

Development Plan Panel

Tuesday, 1st March, 2022

PRESENT: Councillor N Walshaw in the Chair

Councillors B Anderson, C Campbell,
C Gruen, J McKenna, D Collins, K Brooks,
H Hayden and E Taylor

36 Appeals Against Refusal of Inspection of Documents

There were no appeals.

37 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public

There were no exempt items.

38 Late Items

There were no formal late items.

39 Declaration of Interests

No interests were raised at the meeting.

40 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Lamb and Finnigan.

41 Minutes

RESOLVED- That the minutes of the Development Plan Panel meetings held on 2 November and 14 December 2021, be approved as an accurate record.

Members of the Panel also agreed that the note from the Consultative Meeting of the Development Plan Panel held 18 January 2022 be approved as an accurate reflection of the meeting and noted for information.

Matters Arising from the minutes of the meeting held 2 November 2021

Minute No.25 – Local Plan Update Statutory Consultation. The Panel were informed that 2 workshops will be set up in March 22, to update all members on policy development as a result of consultation outcomes. It was noted that there will be 1 virtual and 1 online session for any member to attend.

Minute No.26 – Update on the HMO, PBSA and Co-Living Amenity Standards SPD. A member queried the position on Student Union representatives forming part of the Student Housing working group. Officers will seek an update on this and report to Panel Members in due course.

42 Consultation on Transport Supplementary Planning Document

The report of the Chief Planning Officer seeks Members views on the Adoption Draft Transport Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), prior to the Chief Planning Officer carrying out a period of consultation. The Transport SPD replaces four existing transport related SPD's: the Street Design Guide, Travel Plans, Parking and

Public Transport and Developer Contributions. It was noted that these will be revoked once the Transport SPD is adopted.

Appended to the report included the Consultation Report at Appendix 1 and the Transport SPD at Appendix 2.

The report and Statement of Consultation focusses on comments received, rather than re-visiting the entire document.

The Transport Development Services Manager introduced the report and explained that a workshop was held in November 2021 to look at the contents of the Transport SPD. It was highlighted that the SPD does not address all matters coming up in the Local Plan Update (LPU), but it does streamline existing SPDs and include cumulative impact policy.

The Panel discussed the following key matters:

- Reviewing cumulative impact contributions – the process was set out in terms of identifying hotspot junctions and basing the levy on the number of trips made through congested junctions. There are pre-identified locations and sites and forthcoming windfall sites, will use the same methodology. If there are a number of sites impacted by 1 junction, the levy will be broken down on the amount of additional planned trips going through that junction by proportioning trips per site. It was also confirmed that the assessment on identifying junctions is reviewed every plan period.
- The use of Section 106 monies and the involvement of members in the considerations of what monies are being spent on – officers confirmed expenditure is prescriptive and related to a development. There is an opportunity to engage during the consultation part of planning applications. It was confirmed that an additional vacancy has been secured to help the service with Section 106 monies.
- Secure bike storage and exploring e-bike/cargo schemes – planning colleagues are working on identifying a model and will look at introducing this at a later date.
- It was confirmed that the minimum size for a garage door is 2.6 metres, which is wider than a standard car parking bay.
- Introducing financial burdens should developers be unable to provide full car parking within the city centre, specifically to fund and improve the public transport network – SPDs can only expand on policy that already exists and cannot put an extra financial burden on developers but there is an opportunity to re-visit when progressing LPU policies in relation to place-making and 20-minute neighbourhoods.
- Members discussed design exemplars and the importance of including mechanisms on how to mitigate on-street car parking in the document. It was noted that there is a government consultation on managing pavement parking.
- Concerns were raised that the language used in the document will not be clear to developers in relation to type 1 connector streets. It was suggested that the language used should be strengthened, or an illustration setting out what is expected of developers should be included in the document.

- Members raised a particular concern in relation to pedestrian safety in terms of proposed planting and suggested that clarity should be provided on maximum height for hedges, to mitigate attacks.
- Members shared a general consensus that moving away from cars is a priority for Leeds, but acknowledged that public transport must become viable and a reasonable alternative
- Clarity on the inclusion of a policy for E-scooters and the need to prepare some information to inform the public on upcoming consultation relating to E-scooters.
- Concern that the number of respondents to the consultation is low and may not be a true reflection of the demographic in Leeds. It was suggested that an awareness raising document to pull through main points would be helpful for members of the public to understand key points of the consultation.

Further to the comments as outlined above, Panel Members broadly supported the contents of the Transport SPD, and therefore

RESOLVED –

- a) To note the contents of the report and comments made during discussions.
- b) To recommend that the Chief Planning Officer commences consultation on the Adoption Draft SPD for a period of 4 weeks between 3rd March and 31st March 2022.
- c) To recommend to the Chief Planning Officer that, in consultation with the Executive Member, and subject to the outcome of the consultations he adopts the SPD under his delegated powers.

43 Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) - Consultation Draft

Further to the minutes of the meeting held Tuesday, 21st January 2022, the report of the Chief Officer presented Members with the draft Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), prior to consultation expected to take place late March 2022 for a period of 6 weeks.

The Team Leader, Neighbourhood Planning and Planning Assistant, introduced the report and highlighted the following key points:

- The Council have responded positively to the feedback and lessons learnt from the consultation, and as a result, has made jargon clear and locally distinctive.
- There are 3 parts to the SCI and the language used is positive and encourages people to take part.
- The SCI will be provided in different formats for people to access the document as a paper copy, or online.
- Most of the information collected as part of the consultation was via a smart survey.
- Valuable opportunity to assess what indicators can be used in the future.
- Responses to the consultation have been carefully considered, and adapted to improve the SCI.
- It is anticipated that the final SCI document will be adopted in summer.

In response to a question regarding the possibility for the SCI document to be a cross council approach, officers explained that the document referred specifically to

planning policy and planning applications. It was confirmed the document can be amended slightly to emphasise the Councils approach in working with other services and having a joined-up approach. Additionally, members queried how the Council will engage better with the local community, and the number of events being held across the city.

Members particularly showed an interest in engaging schools and young people and acknowledged the importance of participating in planning matters at a young age. A suggestion was made that officers consult with teachers and youth council / representative groups of young people, on how they would like consultation to be phrased and tailored to appeal to young people. Additionally, it was suggested that the Council make better use of the Third Sector and utilise Community Committees to help reach the wider community.

RESOLVED –

- a) To note the contents of the report and comments made during discussion of this item.
- b) To formally agree the draft SCI and note that consultation commences for a period of 6 weeks.

44 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The date and time of the next meeting is Tuesday, 10th May 2022 at 1.30pm.

(The meeting concluded at 15:00)