

**Report of Head of Governance and Scrutiny Support**

**Report to Scrutiny Board (Infrastructure and Investment)**

**Date: 21 March 2018**

**Subject: Draft Scrutiny Inquiry Report – Sustainable Development**

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

**Summary of main issues**

- 1 Leeds City Council has an ambition to be the best council in the UK, compassionate fair, open and welcoming with an economy that is both prosperous and sustainable, so all our communities are successful. The Vision for Leeds 2011 – 2030 supports this ambition, stating that by 2030 all communities will be successful where local services, including shops and healthcare, are easy to access and meet people’s needs. It also states that local cultural and sporting activities are available to all and there are high quality buildings, places and green spaces, which are clean, looked after, and respect the city’s heritage, including buildings, parks and the history of our communities. The Best Council Plan 2017 – 2018 states that the Council wants everyone to live in good quality, affordable homes within clean and well cared for places.
- 2 In June 2017 the Scrutiny Board (Infrastructure and Investment) resolved to undertake and inquiry into Sustainable Development. Terms of Reference for this inquiry were agreed at the Scrutiny Board meeting on 19 July 2017, when it was concluded that the Board would consider;
  - The origins and definition of the term, sustainable development.
  - The definition of sustainable development, as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)
  - Against this framework and in relation to Planning, how the principles of sustainable development have been applied in Leeds, through the development plan process

and via development management decisions, and how its principles have been translated into practice.

- In translating these principles, the key policy issues that have emerged, which have skewed the delivery of sustainable development in its wider sense and how have they been addressed.
- In terms of 'local sustainability', how Section 106 Agreements and the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) assist with the delivery of infrastructure to support regeneration and growth.

- 3 The inquiry was conducted over six evidence gathering sessions which took place between July 2017 and January 2018 when the Scrutiny Board received a range of evidence both written and verbal. Following the gathering of evidence the appended Scrutiny inquiry report has been drafted and is presented to the Scrutiny Board for consideration and agreement.
- 4 Scrutiny Board Procedure Rule 13.2 states that "where a Scrutiny Board is considering making specific recommendations it shall invite advice from the appropriate Director(s) prior to finalising its recommendations. The Director shall consult with the appropriate Executive Member before providing any such advice. The detail of that advice shall be reported to the Scrutiny Board and considered before the Board's recommendations are finalised and published on the Council's website". Advice provided is reflected in the current draft report presented to the Scrutiny Board.
- 5 A further opportunity for the provision of advice from the Officers of Leeds City Council is available at the meeting on the 21 March 2018 and the Scrutiny Board is recommended to consider this before agreeing its report.
- 6 Once the Board publishes its final report, the Chief Executive and appropriate Director(s) will be asked to formally respond to the Scrutiny Board's report within three months.

## **Recommendations**

- 7 The Scrutiny Board (Infrastructure and Investment) is recommended to consider and agree the appended report following its inquiry into Sustainable Development.

## **Background documents**

- 8 None used<sup>1</sup>

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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.