

Record of Officer's Decision

The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 and the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

Date of Decision:	27/02/2026
Decision Maker (Officer):	Gary Guiver – Corporate Director (Planning & Community)
Authority for Delegated Decision (Cabinet/Committee Decision or Scheme of Delegation – provide reference):	Part 3, Schedule 3 – Responsibility for Executive Functions delegated to Officers paragraph 4.3 (1) – the Corporate Director has delegated authority to discharge executive functions within their respective service areas (Part 3.38). All delegations are subject to consultation where considered appropriate in the circumstances (paragraph 4.3 (4)(ii) – Part 3.39).
Identify which Portfolio Holder(s)/Committee Chairman consulted?	Cllr Baker - Portfolio Holder for Housing & Planning
Ward Member(s) consulted?	Not applicable – the SoCG concerns cross-boundary strategic planning matters and does not relate to decisions affecting a specific ward.
Is it a Key Decision?	No
Is it subject to call-in?	No
Decision Made:	To approve and sign the <i>Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) between Chelmsford City Council (CCC) and Tendring District Council (TDC)</i> , dated 27 February 2026, for submission as part of CCC's Local Plan review (Regulation 22).
Reason for Decision (if a report was produced to support the Decision, refer to or attach it):	Chelmsford City Council has prepared a Local Plan Review which has reached submission stage following Regulation 19 consultations in 2025 and early 2026.

	The SoCG confirms that: • CCC is planning to meet its housing and employment needs in full within its own boundary; • no areas of disagreement exist between the authorities; and • effective and ongoing cooperation has been undertaken in line with the Duty to Cooperate requirements. Signing the SoCG ensures that TDC's engagement is formally recorded and that TDC's position is clearly represented at examination.	
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	None.	
NEW : Details of Local Government Reorganisation and/or Devolution considerations	There are no direct implications arising from Local Government Reorganisation or Devolution. However, maintaining effective cross-boundary working—such as through Statements of Common Ground—supports wider ambitions for joined-up strategic planning across the area and ensures that Tendring continues to collaborate positively with neighbouring authorities.	
Details of any Alternative Options Considered and rejected (together with reasons):	Not signing the SoCG – Rejected because this would fail to evidence effective cooperation and could undermine TDC's position in relation to cross-boundary strategic matters.	
Details of any declarations of interest (by Portfolio Holder/Committee Chairman who was consulted by the officer, which related to the decision) If relevant, a note of the dispensation granted by the Monitoring Officer:	N/A	
Reason Decision, or supporting Report, is not published:	☒	Not applicable – Decision [and report] to be published
	If Report is not to be published – tick one of the following boxes:	
	☐	The report supporting the Decision contains confidential information

<i>Tick one or more of the specific exemptions,</i> <u>and</u> <i>Give more information in the final box with regards to why the exemption applies and outweighs the public interest test (which is in favour of disclosure).</i>		The Report supporting the Decision falls within an exemption pursuant to Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 Information:
		• Relates to an individual
		• Likely to reveal the identity of an individual
		• Relating to financial or business affairs of a person or organisation
		• Relates to a claim for legal professional privilege in legal proceedings
		• Reveals that the Council proposes to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or to make an order or direction under any enactment
		• Relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime
<u>And</u> is exempt if and so long, as in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information Reasons: N/A		

Officers

Signed: P WOODS

Title: Planning Policy Team Leader

Signed: G GUIVER

Title: Corporate Director (Planning & Community)

Dated: 27/2/26