**Mansfield Place Board**

**Core Group Meeting**

**3rd April 2025**

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| Agenda Item No. |  |
| Presenting Organisation | Mansfield DC |
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**Plan for Neighbourhoods – Area Boundary**

**1 Purpose of Report**

1.1 To review with the Board and take soundings on the considerations that apply to the proposed boundary for Mansfield’s Plan for Neighbourhoods (PfN).

1. **Background** 
   1. Under the development of Stage 1 of the Long Term Plan for Towns (LTPfT) Place Board members will recall the then government offered its view on a tightly defined area for the programme. This was effectively detailed as the Mansfield urban area, based on defined ONS data contained within a published data pack.
   2. At that time, the Board took advice from the government on the flexibility to challenge this area and it was agreed that the communities of Forest Town and Mansfield Woodhouse should be included as contiguous to the urban area. This was then included in the Stage 1 submission, reflecting that a district-wide approach was not likely to be supported and specifically the Warsop communities were thus not included in the submission.
   3. On the back of this first stage submission, the Council secured the promised capacity funding, and this defined area was further reinforced in the submission made to the new Minster at MHCLG when sharing the Board’s 10 Year Vision and Investment Plan just before the Autumn Statement in November 2024.
   4. The new successor scheme PfN seeks that eligible areas offer confirmation of the area or offer proposed adjustments by the 22 April 2025.
2. **Considerations**

3.1 While the PfN offers the opportunity to review and confirm the defined area, the following considerations apply:

* As with the LTPfT, the area is based on a defined contiguous urban area and that suggests that the defined area within the Vision and Investment Plan still applies, ie the built-up area of Mansfield, including Forest Town and Mansfield Woodhouse.
* With an enhanced focus on communities of need and on tackling disadvantage within the PfN, the exclusion of the Warsop communities may be seen as a concern.
* This does not necessarily mean that this requests a full district-wide approach which again, is unlikely to be supported, but one which looks to facilitate their inclusion along the A60 corridor.
* While offering potential for the Warsop communities’ inclusion, the wider considerations still look to apply – ie that the defined area must be contiguous.

1. **Comment**
   1. It would appear that a full district-wide area would not be acceptable to MHCLG and defining an area as one, contiguous, urban area appears key.

4.2 Fundamentally, as a baseline, it is proposed that the Board seeks to reinforce the area as defined within its previous LTPfT submission. However, the exclusion of the Warsop communities over what will be a significant time period represents a challenge, and subject to consultation with the MP, it is proposed that a case is made for their inclusion.

* 1. This could be facilitated through the above referenced corridor approach, making reference to their disadvantaged status (recognising the fundamental tone of the new PfN guidance) and their connectivity / inter-dependencies with the wider Mansfield area.

1. **Recommendation**

5.1 It is recommended that the Board considers the area boundary for Mansfield’s Plan for Neighbourhoods, and that, subject to consultation with the MP, agrees to make the case for the Warsop communities’ inclusion, alongside the urban area of Mansfield, Forest Town and Mansfield Woodhouse.