

Record of officer decision

Decision title:	Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) between Shropshire and Herefordshire Councils' Local Plans and the Herefordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan.
Date of decision:	26 April 2021
Decision maker:	Assistant Director for Regulatory Environment and Waste
Authority for delegated decision:	This is an operational decision made under the directorate scheme as outlined in Part 3, Section 7 of the constitution. Para 3.7.5 : Directorate scheme of delegation: updated 2 December 2020 Directorate - Economy and Place. Part 3, para 71 'Planning Services': <i>To act on behalf of the council in respect of all land use planning matters administered by the Local Planning Authority under the Town and Country Planning Acts, secondary legislation and any related statutory instruments</i>
Wards:	N/A
Consultation:	Consultation will take place on the development plans and their supporting evidence in line with the Housing and Planning Act 2016 and associated regulations. There is no requirement to consult on a SoCG
Decision made:	To agree a SoCG with Shropshire Council in relation to both authorities' local plans as well as the Herefordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan, and to confirm that there are no strategic cross boundary issues identified at this stage.
Reasons for decision:	Government requires neighbouring local authorities to agree Statements of Common Ground in order to demonstrate effective and on-going joint working by strategic plan-making authorities. The statements should identify any strategic cross-boundary matters and document the cooperation between plan making authorities in addressing any such issues. Shropshire Council is reviewing its local plan and will submit it to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government for examination in the near future. Discussions have been ongoing between officers of Shropshire and Herefordshire Councils and it is concluded that there are no strategic cross boundary issues to address. However, the SOCG sets out the commitment to continue to work together as the Local Plans progress to adoption. A further SOCG will be required as the Herefordshire Local Plan review is developed.
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	This decision will enable us to meet the requirements of government planning policy and to ensure effective strategic planning.
Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	No other options available.
Details of any declarations of interest made:	None

Mr Marc Willimont
Assistant Director Regulatory, Environment and Waste