

## Part C: Representation

(Please fill a separate sheet for each representation you wish to make)

### Q1. To which part of the document does this response relate?

<b>Title of document</b>	Dudley Local Plan Part One		
<b>Paragraph/section</b>	Cross Boundary Issues and Duty to Co-operate	<b>Policy</b>	
<b>Site</b>		<b>Policy Map</b>	

Responses can address any of the Supporting Documents and Evidence by relating them to the resulting paragraph, policy or site in the Dudley Local Plan.

### Q2. Do you consider the Local Plan is:

- |   |                          |     |                                     |    |
|---|--------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------|----|
| 1. Legally compliant                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/>            | No |
| 2. Sound                                | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No |
| 3. Complies with the Duty to co-operate | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No |

(Mark as appropriate)

Please refer to our guidance notes for help with the above definitions - 1 to 3.

### Q3. Please give details of why you consider the Local Plan is not legally compliant or is unsound or fails to comply with the duty to co-operate. Please be as precise as possible.

If you wish to support the legal compliance or soundness of the Local Plan or its compliance with the duty to co-operate, please also use this box to set out your comments.

Objection.

The Plan acknowledges that under the Localism Act 2011, Local Planning Authorities have a legal duty to co-operate (DtC) with neighbouring authorities and other prescribed bodies on strategic matters that cross administrative boundaries. Strategic matters of course include housing, employment, infrastructure, and the green belt. The Plan states that the Council has been working collaboratively with neighbouring authorities and prescribed bodies on cross boundary issues and infrastructure requirements for a number of years (including the period before the end of the Black Country Plan) and will continue to do so as the Local Plan progresses.

At this stage no Statements of Common Ground have been agreed notwithstanding that discussions have been ongoing for some considerable period of time with neighbouring authorities. Whilst some potential contributions to the Black Country and the Greater Birmingham and Black Country Housing Market Area (GBBC HMA) have been offered through some Local Plans, even the plan acknowledges that these are still to be adopted and the offers may change. Moreover, these contributions made to the Black Country Authorities, Greater Birmingham/Black Country HMA or Black Country FEMA still need to be apportioned to each authority and may not be attributable to Dudley. In the case of one of the largest contributions from Shropshire Council, the Inspectors for that Examination have already highlighted that the Plan is likely to be found unsound and other contributions are subject to each local authority testing this through their local plan review and/or local plan examinations.

The absence of progress on the DtC and a full understanding of wider needs within neighbouring Authorities is unsound. This is particularly important in the context of the development strategy for the Dudley Plan which has not exhausted all opportunities for meeting their own needs, nor understood the

opportunities for accommodating needs from elsewhere. It should not be for Dudley to export its unmet needs or expect other authorities to review their Green Belt boundaries when they have not explored all their opportunities to accommodate full needs including themselves reviewing opportunities within the Green Belt.

*Continue on a separate sheet if necessary.*

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Respondent No:		Representation No:		Date received:	
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**Q4. Please set out the modification(s) you consider necessary to make the Local Plan legally compliant and sound, in respect of any legal compliance or soundness matters you have identified at Q3. above. (Please note that non-compliance with the duty to co-operate is incapable of modification at examination). You will need to say why each modification will make the Local Plan legally compliant or sound. It will be helpful if you are able to put forward your suggested revised wording of any policy or text. Please be as precise as possible.**

Evidence of agreed arrangements for meeting the unmet needs of others within the wider Housing Market Area should be provided and consulted upon. It is also important, given that the draft plan expects to export unmet need for housing to neighbouring Authorities (and that unmet need, as per these representations is much higher than stated in the Plan), that an agreed position with an Authority to take that need must be consulted upon.

*Continue on a separate sheet if necessary.*

**Please note:** *In your representation you should provide succinctly all the evidence and supporting information necessary to support your representation and your suggested modification(s). You should not assume that you will have a further opportunity to make submissions.*

*After this stage, further submissions may only be made if invited by the Inspector, based on the matters and issues he or she identifies for examination.*

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**Q5. If your representation is seeking a modification to the plan, do you consider it necessary to participate in examination hearing session(s)?**

**No**, I do not wish to participate in hearing session(s)

**Yes**, I wish to participate in hearing session(s)

*Please note, that while this will provide an initial indication of your wish to participate in hearing session(s), you may be asked at a later point to confirm your request to participate.*

**Q6. If you wish to participate in the hearing session(s), please outline why you consider this to be necessary:**

The issues raised and nature of objections means that the examining Inspectors would benefit from further oral submissions being made to fully explore the topic.

*Please note, the Inspector will determine the most appropriate procedure to adopt to hear those who have indicated that they wish to participate in hearing session(s). You may be asked to confirm your wish to participate when the Inspector has identified the matters and issues for examination.*

**Representations cannot be kept confidential and will be available for public scrutiny, including your name and/or organisation (if applicable). However, your contact details will not be published.**

Completed representations forms can be submitted by emailing: [planning.policy@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:planning.policy@dudley.gov.uk)

Please enter **Dudley Local Plan Representation** in the subject field of the email.

Alternatively, completed consultation forms can also be submitted by post to: **Planning Policy, Planning Services, Dudley Council, Council House, Priory Road, Dudley DY1 1HF by 5pm 29 November 2024.**

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