

Brentwood Borough Council response to the Basildon Borough Council Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation 2027-2042, August 2023

1. Brentwood Borough Council (BBC) welcomes the opportunity to engage with Basildon Borough Council on their Local Plan Issue and Options Consultation 2023.
2. BBC supports Basildon Borough Council in their efforts to progress a new Local Plan. The comments provided are high level at this stage and have been provided at the officer level. This response will be going to committee on 13 September 2023 to seek approval for it to be formally accepted. Any amendment required by members will be communicated in writing the following day.
3. BBC supports the proposed strategic priorities which have been identified to deliver an updated vision. BBC wishes to highlight the importance of cross-boundary planning in helping to address aspects across all identified strategic priorities. The two councils are members of the Association of South Essex Local Authorities (ASELA) and have been engaged in the Joint Strategic Framework.
4. The Basildon Local Plan Issues and Option document makes mention that Basildon Council's housing needs, when considering the standard method is at least 1,041 new homes per year, resulting in a need of 20, 820 new homes by 2042. The document also identifies that the most recent gypsy and traveller accommodation needs assessment (which is currently being updated and expected by the end of this calendar year) identifies a need for 85 new pitches and 3 travelling showpeople plot for those that meet the planning definition and a further 86 new plots for those that do not meet the planning definition until 2038. The document at this stage does not state whether it is the councils intension to plan to meet these needs in full. BBC would recommend that Basildon make every effort to meet their housing and gypsy and traveller needs in full based on the most up to date evidence.
5. Basildon are currently proposing a plan period from 2027 to 2042, planning for a 15-year plan period in line with the requirements outlined within the NPPF. Based on Brentwood's experience, it is suggested that Basildon Council consider extending the plan period given the time scales proposed between now and the adoption of the Local Plan are rather tight and likely to go over

leaving the council at risk of having less than the minimum 15-year plan period.

6. BBC looks forward to ongoing engagement with Basildon Borough Council as the Local Plan is progressed and through the work undertaken by ASELA.