position	Signature	Date
Richard Morris, Chief Planning Officer	<i>Richard Morris</i>	15 Nov 16

