

# Tameside Local Plan

## Duty to Cooperate Monitoring Report 2023 – 2024

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1. Section 33A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (the Act), as amended by the Localism Act 2011, introduced a duty to cooperate in relation to the planning of sustainable development. The duty requires Tameside to engage constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis with other local planning authorities and prescribed bodies in: the preparation of development plan documents such as Places for Everyone and Homes, Spaces, Places; other local development documents; and activities that support the preparation of such plans, so far as relating to a strategic matter.
- 1.2. The full list of prescribed bodies is set out in The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended). The bodies identified for Tameside are:
  - Environment Agency
  - Historic England
  - Natural England
  - Civil Aviation Authority
  - Homes England
  - Greater Manchester Integrated Care Partnership
  - NHS England
  - Office of Rail and Road
  - National Highways
  - Transport for Greater Manchester
  - Tameside Local Highways Authority
  - Marine Management Organisation
- 1.3. Also acknowledged is the relevance of the Greater Manchester Local Enterprise Partnership (Greater Manchester Business Board) and the Greater

Manchester Local Nature Partnership (Greater Manchester Natural Capital Group).

1.4. Section 33A of the Act defines a strategic matter as:

- (a) sustainable development or use of land that has or would have a significant impact on at least two planning areas, including (in particular) sustainable development or use of land for or in connection with infrastructure that is strategic and has or would have a significant impact on at least two planning areas, and*
- (b) sustainable development or use of land in a two-tier area if the development or use—*
  - (i) is a county matter, or*
  - (ii) has or would have a significant impact on a county matter.*

1.5. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) also states local planning authorities are under a duty to cooperate with each other and with other prescribed bodies on strategic matters that cross administrative boundaries. The NPPF states effective and on-going joint working between strategic policy-making authorities and relevant bodies is integral to the production of a positively prepared and justified strategy.

1.6. The NPPF identifies a number of areas for strategic policies to consider where cooperation is required<sup>1</sup> which includes on an overall strategy for the pattern, scale and quality of development but also making sufficient provision for:

- Housing (including affordable housing), employment, retail, leisure and other commercial development;
- Infrastructure for transport, telecommunications, security, waste management, water supply, wastewater, flood risk and coastal change management, and the provision of minerals and energy (including heat);

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<sup>1</sup> National Planning Policy Framework (2024) Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. Para. 20.

- Community facilities (such as health, education and cultural infrastructure); and
- Conservation and enhancement of the natural, built and historic environment, including landscapes and green infrastructure, and planning measures to address climate change through mitigation and adaptation.

## **2. Purpose of this report**

- 2.1. The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012<sup>2</sup> require that details of activities undertaken in relation to the duty to cooperate are recorded and published in the authority's monitoring report. In accordance with these requirements, this monitoring report provides details of Tameside's main activities in relation to the duty to cooperate over the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024.
- 2.2. This monitoring report will make up a key part of the evidence base in support of the Council's plan-making activities and whether it has brought this forward in line with the duty to cooperate as a key legal test against which any plan will be assessed when considered at public examination<sup>3</sup>.
- 2.3. In addition, an ongoing Duty to Co-operate Log of Collaboration sets out the range of activities undertaken in relation to Homes Spaces Places.

## **3. Activities relating to Strategic Issues during the 2023/2024 monitoring period**

- 3.1. During this monitoring period, Tameside has been involved in the preparation and adoption of Places for Everyone (PfE), a Joint Development Plan Document for nine of the Greater Manchester boroughs (excluding Stockport). PfE is a long-term plan for jobs, new homes and sustainable growth which began in 2014 as the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF).

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<sup>2</sup> Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, Part 8, Regulation 34(6).

<sup>3</sup> Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, section 20(5).

Following the withdrawal of Stockport Council from the GMSF in December 2020, the remaining nine districts agreed to proceed with preparing the joint plan which evolved to become Places for Everyone. PfE was submitted to the Secretary of State for independent examination on 14 February 2022 and planned Examination hearings on PfE took place between November 2022 and March 2023. The plan was adopted in March 2024. Many of the strategic cross-boundary issues affecting Tameside were addressed through Places for Everyone. These include issues such as:

- scale, distribution and type of housing;
- scale and distribution of employment land;
- transport;
- air quality;
- flood risk;
- Green Belt; and
- strategic site allocations.

3.2. The following table summarises the duty to cooperate activities undertaken by Tameside Council during the 2023/24 monitoring period. In addition to the actions below the council is involved in regular meetings with the other Greater Manchester authorities on a range of issues including housing, employment land, nature recovery, the historic environment, transport and planning applications where necessary.

<b>Action</b>	<b>Strategic Issue</b>	<b>Organisations involved</b>
Adopted PfE in March 2024	Site allocations, housing, employment land, flood risk, Green Belt, transport, air quality, green infrastructure	9 PfE authorities and a range of bodies engaged in the preparation and examination of the plan
Progressed a Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Greater Manchester	Green infrastructure, nature recovery	The ten Greater Manchester authorities; Natural England, Peak District National Park, GMEU

<b>Action</b>	<b>Strategic Issue</b>	<b>Organisations involved</b>
Publication of the 2024 Greater Manchester Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment	Housing	The ten Greater Manchester authorities and the GMCA
Meeting with Stockport Council to discuss emerging local plan	Green Belt	Stockport Council
Meeting with Oldham Council to discuss their emerging local plan and other cross-boundary issues	Housing, transport, green infrastructure, site allocations	Oldham Council
Workshop with Derbyshire County Council and neighbouring borough councils	Green Belt	Derbyshire County Council; Peak District National Park and High Peak Borough Council.
Meeting with Manchester City Council to discuss the duty to cooperate and local plans	Local plan progress	Manchester City Council
Meetings and workshops with Electricity North West Ltd to discuss renewable energy projects and development pipelines	Strategic growth, renewable energy, EV charging, grid capacity, Local Area Energy Plans	Electricity North West Ltd
Progressed the TfGM Streets for All Design Guide from development through to approval	Highway and public realm design	The ten Greater Manchester authorities and TfGM