

Supplementary Papers for Overview and Scrutiny Board

Date: Monday, 1 February 2021 – 6.00pm



8. Update from the Local Plan Working Group

For the Overview and Scrutiny Board to consider an update from the Lead Member of the Local Plan Working Group which outlines the scope and aims of the group following its initial meeting.

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OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD



Report subject	Local Plan Working Group Scoping Report
Meeting date	1 February 2021
Status	Public Report
Executive summary	The proposed Overview and Scrutiny Local Plan working group held an initial scoping and planning meeting on 20 January 2021. The Group considered the proposed purpose for the working group, its remit and scope and potential outcomes. This report is intended to summarise the discussions and seek the Board's agreement.
Recommendations	It is RECOMMENDED that: The scope and purpose of the working group as outlined in the report below be agreed.
Reason for recommendations	To ensure that the purpose for the working group is established and the Overview and Scrutiny Board have an opportunity to review this before the Group progresses.

Portfolio Holder(s):	Cllr P Broadhead, Regeneration, Economy and Strategic Planning
Corporate Director	Bill Cotton, Corporate Director of Regeneration and Economy
Report Authors	Working Group Members
Wards	All – Authority Wide
Classification	For Update and Information

Background detail

Reason for Review

The Overview and Scrutiny Board at its meeting in December 2020 agreed to establish a working group to look at the development of the Local Plan. It was agreed that the Chairman of the Board act as the Lead Member for the group (to be confirmed at the first meeting of the Group). The Portfolio Holder suggested that this would be a good issue for the Board to get involved in

The group has been established to look into the development of the Local Plan for BCP Council. It was felt that this was a good opportunity for the Board to contribute to the development of the Plan and provide more continuous involvement for Overview and Scrutiny rather than becoming involved at the end with a completed document. It is expected that the final plan will go back through the O&S Board.

The Chairman also had delegated authority to agree the membership of the working group. The Chairman extended the opportunity to join the working group to all non-executive members. It was also suggested that it may be useful to draw the membership of the group from across the geographical area in order to have a good range of local knowledge. The Chairman has confirmed the membership as follows:

- Christchurch – Cllr M Phipps and Cllr S McCormack
- Bournemouth – Cllr D Kelsey and Cllr K Wilson
- Poole – Cllr M Brooke and Cllr F Rice

Scope of the Working Group

Possible topics that have been agreed for inclusion in the scope of the work include:

- Local Plan Chapters – it was noted that the timetable to feed these into May or June Cabinet was ambitious.
- Urban Potential Study
- Retail and Leisure Study
- Strategic approach to accommodating development needs
- Local Housing Needs Study and 5 Years Land Supply –views requested on the overarching approach

- Green Infrastructure and Open Space and Playing Pitch strategy – being led by Leisure – overview needed
- Green Belt Study
- SEDUMS
- Holiday Accommodation Needs Assessment
- Employment Projections and Workspace Strategy
- CIL Charging Schedule
- Infrastructure Funding Statement and Local Plan Infrastructure Delivery Plan
- Gypsy and Traveller accommodation needs assessment
- Neighbourhood Plans

The working group has agreed to begin its work with initially looking at:

- The Urban Potential Study
- South East Dorset Urban Mobility Strategy - In conjunction with the Local Transport Plan (LTP).

The Board is asked to note that although the LTP is a separate plan and has a different legal standing to the Local Plan they go hand in hand and will need to be considered in conjunction with each other by the working group in order to help form a single way forward for BCP.

Resources and Timetable:

The Working Group agreed that the Lead Member would liaise with Officers on the timetable for meetings, and resource implications. It was agreed that the next meeting should be held by mid-February 2021.

Democratic Services will provide support to the Working group on the basis of one meeting per month. Democratic Services will circulate agendas and provide a report on any actions and recommendations to the Overview and Scrutiny Board. Subject specific Officer Support will be provided to the Working Group through Planning Policy Officers, the Planning Policy Manager, Head of Planning and the [Service Director](#) Growth and Infrastructure. There may also be subject specific support required from the Head of Transportation for any related matters. There is no provision for additional support, if this is subsequently identified the implications will need to be determined before it can be agreed.

Objectives and Methodology

The working group will be able to take a 'deep dive' into the various aspects of the Plan and share their opinions. It is believed that the O&S function can add value to the work by helping to assist officers in forming the general direction for the different elements of the Local Plan by sharing members' views. The group will not however be directly forming policy. The group may make recommendations to officers via the Overview and Scrutiny Board which will be assessed by Officers. The intention of the working group becoming involved in the development stage is to help provide an indication of member opinions to ensure that the development of the Local Plan was continuing to follow the Corporate Direction and wider National Planning Policy Framework in order to achieve a plan that can be found 'sound' following scrutiny at public examination

The Working Group agreed that their work and any recommendations made would be reported through the Overview and Scrutiny Board meetings on a regular basis.

The Local Plan will be developed by Officers in conjunction with the Portfolio Holder for Strategic Planning, Economy and Regeneration. The final decision on the Local Plan rests with Cabinet and Full Council.

Timescales

It is anticipated that the initial part of the review will be concluded by May 2021. However, it is probable that member engagement will be required throughout 2021 and possibly into the first months of 2022. The continuation of the Local Plan Working Group will be reviewed once the first stage has been concluded.

Measure of Effectiveness

When reviewing the progress of the local plan Working Group, the O&S Board will assess the effectiveness of the Local Plan Working Group work to ensure it is conducted in a timely and constructive way, that adds value to the progression of the local plan from development stages to public examination and adoption of a sound plan