

Regulation 19 Duty to Cooperate statement

August 2026

Contents

1. Introduction	2
2. What is duty to cooperate?	3
3. Strategic cross-boundary matters	4
4. Who are Swale Council's duty to cooperate bodies?	6
5. Duty to cooperate engagement log	7
6. Current Statements of Common Ground	41
7. Conclusion	42
8. Appendix 1	42
Appendix 1.1 Medway UA SoCG submission Local Plan with Prescribed Bodies (December 2025)	42
Appendix 1.2 Canterbury CC SoCG with SBC Regulation 19 (March 2026)	42
Appendix 1.3 Canterbury CC SoCG with SBC, DDC, NH, KCC to Strategic Highways (March 2026)	42
Appendix 1.4 Maidstone BC DRAFT SoCG with SBC Gypsy & Traveller Reg 18c (May 2026)	42

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This statement sets out the Councils position regarding its duty to cooperate for the Regulation 19 Local Plan consultation. The consultation was agreed by Full Council at its meeting [22nd July 2026](#)¹ and runs from 10 August 2026 to 21 September 2026.
- 1.2 This statement provides a summary of the Councils approach to duty to cooperate, a log of the engagement with other parties carried out and current Statements of Common Ground (SoCG). The Councils duty to cooperate is an ongoing process and will continue after the Regulation 19 consultation, through to submission of the Local Plan for examination in public.
- 1.3 Whilst the Minister of State for Housing and Planning wrote to the Planning Inspectorate in November 2025 to set out the Governments intentions to abolish duty to cooperate, the expected new regulations to reflect this change have not yet been published. For the purposes of Plan making the Council consider it appropriate to continue discussing strategic matters and setting out those matters where required in SoCGs with prescribed duty to cooperate bodies.
- 1.4 The Councils duty to cooperate statement and accompanying documents will be updated for the Local Plans submission for examination in public to assist the Planning Inspector on strategic matters that have been agreed.

¹ [Agenda for Council on Wednesday, 22 July 2026, 7.00 pm](#)

2. What is duty to cooperate?

- 2.1 There is a duty to cooperate legal requirement set out in section [33A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Order Act 2004](#)². The section requires local planning authorities (LPAs) and other prescribed bodies to cooperate constructively to ensure strategic planning priorities are properly coordinated across local authority boundaries.
- 2.2 The [National Planning Policy Framework](#)³ (NPPF) at paragraph 24 highlights the legal duty to cooperate requirement and states:

‘effective strategic planning across local planning authority boundaries will play a vital and increasing role in how sustainable growth is delivered, by addressing key spatial issues including meeting housing needs, delivering strategic infrastructure and building economic and climate resilience. Local planning authorities and county councils (in two-tier areas) continue to be under a duty to cooperate with each other, and with other prescribed bodies, on strategic matters that cross administrative boundaries.

- 2.3 The NPPF at paragraph 28 sets out how strategic matters requiring on going collaboration between prescribed bodies should be set out and states:

In order to demonstrate effective and on-going joint working, strategic policy-making authorities should prepare and maintain one or more statements of common ground, documenting the cross-boundary matters being addressed and progress in cooperating to address these.

- 2.4 The national [Planning Practice Guidance \(PPG\) chapter on Plan-making](#)⁴ provides further guidance on fulfilling the duty to cooperate. It indicates that:
- The duty to cooperate places a legal duty on LPAs and county councils in England, and prescribed public bodies to engage constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis to maximise the effectiveness of local plan and marine plan preparation in the context of strategic cross boundary matters;
 - Certain other public bodies are also subject to the duty to cooperate. These are prescribed by [The Town and Country Planning \(Local Planning\) \(England\) Regulation 2012 Regulation 4](#)⁵;
 - Local Enterprise Partnerships and Local Nature Partnerships are not subject to the requirements of the duty, but LPAs and prescribed bodies must cooperate with them. LPAs must have regard to their activities when they are preparing their local plans, so long as those activities are relevant to plan-making;
 - All parties should approach the duty in a proportionate way, tailoring cooperation according to where they can maximise the effectiveness of plans; and

² <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2004/5/section/33A>

³

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/67aafe8f3b41f783cca46251/NPPF_December_2024.pdf

⁴ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/plan-making#maintaining-effective-cooperation>

⁵ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/767/regulation/4>

- If another authority will not cooperate this should not prevent the authority bringing forward a Local Plan or from submitting it for examination, but it will need to submit comprehensive and robust evidence of the efforts made to cooperate and any outcomes achieved.
- 2.5 The PPG also provides guidance on the form and content of Statements of Common Ground (SoCG). SoCG are a written record of the progress made by strategic policy making authorities during the process of planning for strategic cross boundary matters. It documents where effective cooperation is and is not happening throughout the plan making process and is a way of demonstrating at examination that plans are deliverable over the plan period, based on effective joint working across local authority boundaries. In the case of local plans, it forms part of the evidence required to demonstrate that they have complied with the duty to cooperate.
- 2.6 SoCGs should be prepared and then maintained on an ongoing basis through the plan making process. As a minimum, a statement needs to be published when the area it covers and the governance arrangements for the cooperation process have been defined and substantive matters to be addressed are determined. If all the information required is not available (such as details of agreements on strategic matters) authorities can use the statements to identify the outstanding matters which need to be addressed, the process for reaching agreements on these and (if possible) indicate when the statement is likely to be updated.
- 2.7 As part of this requirement and to enable effective Plan making the Council has actively set up and attended meetings with duty to cooperate bodies to identify strategic planning matters. Where there is active on going issues on strategic matters statements of common ground (SoCG) have been developed and are presented in alongside this statement.
- 2.8 The Planning Inspector examining the Councils Local Plan will determine whether the Plan meets the legal requirements for duty to cooperate.

3. Strategic cross-boundary matters

- 3.1 Section 33A(4) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004A defines a strategic matter as:
 - 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
 - Sustainable development or use of land in a two-tier area if the development or use is a county matter or would have a significant impact on a county matter.
- 3.2 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) at paragraph 24 provides further context by setting out what spatial issues should be considered in cross boundary strategic planning. They are:
 - meeting housing needs;
 - delivering strategic infrastructure;
 - building economic resilience; and

- delivering climate resilience.

3.3 The Councils Local Plan covers the geographical area of the Borough of Swale but economic, social and environmental issues often extend beyond the administrative boundary of the Borough. These issues are set out in the table 1 below.

Strategic Geographies	
Issue	Area Covered
Housing	The Swale Housing Market Assessment (HMA) (June 2020) highlighted strong links to the west with Medway (Sittingbourne and Isle of Sheppey) and Canterbury (Faversham and rural areas) in the east. Whilst there are linkages with authorities further to the south and east, the majority of migration and travel to workflows are relatively local. Notwithstanding these strong links with immediately neighbouring authorities, the HMA found that the Swale housing market profile was quite distinct and that it was appropriate for Swale to be considered as its own housing market. This is reflected in the separate Housing Market Assessments completed for neighbouring local authorities. The strong links with Medway and Canterbury have, however, been reflected in duty to cooperate discussions on housing issues.
Economy	In considering the appropriate geography for economic matters and the definition of the appropriate Functional Economic Market Area (FEMA) for Swale a number of factors that impact on the local economy have been considered, including Travel to Work Areas (TTWA). Although analysis of the TTWA (based on the criteria and thresholds used by the ONS) shows that the east of the Borough is part of the Canterbury TTWA whilst the east and north of the Borough is part of the Medway TTWA, the Swale Employment Land Review (August 2018) has found that Swale can be considered a self-contained economic market area. The cross boundary links with Medway and Canterbury have, however, been reflected in duty to cooperate discussions on economic issues. An Employment Land Review was published in 2024 that considered the latest National Planning Policy and guidance and market conditions. The self contained nature of Swale remained unchanged in the update.
Retail	The Retail and Leisure Needs Assessment 2018 identified that Sittingbourne, Sheerness and Faversham are classified as District Centres and subsequently do not impact on the wider geographical area. The study sets out the borough's town centres do not operate in isolation and are in close proximity to Subregional retail Centres at Ashford and Chatham, a Regional Centre at Canterbury and Major Regional Centres at Maidstone and Bluewater shopping centre. The Retail and Leisure Needs Assessment update 2024 looked at capacity updates and found for both convenience and comparison goods floorspace there is a small increase in capacity for these needs. This additional capacity is likely to serve the Boroughs District Centres role and not influence the wider region.
Transport	The Borough is well served by a range of transport networks, offering connections at a county, national and international level. The Borough is served by high speed rail services providing commuting access into London St Pancras. The port at

Strategic Geographies	
Issue	Area Covered
	Sheerness provides a gateway to mainland Europe for freight trade with both national and international markets. The A2/M2 corridor forms part of the Trans European Transport Network and provides one of the key gateways to Europe from the UK. The M2 routes east to west through the Borough with the A2 routeing to the north of the M2 through key urban areas within the Borough. The operating capacity of M2 Junction 7, where the M2 and A2 meet is a pinch point on the strategic transport network and is not only a constraint to development locally but also more widely across north and east Kent.
Infrastructure	Whilst for the most part infrastructure issues impact directly on the Borough itself there will be cross boundary implications in terms of transport (as set out above) and education where school planning areas cross local authority boundaries. Engagement with relevant service providers and neighbouring authorities should help determine the infrastructure needs required to support new development when and where they arise.
Environment	The Borough's natural environment is rich in biodiversity and contains many of the UK's most important habitats, including the Swale Special Protection Area (SPA). However, wildlife and the natural environment do not respect administrative boundaries and it is important to consider how matters relating to wildlife habitats, green infrastructure and landscape will be effectively planned for across administrative boundaries. The Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) considers the effect of the Local Plan on a number of European conservation sites within and beyond the Borough boundary.

Table 1. Strategic Geographies

- 3.4 The Council's Local Plan focuses on a number of planning matters that are likely to have strategic cross boundary issues with prescribed bodies. As part of engagement with those bodies through the preparation and consultation of the Local Plan the matters will be identified. Matters identified will be set out where there are points of agreement and on going discussion and will be documented through statements of common ground (SoCG).

4. Who are Swale Council's duty to cooperate bodies?

- 4.1 Section 33A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 imposes a duty for the Council to collaborate with neighbouring local planning authorities and County Councils and any prescribed person or body. [The Town and Country Planning \(Local Planning\) \(England\) Regulation 2012 Regulation 4](#) sets out bodies prescribed for the purposes of the legal requirement.
- 4.2 The Local Plan duty to cooperate bodies for Swale are:

Neighbouring Local Planning authorities:

- Medway Unitary Authority
- Canterbury City Council

- Maidstone Borough Council
- Ashford Borough Council

County Council

- Kent County Council (KCC)

Prescribed Bodies

- Environment Agency (EA)
- Historic England
- Natural England
- Civil Aviation Authority (CAA)
- Homes England
- Kent and Medway Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)
- National Health Service England
- Office of Road and Rail (ORR)
- National Highways (formerly Highways England)
- Marine Management Organisation

4.4 The duty also applies to the prescribed bodies below. However, given the strategic issues identified the Council consider it would be unnecessary and not effective to actively seek cooperation with them (bodies 1 and 2) or the borough is not covered by such a body (body 3).

- Mayor of London
- Transport for London
- Integrated Transport Authority

4.5 There are instances where other parties are included in duty to cooperate discussions and this could be where they bring specialism or wider perspective to the matters under discussion. Further additional meetings are attended by officers that reflect wider cross boundaries issues that go beyond the requirements of duty to cooperate and include:

- Natural England's North Kent Environmental Planning Group
- Stodmarsh Nutrient Neutrality
- Medway Swale Estuary Partnership
- Kent Downs National Landscape working

4.6 The engagement log in chapter 5 below sets out what bodies were involved in the Councils engagement exercises. Should there be changes to national policy before submission of the Local Plan, the Council will review its approach to duty to cooperate including how strategic matters are identified and what bodies are required to be discussed.

5. Duty to cooperate engagement log

5.1 A summary of the engagement that has taken place between the Council and other duty to cooperate bodies during preparation of the new Local Plan since the adopted Local Plan in 2017 is summarised in Table 2. Whilst most meetings have covered a range of strategic and general matters there have been meetings focused on specific

planning topics. The table below goes on to set out the engagements by general meetings and planning topic areas. The Council will continue to engage with duty to cooperate bodies as issues are identified through the Regulation 19 Local Plan consultation and as the Plan moves forward to submission for Examination in Public.

Date engaged	Organisation /groups met with	How Engaged	Agenda/Purpose	Local Plan matters	Key outcomes/current position
General discussion matters					
September 2017	Medway UA	1 to 1 meeting (informal)	Various including: progress on respective plan reviews and cross boundary issues housing need and unmet need, transport assessments and infrastructure, sustainability appraisal and habitat regulations assessment, green infrastructure, employment locations, waste management, community infrastructure preparation of SoCG	Need to take account of cross boundary issues	No outstanding issues. SoCG prepared
April 2018	Medway UA	1 to 1 meeting (informal)	Various including: progress on respective plan reviews and cross boundary issues housing need and unmet need, transport assessments and infrastructure, sustainability appraisal and habitat regulations assessment, green infrastructure, employment locations, waste management,	Need to take account of cross boundary issues	No outstanding issues. SoCG prepared

			community infrastructure preparation of SoCG		
May 2018	Maidstone BC	1 to 1 meeting (informal)	Various including: progress on respective plan reviews and cross boundary issues housing need and unmet need, transport assessments and infrastructure, sustainability appraisal and habitat regulations assessment, green infrastructure, employment locations, waste management, community infrastructure preparation of SoCG	Need to take account of cross boundary issues	No outstanding issues. SoCG prepared
June 2018	Canterbury CC	In person	Various including: progress on respective plan reviews and cross boundary issues, sharing of information on potential site allocations near the boundary of each District, highways implications	Strategic planning	Identify cross boundary issues
July 2018	Medway UA	Meeting (informal)	Request for feedback on SBC SA Scoping report	Sustainability appraisal	Evidence input/feedback
04/07/2018	Kent CC	SBC workshop	Rural community issues	Rural community issues	Identify Key issues

January 2019	Maidstone BC	Information sharing	Feedback on Maidstone's economic development needs evidence and analysis of Housing Market Area and Functional Economic Market Area	Economic Need	Information sharing
July 2019	Maidstone BC	1 to 1 meeting (informal)	Various including: progress on respective plan reviews, implications of changes proposed in Government's Planning for the Future White Paper cross boundary issues including: transport modelling and infrastructure, sustainability appraisal and habitat regulations assessment, green infrastructure evidence, housing and employment need and unmet need and gypsy and traveller need, Preparation of SoCG	Need to take account of cross boundary issues	No outstanding issues. SoCG prepared

August 2019	Maidstone BC	1 to 1 meeting (informal)	Various including: progress on respective plan reviews, implications of changes proposed in Government's Planning for the Future White Paper cross boundary issues including: transport modelling and infrastructure, sustainability appraisal and habitat regulations assessment, green infrastructure evidence, housing and employment need and unmet need and gypsy and traveller need, Preparation of SoCG	Need to take account of cross boundary issues	No outstanding issues. SoCG prepared
September 2019	Medway UA	1 to 1 meeting (informal)	Various including: progress on respective plan reviews and cross boundary issues including: housing need and unmet need, transport assessments and infrastructure, sustainability appraisal and habitat regulations assessment, green infrastructure, employment locations, waste management,	Need to take account of cross boundary issues	No outstanding issues. SoCG prepared

			community infrastructure, preparation of SoCG		
June 2020	Maidstone BC	1 to 1 meeting (informal)	Various including: progress on respective plan reviews, implications of changes proposed in Government's Planning for the Future White Paper cross boundary issues including: transport modelling and infrastructure, sustainability appraisal and habitat regulations assessment, green infrastructure evidence, housing and employment need and unmet need and gypsy and traveller need, Preparation of SoCG	Need to take account of cross boundary issues	No outstanding issues. SoCG prepared
October 2020	Maidstone BC	1 to 1 meeting (informal)	Various including: progress on respective plan reviews, implications of changes proposed in Government's Planning for the Future White Paper cross boundary issues including: transport modelling and infrastructure, sustainability appraisal and habitat regulations	Need to take account of cross boundary issues	No outstanding issues. SoCG prepared

			assessment, green infrastructure evidence, housing and employment need and unmet need and gypsy and traveller need, Preparation of SoCG		
28/10/2020	Kent CC	Informal meeting	Regular KCC/SBC liaison meeting		Exchange of information/updates
November 2020	Maidstone BC	1 to 1 meeting (informal)	Various including: progress on respective plan reviews, implications of changes proposed in Government's Planning for the Future White Paper cross boundary issues including: transport modelling and infrastructure, sustainability appraisal and habitat regulations assessment, green infrastructure evidence, housing and employment need and unmet need and gypsy and traveller need, Preparation of SoCG	Need to take account of cross boundary issues	No outstanding issues. SoCG prepared

March 2021	Maidstone BC	1 to 1 meeting (informal)	Various including: progress on respective plan reviews, implications of changes proposed in Government's Planning for the Future White Paper cross boundary issues including: transport modelling and infrastructure, sustainability appraisal and habitat regulations assessment, green infrastructure evidence, housing and employment need and unmet need and gypsy and traveller need, Preparation of SoCG	Need to take account of cross boundary issues	No outstanding issues. SoCG prepared
May 2021	Medway UA	1 to 1 meeting (informal)	Various including: progress on respective plan reviews and cross boundary issues including: housing need and unmet need, transport assessments and infrastructure, sustainability appraisal and habitat regulations assessment, green infrastructure, employment locations, waste management,	Need to take account of cross boundary issues	No outstanding issues. SoCG prepared

			community infrastructure, preparation of SoCG		
August 2021	Maidstone BC	1 to 1 meeting (informal)	Various including: progress on respective plan reviews, implications of changes proposed in Government's Planning for the Future White Paper cross boundary issues including: transport modelling and infrastructure, sustainability appraisal and habitat regulations assessment, green infrastructure evidence, housing and employment need and unmet need and gypsy and traveller need, Preparation of SoCG	Need to take account of cross boundary issues	No outstanding issues. SoCG prepared
August 2021	Medway UA	1 to 1 meeting (informal)	Various including: progress on respective plan reviews, implications of changes proposed in Government's Planning for the Future White Paper cross boundary issues including: transport modelling and infrastructure, sustainability appraisal and habitat regulations	Need to take account of cross boundary issues	No outstanding issues. SoCG prepared

			assessment, green infrastructure evidence, housing and employment need and unmet need and gypsy and traveller need, Preparation of SoCG		
September 2021	Maidstone BC	1 to 1 meeting (informal)	Various including: progress on respective plan reviews, implications of changes proposed in Government's Planning for the Future White Paper cross boundary issues including: transport modelling and infrastructure, sustainability appraisal and habitat regulations assessment, green infrastructure evidence, housing and employment need and unmet need and gypsy and traveller need, Preparation of SoCG	Need to take account of cross boundary issues	No outstanding issues. SoCG prepared
October 2021	Canterbury CC	In person	Preparation of SoCG	SOCCG	set out cross boundary Plan making matters
08/11/2023	Maidstone BC	Online meeting (informal)	Update on progress on the MBC G&T DPD, including the outcomes/implications of the recently published GTAA	G&T need and provision	Information sharing

24/01/2024	Local Authorities, service providers, developers and land owners	SBC workshop	Whole Plan viability assumptions and draft document	Local Plan review viability	Consultation with stakeholders on draft viability evidence and request for feedback
29/04/2024	Medway UA	Online meeting (informal)	Local Plan review progress and specific matters of Air Quality and Transport	Air Quality and Transport	Information sharing
06/08/2024	Canterbury CC	Online meeting (formal)	Local Plan drafting progress	Information sharing	Timetabling of Local Plan consultations discussed and drafting of SOCG
06/11/2024	Medway UA	Online meeting (formal)	Finding of Local Housing Needs Assessment for Medway	Medway Housing need	Information sharing
07/11/2024	Maidstone BC	Online meeting (informal)	Update on Maidstone's G&T DPD and Swale LPR timetable	Information sharing	Information sharing including approach to consultations and timing
18/11/2024	Medway UA	Online meeting (informal)	Update on Local Plan drafting	Information sharing	Scope of Local Plan drafting and consultation expectations discussed
08/08/2025	Medway UA	Online meeting (informal)	Development of SOCG to reflect Medway Reg 19 progress	Statements of common ground	Discussed drafting of SOCG
10/06/2025	Medway UA	Online meeting (informal)	Set out Medway Reg 19 consultation,	Information sharing	Discussed cross boundary issues and need to develop SOCG

17/06/2025	Ashford BC	Online meeting (informal)	Stages of Local Plan development, consultations timings and discussion of any cross boundary issues	Information sharing	Agreed regular meetings as Local Plan drafting progresses and development of SOCG
05/11/2025	Medway BC	Online meeting (informal)	SBC Reg 18 consultation notification, scope and issues, Medway reg 19 feedback and preparation for submission, SOCG	Consultation process and outstanding SOCG matters for Medway submission	Agreed approach to review need for SOCG as Swale Local Plan progresses
06/11/2025	Kent CC	Online meeting (informal)	SBC Reg 18 consultation notification, scope and issues, SOCG need review	Consultation process for SBC Local Plan and scoping the need for SOCG	Agreed approach to review need for SOCG as Swale Local Plan progresses
12/11/2025	Ashford BC	Online meeting (informal)	SBC Reg 18 consultation notification, scope and issues, SOCG need review	Consultation process for SBC Local Plan and scoping the need for SOCG	Agreed approach to review need for SOCG as Swale Local Plan progresses
13/11/2025	Maidstone BC	Online meeting (informal)	SBC Reg 18 consultation notification, scope and issues, SOCG need review	Consultation process for SBC Local Plan and scoping the need for SOCG	Agreed approach to review need for SOCG as Swale Local Plan progresses
13/11/2025	Canterbury CC	Online meeting (informal)	SBC Reg 18 consultation notification, scope and issues, SOCG need review	Consultation process for SBC Local Plan and scoping the need for SOCG	Agreed approach to review need for SOCG as Swale Local Plan progresses
16/12/2025	Maidstone BC	Online meeting (informal)	Briefing on MBC Reg 18C Gypsy and Traveller development plan document	Potential impacts on Swale Borough, level of pitch need in both authorities and potential request from MBC to meet any	Discussion on MBC Reg 18c document and agreement on limited impacts on Swale and that there maybe a request to

				unmet need for pitches	meet some of MBC unmet pitch need
10/03/2026	Rother DC	Online meeting (informal)	Discuss potential of un met housing need request from Rother based on proposed requirements of NPPF consultation in 2026 on nearby authorities	Unmet housing need from Rother due to high landscape constraints from National Landscape	Await next NPPF and to discuss again whether Swale is truly a nearby authority due to infrastructure and landscape constraints between the two authorities.
24/07/2026	Canterbury CC	Online meeting (informal)	SBC Reg 19 consultation notification, scope and issues, SOCG need review	Consultation process for SBC Local Plan and scoping the need for SOCG	Agreed approach to review need for SOCG as Swale Local Plan progresses
28/07/2026	Maidstone BC	Online meeting (informal)	SBC Reg 19 consultation notification, scope and issues, SOCG need review	Consultation process for SBC Local Plan and scoping the need for SOCG	Agreed approach to review need for SOCG as Swale Local Plan progresses
30/07/2026	Ashford BC	Online meeting (informal)	SBC Reg 19 consultation notification, scope and issues, SOCG need review	Consultation process for SBC Local Plan and scoping the need for SOCG	Agreed approach to review need for SOCG as Swale Local Plan progresses
31/07/2026	Medway BC	Online meeting (informal)	SBC Reg 19 consultation notification, scope and issues, SOCG need review	Consultation process for SBC Local Plan and scoping the need for SOCG	Agreed approach to review need for SOCG as Swale Local Plan progresses
05/08/2026	Kent CC	Online meeting (informal)	SBC Reg 19 consultation notification, scope and issues, SOCG need review	Consultation process for SBC Local Plan and scoping the need for SOCG	Agreed approach to review need for SOCG as Swale Local Plan progresses
Infrastructure matters					

09/03/2018	National Highways KCC	Meeting (informal)	To share information and discuss Local Plan review and site specific issues	Local Plan Review, sites for allocation	Information sharing
09/03/2018	National Highways KCC	Meeting (informal)	To share information and discuss Local Plan review and site specific issues	Local Plan Review, sites for allocation	Information sharing
12/06/2018	Kent CC	SBC workshop	To identify key issues	infrastructure issues	Information sharing
June 2018	Canterbury CC	SBC workshop	Infrastructure issues	Infrastructure issues	Identify Key issues
June 2018	Environment Agency	Information sharing	Infrastructure issues	Infrastructure issues	Identify Key issues
June 2018	Network Rail	SBC workshop	Infrastructure issues	Infrastructure issues	Identify Key issues
June 2018	Medway UA	SBC workshop	Infrastructure issues	Infrastructure issues	Identify Key issues
June 2018	Maidstone BC	SBC workshop	Infrastructure issues	Infrastructure issues	Identify Key issues
June 2018	National Highways	SBC workshop	Infrastructure issues	Infrastructure issues	Identify Key issues
June 2018	Kent and Medway CCG	SBC workshop	Infrastructure issues	Infrastructure issues	Identify Key issues
November 2018	Network Rail	Network Rail workshop	Network Rail (south east) update	Update on funding and future investment plans in railway infrastructure and services across the south east and Update on NR strategy	Information sharing

05/08/2020	Kent CC - Schools	Informal meeting (education)	Regular update meeting on school capacity/planning	School Planning	Information sharing
27/10/2020	Kent CC - Schools	Informal meeting (education)	To discuss provision for additional secondary school provision/sites	Faversham Secondary School Provision	Information sharing
11/12/2020	National Highways	Multi organisation meetings (informal)	M2 Junction 7 capacity Transport modelling	Transport	To ensure the impacts of the local plan on Junction 7 of the M2 are addressed To consider mitigation to address issues identified in transport modelling report
11/12/2020	Kent CC	Multi organisation meetings	M2 Junction 7 capacity (SBC/KCC/NH) Transport modelling (SBC/KCC/NH)	Transport	To ensure the impacts of the local plan on Junction 7 of the M2 are addressed To consider mitigation to address issues identified in transport modelling report
August 2021	Kent and Medway CCG	Virtual meeting	Health care provision in Faversham	Health care provision	CCG to review position on provision in Faversham
04/11/2021	Kent CC	Informal meeting	Regular KCC/SBC liaison meeting		Exchange of information/updates
12/08/2022	Kent CC - Health & Wellbeing	Online meeting (informal)	Approaches to healthy living in Local Plan drafting	Promoting Healthy living	Information sharing
18/05/2023	Kent CC - Schools	Online meeting (informal)	School provision against possible Local Plan Review growth scenarios	Infrastructure - school provision	Information sharing

28/09/2023	National Highways	Online meeting (informal)	Case for motorway junction improvements A2/M2 junction 1	Infrastructure issues strategic growth options	No evidence to justify major junction improvements, case now dependant on decision by DfT
30/01/2024	Kent CC Highways	In person meeting (informal)	Local Highways Plan catch up	Infrastructure - transport	Information sharing
17/04/2024	Kent CC - Highways	Online meeting (informal)	Discussing approaches to transport modelling for Swale LPR	Infrastructure - transport	Information sharing
24/04/2024	Kent CC - Schools	Online meeting (informal)	School provision against possible Local Plan Review growth scenarios	Infrastructure - school provision	Information sharing
21/03/2025	Medway UA	Online meeting (informal)	Medway LP Traffic Modelling Update	Infrastructure issues	Update on transport issues for Medway's Local Plan drafting
23/06/2025	Jacobs transport consultants KCC Highways	Online meeting (informal)	Local Plan Review timing of transport modelling	Infrastructure issues	Update to consultants and KCC on timings of Local Plan Review and transport modelling requirements
08/07/2025	National Highways	Online meeting (informal)	Case for motorway junction improvements A2/M2 junction 1	Infrastructure issues strategic growth options	No evidence to justify major junction improvements, case now dependant on decision by DfT

03/09/2025	Southeast Water	Online meeting (informal)	Southeast Water DtC/Water Issues/IDP meeting	Infrastructure issues Housing numbers Water efficiency IDP	Discussions on water and Southeast water assets in the borough. Process of providing updates to the infrastructure Delivery Plan Improved understanding and policy approach
04/09/2025	National Highways	Online meeting (informal)	IDP	Infrastructure issues	Swale Borough Council Infrastructure Delivery Plan Update (National Highways) Inclusion of Vision led approach Identification of road infrastructure based on development anticipated in the local plan. Clarifying roles of stakeholders
16/09/2025	Southern Water	Online meeting (informal)	Duty to Cooperate/IDP Local Plan update, including housing numbers Water cycle study – SW's comments, plus clarification on: Water efficiency targets Update on capacity/works to WwTWs etc SW work on Storm Overflows Other policy requirements Works to existing urban areas/retrofit eg slow drain	Water infrastructure and capacity	Improved understanding and policy approach

			water butts? IDP catch up		
24/11/2025	Canterbury CC KCC Highways Dover DC	Online meeting (informal)	Discuss impacts on A2 road from Junction 5 M2 to Dover Whitfield round about as identified on Canterbury transport modelling	DTC on Canterbury Local Plan Reg 19 and implications on A2 road	Understand Canterbury CC Transport modelling and potential impacts on A2 road
02/12/2025	Southern Water	Online meeting (informal)	Kent Stakeholder Update - General issues around SW infrastructure and approach	Water infrastructure capacity	Improved understanding and policy approach
11/12/2025	Canterbury CC KCC schools	Online meeting (informal)	Discuss school place provision needs between Swale and Canterbury along Swales eastern border	Canterbury growth and impacts on school places and progress of Swales Local Plan Review	Swale Local Plan at too early a stage to quantify levels of growth in the east of the borough and that KCC will review Canterbury growth and need for places as part of Canterbury's intended Reg 29 consultation
16/12/2025	Canterbury CC National Highways KCC Highways	Online meeting (informal)	Discuss wider area approach to delivering highways mitigation for SE Kent	DTC on Canterbury Local Plan Reg 19 and implications on strategic highways junctions in SE Kent	Understand Canterbury CC Transport modelling and potential strategic highways junctions impacts from proposed development growth
22/12/2025	National Highways	Online meeting (informal)	Discuss wider area approach to delivering highways mitigation at Junction 5 of M2	Delivering strategic site/s in east of Swale Borough	Agree ongoing discussion and clarity of Local Plan progress at Canterbury and that Swale has live planning strategic size planning applications at Faversham

09/02/2026	Southern Water	Online meeting (informal)	Swale Catchment Brief - Catchment issues	Water infrastructure capacity	Improved understanding and policy approach
27/04/2026	KCC	Online meeting (informal)	Transport Policy	Transport Development Management policies for the Local Plan	Swale Local Plan (Transport Policy) Satisfied with Swale's approach of considering and treating Transport issues in policy, IDP and other document without needing a full separate document on transport. Issues to be considered across the borough – including congestion around town centres, HGV parking, journey times amongst others.
12/05/2026	UK Power Networks	Online meeting (informal)	Allocation/Local Plan/IDP	Infrastructure issues IDP	UKPN - Swale meeting Discussions on site allocation and infrastructure need. UKPN assets in the Borough Each site would need to be considered on its own, taking into account the current network at the time a planning application was made. Request for council documents such as Trajectory, housing

					numbers, shapefiles amongst others.
26/05/2026	National Highways	Online meeting (informal)	Discuss transport evidence requirements with large strategic sites and non strategic sites proposed in the Regulation 19 Local Plan	Discussing appropriate strategic approach for addressing transport matters occurring through the Local Plan Regulation 19 sites for allocation	Agree to continue informal discussions and after Regulation 19 consultation prepare a statement of common ground for the Local Plans examination
24/06/2026	Southeast Water	Online meeting (informal)	Duty to Co-operate update – approach housing numbers and planning, IDP, Regulation 19 consultation	Housing numbers Water efficiency IDP	Infrastructure Delivery Plan - Update Improved understanding and policy approach
Environmental matters					
22/06/2018	Kent CC	SBC workshop	To identify key issues	Environmental issues	Information sharing
June 2018	Canterbury CC	SBC workshop	Environmental issues	Environmental issues	Identify Key issues
June 2018	Canterbury CC	Information sharing	SBC Green Infrastructure Strategy	GI strategy	Information sharing
June 2018	Environment Agency	Information sharing	Environmental issues	Environmental issues	Identify Key issues
June 2018	Natural England	SBC workshop	Environmental issues	Environmental issues	Identify Key issues
June 2018	Marine Management Organisation	SBC workshop	Environmental issues	Environmental issues	Identify Key issues
June 2018	Kent Nature Partnership	SBC workshop	Environmental issues	Environmental issues	Identify Key issues

June 2018	Medway UA	SBC workshop	Environmental issues	Environmental issues	Identify Key issues
June 2018	Maidstone BC	SBC workshop	Environmental issues	Environmental issues	Identify Key issues
July 2019	Maidstone BC	Information sharing	Feedback on draft SFRA Level 1	SFRA approach	Information sharing
2019	Marine Management Organisation	Information sharing	Feedback on draft SFRA Level 1	SFRA approach	Information sharing
2019	Environment Agency	Information sharing	Feedback on draft SFRA Level 1	SFRA approach	Information sharing
2019	Canterbury CC	Information sharing	Feedback on draft SFRA Level 1	SFRA approach	Information sharing
2019	Ashford BC	in person	Evidence input/feedback	SFRA Level 1	Feedback on draft
2019	Medway Council	Informal	Evidence input/feedback	SFRA Level 1	Feedback on draft
2019	Kent CC	Informal	Evidence input/feedback	SFRA Level 1	Feedback on draft
20/09/2023	Medway UA	Online meeting (informal)	Joint commission of water cycles study	Infrastructure issues water	Agreed joint commission and scope of evidence to include policy matters and sub local authority area impacts

15/12/2023	North Kent Catchment Improvement Group includes Swale BC, Medway UA, Natural England, Environment Agency, Kent CC, RSPB, South East Rivers Trust, ZSL and others with an interest across the North Kent Catchment	Online meeting (informal) and in person	General issues across the catchment (Local Plans, Policies, Water Quality, Nature Conservation etc)	General local plan issues MEAS Water quality SAMMS	General improved understanding of issues across the North Kent Catchment
17/01/2024	Environment Agency	Hybrid meeting (informal)	Presentation on the first 10 years of implementing the MEAS (Medway Estuary and Swale Coastal Strategy, 2019)	Infrastructure issues	1) To build everyone's awareness and understanding of the MEAS programme and the challenges we collectively face in supporting our communities 2) To gain an ongoing commitment to work in partnership to support and develop the MEAS projects
06/02/2024	Medway UA	Online meeting (informal)	Air Quality	Air Quality/Transport Modelling discussion	Continue to cooperate on transboundary AQ issues
19/03/2024	EA/Local authority Catch Up (Medway and Tonbridge & Malling)	Online meeting (informal)	Project Updates Programme Updates Funding Update	MEAS Flood risk/defences	Informed thinking on policy approach

28/03/2024	North Kent Catchment Improvement Group includes Swale BC, Medway UA, Natural England, Environment Agency, Kent CC, RSPB, South East Rivers Trust, ZSL and others with an interest across the North Kent Catchment	Online meeting (informal) and in person	General issues across the catchment (Local Plans, Policies, Water Quality, Nature Conservation etc)	General local plan issues MEAS Water quality SAMMS	General improved understanding of issues across the North Kent Catchment
12/06/2024	EA/SBC	Online meeting (informal)	MEAS Catch up	SFRA, Coastal Change Management Area, Flood Risk Policy, MEAS Contributions Policy, IDP, Sequential Test Advice Note	Informed thinking on policy approach
17/06/2024	EA/Local authority Catch Up (Medway and Tonbridge & Malling)	Online meeting (informal)	Project Updates Programme Updates Funding Update	MEAS Flood risk/defences	Informed thinking on policy approach
18/06/2024	EA/Emergency Planners/SBC	In person workshops	Coastal Communities Engagement Planning Workshops	Erosion on the North Sheppey	Networking and understanding
09/07/2024	Medway UA	Online meeting (informal)	Water Cycle Study	Water quality policy	Evidence Base

17/07/2024	North Kent Catchment Improvement Group includes Swale BC, Medway UA, Natural England, Environment Agency, Kent CC, RSPB, South East Rivers Trust, ZSL and others with an interest across the North Kent Catchment	Online meeting (informal) and in person	General issues across the catchment (Local Plans, Policies, Water Quality, Nature Conservation etc)	General local plan issues MEAS Water quality SAMMS	General improved understanding of issues across the North Kent Catchment
09/10/2024	North Kent Catchment Improvement Group includes Swale BC, Medway UA, Natural England, Environment Agency, Kent CC, RSPB, South East Rivers Trust, ZSL and others with an interest across the North Kent Catchment	Online meeting (informal) and in person	General issues across the catchment (Local Plans, Policies, Water Quality, Nature Conservation etc)	General local plan issues MEAS Water quality SAMMS	General improved understanding of issues across the North Kent Catchment
09/11/2024	Medway UA	Online meeting (informal)	Water Cycle Study	Water quality policy	Evidence Base
11/11/2024	Medway UA	Online meeting (informal)	Water Cycle Study	Water quality policy	Evidence Base

11/11/2024	Medway UA	Online meeting (informal)	Water Cycle Study	Water quality policy	Evidence Base
19/11/2024	EA and SBC	In person meeting	Communication SBC/EA (general engagement discussion)	General policy and practice	Improved understanding of procedures and policies
19/11/2024	Environment Agency	In person meeting (informal)	The role of the EA and when the EA should be consulted	Environmental and consultation issues	Develop knowledge and understanding of the key principles underlining planning for flood risk, and the application of national policy and guidance.
15/01/2025	North Kent Catchment Improvement Group includes Swale BC, Medway UA, Natural England, Environment Agency, Kent CC, RSPB, South East Rivers Trust, ZSL and others with an interest across the North Kent Catchment	Online meeting (informal) and in person	General issues across the catchment (Local Plans, Policies, Water Quality, Nature Conservation etc)	General local plan issues MEAS Water quality SAMMS	General improved understanding of issues across the North Kent Catchment
28/01/2025	EA/Local authority Catch Up (Medway and Tonbridge & Malling)	Online meeting (informal)	Project Updates Programme Updates Funding Update	MEAS Flood risk/defences	Informed thinking on policy approach

05/02/2025	EA/SBC	Online meeting (informal)	MEAS Catch up (MEAS Elmley and South Sheppey Planning Applications)	SFRA, Coastal Change Management Area (C6), Flood Risk Policy (C8), MEAS Contributions Policy (C7), IDP, Sequential Test Advice Note	Informed thinking on policy approach
05/03/2025	Medway UA	Online meeting (informal)	Air Quality	Air Quality/Transport Modelling discussion	Continue to cooperate on transboundary AQ issues
24/04/2025	North Kent Catchment Improvement Group includes Swale BC, Medway UA, Natural England, Environment Agency, Kent CC, RSPB, South East Rivers Trust, ZSL and others with an interest across the North Kent Catchment	Online meeting (informal) and in person	General issues across the catchment (Local Plans, Policies, Water Quality, Nature Conservation etc)	General local plan issues MEAS Water quality SAMMS	General improved understanding of issues across the North Kent Catchment
21/05/2025	Kent LPA BNG Leads meeting	Online meeting (informal)	Presentation and discussion regarding Habitat Banking	BNG is embedded within the development management biodiversity and landscape policies (B1,B2,B3)	BNG is embedded within the development management biodiversity and landscape policies (B1,B2,B3)
21/05/2025	Bird Wise North Kent Board Meeting	In person	Annual report presentation, SAMMS tariff revised rates issued, partner authority updates	North Kent Mitigation Strategy, Habitat sites - SPA and recreational pressures	6km SPA buffer retained

29/05/2025	EA/Emergency Planners/SBC	In person workshops	Coastal Communities Engagement Planning Workshops	Erosion on the North Sheppey	Networking and understanding
25/06/2025	EA/Emergency Planners/SBC	In person workshops	Coastal Communities Engagement Planning Workshops	Erosion on the North Sheppey	Networking and understanding
27/08/2025	Marine Management Organisation (MMO)	Online meeting (informal)	General catch up on Local Plan progress and policies	LP and MMO Policies	Update on emerging policies for LP and MMO
25/09/2025	North Kent Catchment Improvement Group includes Swale BC, Medway UA, Natural England, Environment Agency, Kent CC, RSPB, South East Rivers Trust, ZSL and others with an interest across the North Kent Catchment	Online meeting (informal) and in person	General issues across the catchment (Local Plans, Policies, Water Quality, Nature Conservation etc)	General local plan issues MEAS Water quality SAMMS	General improved understanding of issues across the North Kent Catchment
29/09/2025	EA/Local authority Catch Up (Medway and Tonbridge & Malling)	Online meeting (informal)	Project Updates Programme Updates Funding Update	MEAS Flood risk/defences	Informed thinking on policy approach

29/09/2025	EA/SBC	Online meeting (informal)	MEAS Catch up	SFRA, Coastal Change Management Area, Flood Risk Policy, MEAS Contributions Policy, IDP, Sequential Test Advice Note	Informed thinking on policy approach
22/10/2025	EA/Local authority Catch Up (Medway and Tonbridge & Malling)	Online meeting (informal)	Project Updates Programme Updates Funding Update	MEAS Flood risk/defences	Informed thinking on policy approach
28/11/2025	KCC Making Space for Nature	Face to Face Launch event	Local Nature Recovery Strategy - official launch	LNRS needs to be 'given regard' within policies and planning applications	LNRS considered in draft the Local Plan relevant policies
15/12/2025	EA/SBC	Online meeting (informal)	MEAS Catch up	SFRA, Coastal Change Management Area, Flood Risk Policy, MEAS Contributions Policy, IDP, Sequential Test Advice Note	Informed thinking on policy approach

17/12/2025	EA/SBC	Online meeting (informal)	MEAS Catch up	SFRA, Coastal Change Management Area, Flood Risk Policy, MEAS Contributions Policy, IDP, Sequential Test Advice Note	Informed thinking on policy approach
25/02/2026	North Kent Catchment Improvement Group includes Swale BC, Medway UA, Natural England, Environment Agency, Kent CC, RSPB, South East Rivers Trust, ZSL and others with an interest across the North Kent Catchment	Email update	General issues across the catchment (Local Plans, Policies, Water Quality, Nature Conservation etc)	General local plan issues MEAS Water quality SAMMS	General improved understanding of issues across the North Kent Catchment
29/04/2026	EA/SBC	Online meeting (informal)	MEAS Catch up	SFRA, Coastal Change Management Area (C6), Flood Risk Policy (C8), MEAS Contributions Policy (C7), IDP, Sequential Test Advice Note	Informed thinking on policy approach
May-26	Kent CC - minerals	Email exchange	To discuss proposed allocations for Swale Regulation 19 Local Plan and identify where sites may require minerals assessment	Deliverability of proposed Local Plan allocated sites	Feedback provided on proposed site allocations where there maybe a minerals assessment required

18/05/2026	EA (and Birdwise North Kent)	Online meeting (informal)	MEAS Contributions – mechanisms for collecting contributions	MEAS Contributions	Informed thinking on policy approach
20/05/2026	EA/Local authority Catch Up (Medway and Tonbridge & Malling)	Online meeting (informal)	Project Updates Programme Updates Funding Update	MEAS Flood risk/defences	Informed thinking on policy approach
03/06/2026	Natural England	Online meeting (informal)	Strategic and DM policies	Strategic and DM policies	Agreed policy approach
23/06/2026	Environment Agency	Online meeting (informal)	Policies/Sustainability Appraisal/IDP	Proposed Local Policies and approach to Sustainability Appraisal	Discussions on Local Plan Policies. Satisfied with Sustainability Appraisal approach Willing to work with the council to prepare a MEAS contribution segment for the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP)
23/06/2026	EA/Strategic Planning and Water Specialists	Online meeting (informal)	Meeting to discuss Reg 19 policies	Flood Risk, Sustainable Drainage Policy, Water quality and water resources Policy, Medway Estuary and Swale Strategy and Policy, Infrastructure Delivery Plan,	Policy wording discussed and agreed (subject to NE's views), General discussion about South East Water supply issues and discharge consents and issues around Nutrient Neutrality (on site WwTWs), Sequential Test guidance note

				Sustainability Appraisal, South East Water and Discharge consents	
24/06/2026	Natural England(NE)/Stodmarsh Mitigation Strategy Working Group	Online meeting (informal)	Update on Stodmarsh Mitigation Strategy and application to Policy C10	Nutrient Neutrality and Policy C10 Water Quality and Water Resources	Policy wording discussed and agreed (with NE)
27/06/2026	North Kent Catchment Improvement Group includes Swale BC, Medway UA, Natural England, Environment Agency, Kent CC, RSPB, South East Rivers Trust, ZSL and others with an interest across the North Kent Catchment	Email update	General issues across the catchment (Local Plans, Policies, Water Quality, Nature Conservation etc)	General local plan issues MEAS Water quality SAMMS	General improved understanding of issues across the North Kent Catchment
15/07/2026	EA/SBC	Online meeting (informal)	MEAS Catch up - IDP	SFRA, Coastal Change Management Area, Flood Risk Policy, MEAS Contributions Policy, IDP, Sequential Test Advice Note	Informed thinking on policy approach

Landscape matters					
November 2017	Medway UA	Meeting (informal)	Request for Medway input into Local Landscape Designation Review Report	Landscape	Evidence input/feedback
20/11/2024	Kent Downs Joint Advisory Committee	In person meeting	To discuss and progress the draft Kent Downs Management Plan 2026-2032	Informs policy B3 - Kent Downs National Landscape	Development of a draft Kent Downs Management Plan 2026-2032, which is currently out for consultation (closes 19th July 2026), adoption expected Spring 2027
19/03/2025	Kent Downs Joint Advisory Committee	In person meeting	To discuss and progress the draft Kent Downs Management Plan 2026-2032	Informs policy B3 - Kent Downs National Landscape	Development of a draft Kent Downs Management Plan 2026-2032, which is currently out for consultation (closes 19th July 2026), adoption expected Spring 2027
09/07/2025	Kent Downs Joint Advisory Committee	In person	To discuss and progress the draft Kent Downs Management Plan 2026-2032	Informs policy B3 - Kent Downs National Landscape	Development of a draft Kent Downs Management Plan 2026-2032, which is currently out for consultation (closes 19th July 2026), adoption expected Spring 2027
19/11/2025	Kent Downs Joint Advisory Committee	In person	To discuss and progress the draft Kent Downs Management Plan 2026-2032	Informs policy B3 - Kent Downs National Landscape	Development of a draft Kent Downs Management Plan 2026-2032, which is currently out for consultation (closes 19th July 2026), adoption expected Spring 2027

13/05/2026	Kent Downs Joint Advisory Committee	In person meeting	To discuss and progress the draft Kent Downs Management Plan 2026-2032	Informs policy B3 - Kent Downs National Landscape	Development of a draft Kent Downs Management Plan 2026-2032, which is currently out for consultation (closes 19th July 2026), adoption expected Spring 2027
Heritage matters					
28/06/2018	Kent CC	SBC workshop	To identify key issues	Heritage issues	Information sharing
June 2018	Historic England	SBC workshop	Heritage issues	Heritage issues	Identify Key issues

Table 2. Duty to cooperate engagement log

6. Current Statements of Common Ground

- 6.1 The Council has recently engaged in 4 Statements of Common Ground (SoCG) (Appendix 1) for Local Plans being produced by neighbouring local authorities. A summary of these SoCGs, issues, strategic matters and what has been agreed is set out in table 3 below. The Council is committed to ongoing discussions and updating of these SOCGs as matters progress. The Council will also be developing its own SoCGs with other duty to cooperate bodies as matters become identified as the Local Plan moves forward for submission to the Planning Inspectorate for Examination in Public. This will also include the Council having an up to date SoCG on Junction 7 of the M2 that meets the A2 (Brenley Corner) with Canterbury City Council, Kent County Council and National Highways.

Body	Issues	Strategic matters	status	Date
Medway UA (Appendix 1.1)	Submission of Medway Local Plan	- Local housing need; - Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople; and - Air quality (human health)	Matters agreed	December 2025
Canterbury CC (Appendix 1.2)	Regulation 19 consultation of Canterbury Local Plan	- Housing - Economy - Infrastructure - Transport - Education - Environment - Stodmarsh European protected site - National Landscape - Functionally Linked Land (FLL)	Matters agreed	March 2026
Canterbury CC (Appendix 1.3)	Impact of development upon the A2/M2 corridor in the preparation of the Local Plans	Set out the strategic joint working in relation to the impact of development upon the A2/M2 corridor in the preparation of the Local Plans of DDC, CCC and SBC, and how any impacts will be mitigated.	Matters agreed	March 2026
Maidstone BC (Appendix 1.4)	Preparation of Gypsy and Traveller DPD Regulation 18	Approach to site allocations for G&T	Matters agreed	May 2026

Table 3. Current Statements of Common Ground

7. Conclusion

- 7.1 The Council is committed towards fulfilling its duty to cooperate through engaging constructively, actively, and on an ongoing basis with all relevant duty to cooperate bodies. The Council has a good proven track record of engagement and collaborative working with all relevant duty to cooperate bodies.
- 7.2 The Council is actively engaging with other local authorities producing Local Plans and relevant strategic partners to develop statements of common ground (SoCG) where required. Further, the Council will also actively engage on and develop its own SoCGs where new matters are identified as part of the Councils Regulation 19 Local Plan consultation and preparation of the Plans submission for Examination in Public.

8. Appendix 1.

- Appendix 1.1 Medway UA SoCG submission Local Plan with Prescribed Bodies (December 2025)
- Appendix 1.2 Canterbury CC SoCG with SBC Regulation 19 (March 2026)
- Appendix 1.3 Canterbury CC SoCG with SBC, DDC, NH, KCC to Strategic Highways (March 2026)
- Appendix 1.4 Maidstone BC DRAFT SoCG with SBC Gypsy & Traveller Reg 18c (May 2026)