

## **Development Plan Panel**

**Wednesday, 15th May, 2019**

**PRESENT:** Councillor P Gruen in the Chair

Councillors B Anderson, J McKenna,  
M Shazad, F Venner, N Walshaw and  
K Ritchie

### **CHAIRS COMMENT**

Following the local elections, the Panel expressed their thanks to Councillors R Lewis and T Leadley for their contributions to DPP.

#### **79 Appeals Against Refusal of Inspection of Documents**

There were no appeals against refusal.

#### **80 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public**

There was no exempt information.

#### **81 Late Items**

There were no late items.

#### **82 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests.

#### **83 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Carter and Campbell.

#### **84 Minutes**

**RESOLVED-** That the minutes of the Development Plan Panel meeting held on 16 April 2019 be approved as a correct record.

#### **85 Matters Arising**

Minute 76 Local Plan Update – The Panel received assurance that officers are pressing the Planning Inspector, in order to move quickly towards adoption of the Site Allocations Plan (SAP). Officers expect to receive the SAP report by the end of May 2019, and upon final checks before being released into the public domain, the Adoption of the Plan is expected to be considered at a Full Council meeting in July 2019.

Minute 75 Neighbourhood Plans (NPs) – In relation to a previous request from Panel Members, to receive clarity on the weight that can be afforded to NPs, the Panel were informed the Legal Officer had drafted a note which had been considered appropriate from the Chair, and will be circulated to Panel Members in due course.

#### **86 Leeds Core Strategy Selective Review (CSSR) Modifications**

Further to minute 65 of the meeting held 19<sup>th</sup> March 2019, the report of the Director of City Development provided the Panel with a summary of the overall scope of the

CSSR Inspector's recommended Main Modifications (MMs). The Panel are asked to recommend Executive Board approve the Inspector's MMs, which would be subject to a 6 week consultation period.

The Planning Strategy Team Leader, presented the report and provided an update on the CSSR process.

The Panel were informed of an amendment on page 7 of the report which should read '17<sup>th</sup> May 2019' as a start date for the consultation period. Members noted the CSSR would be considered by Executive Board on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2019 with a Recommendation to agree public consultation on the Main Modifications. Members heard the public consultation would run from Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2019 – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

Prior to the meeting, the panel received supplementary information due to be considered at Executive Board on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2019, which included:

- Executive Board Report
- Appendix 1 – Inspector's recommended Main Modifications
- Appendix 2 – Sustainability Appraisal Addendum

The Panel discussed the following key issues with officers:

#### Revised Housing Distributions SP7

A Member queried whether a table showing the revised distribution with actual numbers of dwellings could be made available on the council website. Officers explained in making the CSSR document streamlined, it wasn't necessary to input numbers which may change. Members noted the offer for officers to report back and provide an update note upon adoption of the SAP and CSSR. The Chair suggested that upon adoption of those policies, there will be a need for Ward Member briefings, and this will provide an opportunity for new/existing Members and officers, to be updated on changes.

#### Climate Change EN1

A Member requested clarity on how the proposed modification allowed decision makers to assess the '20% better than' energy efficiency standards, and queried the information available. Officers confirmed an implementation note is being produced, and will be useful specifically for Plans Panel Chairs and officers.

Officers clarified:

- Parts of EN1 are out of date and there is still a need for clarity on how the policy is implemented;
- Government are looking at how to reintroduce a policy around sustainable construction;
- A change to building regulations is proposed to tighten environmental standards;
- At application stage (Reserved Matters and Outline), there will be details on how developments are to be built to energy efficiency standards and an addition of conditions will be introduced.

#### Sustainability Appraisal (SA)

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting to be held on Monday, 24th June, 2019

A Member requested more information in regard to SA scoring. Officers explained the process of a matrix included within the database and that for each 23 objectives, there are a number of sub objectives. Officers explained the scoring process looks at how proposals work in terms of sustainability and how technology has been used to compile the SA electronically. Members noted an offer from officers, to provide training and an overall summary on how SA scoring is carried out.

#### CSSR timescales

Officers provided the Panel with an update on the expected receipt of the Inspector's report. The Inspector is aware of the intention of full adoption in September and in the meantime, significant weight can be attached to policies in the CSSR.

In recognition on the importance of keeping all planning officers up to date on emerging policies, the Head of Development Management updated the Panel on a meeting which had taken place between Policy and Planning colleagues, which provided officers with an update on CSSR changes and briefing notes would be made available on the changes, subject to Members consideration.

The Chair suggested that upon receipt of the Inspector's report, a meeting with DPP Members be arranged, before a Full Council meeting in September.

#### **RESOLVED-**

A. To note the contents of the report, including the Executive Board report and its appendices (at Appendix 1) and the comments made during the discussions on the progression of the CSSR and;

B. To unanimously agree the contents of the Report enclosing Inspectors schedule of Main Modifications (Appendix 1 of the Executive Board report) and Sustainability Appraisal addendum (Appendix 2 of the Executive Board report) in order for Executive Board to consider at its forthcoming Special Meeting to approve the same and enter into a 6 week public consultation period.

#### **87 Work Programme**

The Group Manager Policy and Plans, presented the report and highlighted following areas considered 'core' business for Development Plan Panel in the coming year.

The Panel were provided with an update of work in addition to the Work Programme and highlighted:

- A Tall Buildings Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) refresh is expected to come before Panel Members in the new Municipal Year. The Chief Planning Officer informed the Panel, work has been undertaken with planning colleagues, on creating technical guidance in relation to wind assessments; the guidance would be attached as a technical appendix alongside the SPD.
- The Neighbourhoods for Living Document is being reviewed, to identify how this can be streamlined and linked with existing SPDs.

The Chair requested that actions arising from a previous Member training session in regard to Student Housing, be picked up in the new Municipal Year.

In response to a Member question about accessibility of homes, officers confirmed an implementation note had been drafted and is currently with the access officer for comment. The Panel had also been informed a training session had taken place with colleagues and the access officer providing an update on Accessible Housing Standards Policy H10.

**RESOLVED-** To:

- a) Note the work programme as set out in the report.
- b) Note the comments for action at today's Panel meeting to be incorporated.

Councillor Gruen made the Panel aware this would be his final DPP meeting, as a Panel Member and as Chair; the Panel took their time to thank Councillor Gruen for his guidance and support throughout the year.

**88 Date and Time of Next Meeting**

**RESOLVED-** To note the date and time of the next meeting as Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at 1.30pm.