JOINT PLANNING IN GREATER NOTTINGHAM

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• Greater Nottingham – our geography
• A brief history of cooperation and the Joint Planning Advisory Board
• Governance structures
• Review of joint work (lessons learnt)
• Future work programme
• Statement of Common Ground
Greater Nottingham

- Five Districts, one Unitary, two Counties

- Ashfield, Broxtowe, Derbyshire, Erewash, Gedling, Nottingham City, Nottinghamshire, Rushcliffe

- Encompasses the ‘Nottingham Core’ Housing Market Area and the Hucknall part of Ashfield – which is in the ‘Nottingham Outer’ Housing Market Area
Origin of the partnership

- Housing markets and travel to work areas do not respect local authority boundaries
- History of joint working for some partners
- Common strategic planning issues call for common solutions
- Need for a consistent and coherent strategic policy framework
- Emerging ‘City Region’ agenda (2008)
- New Growth Point (£11 million)
- East Midlands Regional Plan
Governance

- Joint Planning Advisory Board - established April 2008
- Guides the development of Aligned Core Strategies and allocation of Growth Point resources
- Approvals via each Council’s own Cabinet/Executive Board
Joint Planning Advisory Board (Councillors)
Chair – Broxtowe Borough Council

Executive Steering Group (Officers)
Chair – Nottinghamshire County Council

GN Joint Planning Partnership Team
(2 part time posts – Partnership funded)
Hosted by Nottingham City Council
Operation of JPAB

- Informal partnership
- Advisory role
- Portfolio holder representatives supported by Directors
- Focused on Greater Nottingham rather than administrative boundaries
- Dedicated secretariat
- Invited key partners (DTC) to the table
- Public meetings
Key tasks as at 2008

1. Preparation of Aligned Core Strategies (based on old Regional Plan)

2. Implement NGP funded projects
49,950 homes required in Greater Nottingham (2011-28)
Growth Point funding was important
Success of the partnership – Progress to Date

• Consistent, robust, joint evidence base

• Aligned Issues and Options Report

• Joint Consultation, events and web site

• Option for Consultation

• Shared expertise, resources and cost savings – at least £600k saved
Issues during ACS preparation

• Regional Plan abolition
• Localism Act
• Duty to Cooperate
• NPPF and PPG
• Different views on housing distribution for Publication
• Rushcliffe different approach to housing distribution
• Erewash progressed to slightly faster timescale
JPAB strengths

• Forum for discussion - mature and open debate
• Workshops and training implications of the NPPF and housing provision
• Inspectors at examinations strongly supported aligned approach and efficiencies (3 examinations rather than 5)
• Very significant financial savings
• Comprehensively addressed Duty to Cooperate
• Strategic consideration of cross boundary issues (eg Boots, HS2, South of Clifton)
• Strength in numbers against key objectors
JPAB experience

• Approach not without risks…
• Speed of the slowest
• Failure of one could have led to failure of all
• You can disagree, and make up later
• Legal challenge
RTPI Planning Awards 2015
“Plan(s) of the Year”
Current work of JPAB

• Keeping up the momentum
• Implementing the Local Plans
  – SUEs/quality of development
  – Housing delivery
  – HS2
  – Strategic Transport
• Sharing best practice
• Monitoring the Plan
• Refreshing the evidence base (eg HMA Boundaries Study)
• Reviewing the Core Strategies – 2018
Statement of Common Ground

• Further ‘stick’ in the Duty to Cooperate
• Obvious “fit” with JPAB - pilot
• Essential to do (NPPF)
• Useful in setting out main issues
• BIG danger that it will be unwieldy
• Keeping it up to date onerous
• Approvals – at what level and what frequency?
JPAB Future Challenges

- Housing delivery (incl HDT)
- Local Housing Need uncertainty
- Resourcing (contributions and bids)
- New ACS - distributing housing need
Conclusions

- Successful joint working on strategic policy
- Significant new resources secured to fund projects and commissions
- Significant savings and efficiencies
- Duty to Cooperate continues
- Housing completions climbing upwards
Questions and comments?