

**Report to Director of City Development**

**Date: 12<sup>th</sup> May 2014**

**Subject: School Requirements Arising from the Site Allocations Plan**

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): All Wards Across the Leeds District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**Summary of main issues**

1. The Site Allocations Plan will provide allocations to contribute towards the delivery of the Core Strategy requirements for new housing. The provision of infrastructure is integral to the delivery of the site allocations, which includes identifying school requirements arising from the new housing.
2. Consideration of school requirements commenced with the preparation of the Core Strategy and the Issues & Options Site Allocations Plan. More detailed assessment is now being undertaken by Children's Services to consider site specific requirements for schools provision.
3. The Development Plan Panel meeting provides an opportunity for Members to be updated on the current work being undertaken by officers from Children's Services in association with City Development.

**Recommendations**

1. Members are requested to note the content of this report and agree the actions arising.

## **2. Purpose of this report**

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to update Members of the work currently being undertaken by officers from City Development and Children's Services to consider the requirements for schools provision arising from the Site Allocations Plan.

## **3. Background information**

- 3.1 The Site Allocations Plan will provide site allocations to contribute towards the delivery of the Core Strategy requirements for new housing. The provision of infrastructure is integral to the delivery of the site allocations, which includes identifying school requirements arising from the new housing. Paragraph 8.11 of the Issues & Options plan (Volume 1: Plan Overview) refers to the ongoing work of obtaining comments from infrastructure providers including Children's Services and that infrastructure requirements arising from the proposed allocations will be included in detailed policy wording. With specific reference to education requirements, paragraph 8.11 states that in some cases the need for a new school may need to be part of an allocation.
- 3.2 As part of the preparation of the Core Strategy and the Issues and Options document for the Site Allocations Plan, officers from City Development and Children's Services have been working together to identify the overall number of school places arising from the Core Strategy housing requirements. Following the close of the Site Allocations Issues and Options consultation in July 2013, officers have been reviewing representations received and undertaking ongoing technical work with infrastructure providers to establish requirements. As part of this process, Children's Services are advising on the school requirements for each Housing Market Characteristic Area, identifying the additional school places arising from the housing sites, assessing the capacity of existing schools and considering options for expanding existing schools and/or identifying where there is a need to provide a new school.

## **4. Main issues**

- 4.1 The Development Plan Panel meeting provides an opportunity for Members to be updated on the current process underway for the Publication draft plan. It also provides an opportunity for officers from Children's Services to provide a verbal response to issues being raised about the delivery of schools provision:
- i) The mechanism for expanding existing schools;
  - ii) The mechanism for delivering new schools;
  - iii) The funding arrangements.

## **5. Corporate Considerations**

### **5.1 Consultation and Engagement**

- 5.1.1 The Issues and Options Site Allocations Plan was subject to public consultation from 3<sup>rd</sup> June to 29<sup>th</sup> July 2013. Representations were received on the proposed sites being considered for allocation, which included comments on infrastructure

requirements. At the Publication draft stage more details will be provided on the infrastructure requirements linked to the proposed allocations, including school requirements. Consultation with Members will be undertaken prior to the public consultation.

## **5.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration**

5.3 An Equality Impact Assessment Screening was undertaken on the Core Strategy Publication draft and pre-submission changes. This document sets the strategic context for the Site Allocations Plan. In addition, an EIA was completed in the preparation of the Site Allocations Issues & Options document.

## **5.4 Council policies and City Priorities**

5.4.1 The Site Allocations Plan will deliver the housing requirements of the Core Strategy.

## **5.5 Resources and value for money**

5.5.1 Preparation of the Site Allocations Plan is a statutory requirement and is being undertaken as part of the Local Development Framework. It is necessary to advance the Site Allocations Plan to enable the targets for new housing delivery to be achieved.

## **5.6 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In**

5.7 The plan is being prepared within the context of the LDF Regulations and statutory requirements. The plan is a Budgetary and Policy Framework document and as such will be considered by Scrutiny Board (Sustainable Economy and Culture) at the appropriate time.

## **5.8 Risk Management**

5.8.1 The consideration of infrastructure requirements, including schools provision are a necessary part of the Site Allocations process and to delay decisions could affect the delivery of the Site Allocations Plan.

## **6. Conclusions**

6.1 The provision for schools forms part of the infrastructure requirements arising from the Site Allocations Plan. Officers from City Development and Children's Services will continue to work together to identify where there is capacity to expand existing schools and highlight the need to provide a new school. The recommendations for the proposed housing allocations and associated schools provision for each Housing Market characteristic Area will be presented to Members at future Development Plan Panel meetings.

## **7. Recommendations**

7.1 Members are requested to note the content of this report and agree the actions arising.

## 8. **Background documents**<sup>1</sup>

8.1 None

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<sup>1</sup> The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.