
LOCAL PLAN MEMBER WORKING GROUP

Monday, 15th October, 2018

Present: Councillor Loraine Cox (in the Chair) and Miles Parkinson (Leader of the Council), Councillors Melissa Fisher, Judith Addison, Stewart Eaves and Kath Pratt

Apologies Eamonn Higgins and Paddy Short

16 Apologies for Absence and Substitutions

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Higgins and Short.

17 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at the meeting.

18 Minutes of the Last Meeting Held on 2nd July 2018

The Minutes of the last meeting of the Local Plan Member Working Group held on 2nd July 2018 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

Resolved - **That the Minutes be received and approved as a correct record.**

19 The New National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), 5 Year Housing Land Supply Statement and Housing Delivery Test

The Senior Planning Officer reported on the revised NPPF, 5 year housing land supply statement and housing delivery test. She reported that the new Planning Policy framework had been published in July and outlined the main changes to the document. She referred Members to the Planning Practice Guidance for further detail. She also referred to the implications of the changes to the NPPF for Hyndburn and gave detail around the areas current position.

The Leader of the Council referred to a recent Planning conference that he had attended and informed the Panel that concern had arisen from other local authorities around the housing delivery figures in respect of the figures being either too high or too low and not being tailored around need.

Councillor Addison asked if the housing number targets also included criteria around housing type. The Senior Planning Officer pointed out that the needs of the people in the area would be determined later in the planning process.

Reference was made to the implications of the new plan policy framework for Hyndburn which included the housing requirement figure to be reviewed.

Resolved - **That the report be noted.**

20 Local Plan Update and Next Steps

The Principal Planning Policy Officer updated the Panel on the Local Plan and the next steps. He reported that the 2018 consultation process had been fully completed and that they were now working towards another consultation to be carried out in early 2019. He reported that this would present the draft Core Strategy Policy Options, initial Site Assessments and there would be sustainability appraisals for both. He reported on work carried out with Lancashire County Council on the plan in respect of school capacity and constraints such as flood risk, topography, highways etc. He pointed out that once all work had been carried out to collect the required data the documents could be published

The consultation in February will not identify which specific sites are being put forward for allocation; this will take place at a later stage in the plan making process once the preferred growth and spatial options are determined.

The Principal Planning Officer reported that Members would be provided the opportunity to view input and comment on the consultation documents. He indicated that this would be done around January 2019 and that a further update for Members would be provided at the next scheduled Local Plan Member Working Group meeting in December 2018. Reference was made to key timelines.

In respect of the Site Allocation DPD he reported that there was a long list of sites processed in four stages and gave details of these as outlined in the report. He reported that sites should be deliverable.

Agreed - That the report be noted.

21 Local Plan Evidence Base

The Principal Planning Officer provided information on the Local Plan Evidence Base. He reported on the HENA Study where the NPPF required local plans to be based upon local housing need assessment. He reported that Hyndburn Council had worked closely with Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council by jointly commissioning GL Hearn to conduct a HENA study in June 2018. He pointed out that a report was expected by the end of October 2018 and that this was key in helping to justify preferred growth options for the Core Strategy. He reported that findings would be presented to the Local Plan Member Working Group at the meeting to be held in December 2018 along with the Core Strategy Policies.

The Chief Planning and Transportation Officer advised on the importance of working with neighbouring local authorities and that timings with Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council were good but work would be needed to align with other neighbouring authorities.

The Principal Planning Officer reported on the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment. He reported that this work had been commissioned which will look extensively at sites in Hyndburn. The Leader of the Council reported that Hyndburn had provided more sites than the required figure whereas other authorities had not met their targets.

Councillor Addison suggested that plans should include accommodation such as lifetime homes which would enable residents to adapt their homes as their needs changed.

The Principal Planning Officer reported on the need for an Open Space Audits set out within the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the Senior Planning Officer

reported on the Authority Monitoring report including progress on the plan making function and effectiveness of plans.

Agreed - **That the report be noted.**

22 Huncoat Masterplan Update

The Chief Planning and Transportation Officer provided an update on the Huncoat Housing Zone. He referred to the key stages in the Local Development Scheme (LDS) and reported that stage one in evidence gathering was approaching completion and that they would be moving towards the second stage, which included a public consultation, and then masterplanning. He indicated that dates would be announced shortly in respect of the public consultation and that Members would be informed of these.

Councillor Addison requested an option to visit the Huncoat Housing Zone and the Chief Planning and Transportation Officer indicated that he would organise a visit for Members.

The Leader of the Council reported that Huncoat train station would be key to the development of the site should the new train line be agreed.

Agreed - **That the report be noted.**

Signed:.....

Date:

Chair of the meeting
At which the minutes were confirmed