

**Meeting of the
Local Planning Executive Advisory Panel**

Meeting Notes

**The Council Chamber, The Symington Building,
Adam and Eve Street, Market Harborough**

Monday 24 July 2017

Commencing: 2.00pm.

Councillors Present: Brodrick (Chairman) (until 2.34pm), Galton, Dr Hill, Holyoak, Nunn, Mrs Page and Rickman.

Councillors observing (non-voting): Mrs Burrell and Elliott.

Officers Present: D. Atkinson (DA), J. Dewar (JD), K. Reed (KR), and P. Storey (PS).

Item	Action
<p>1. Apologies for Absence</p> <p>There were none.</p>	
<p>2. Declarations of Interests</p> <p>Cllr Brodrick declared an interest as she is a member of a number of boards which form part of Waterloo Housing. She stated that she would leave the meeting for consideration of report 2 - Harborough District Local Plan: Draft Proposed Submission, Further Changes to Policies. The Vice-Chairman, Cllr Rickman, would take the Chair for this item and close the meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Galton declared an interest as a dual hatted member relating to a site involving land in Leicestershire County Council ownership. He stated that he had no involvement in relation to the site and was not prejudiced in any way.</p> <p>Cllr Dr Hill declared an interest as a dual hatted member relating to a site involving land in Leicestershire County Council ownership. She stated that she had no involvement in relation to the site and was not prejudiced in any way.</p> <p>Cllr Nunn declared an interest relating to a site involving land in Leicestershire County Council ownership as an officer of the County Council. She stated that she had no involvement in relation to the site and was not prejudiced in any way.</p> <p>Cllr Page declared an interest as a dual hatted member relating to a site involving land in Leicestershire County Council ownership. She stated that she had no involvement in relation to the site and was not prejudiced in any way.</p>	
<p>3. Notes of the Previous Meeting</p> <p>The notes of the meeting held on 19 June 2017 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.</p>	
<p>4. Actions Arising</p> <p>There were none.</p>	
<p>5. Harborough District Local Plan: Draft Proposed Submission –Employment Sensitivity</p>	

The Head of Planning and Regeneration presented his report requesting the Panel to advise the Executive in relation to the issue of the sensitivity of future growth at Magna Park in terms of the need for further housing development in Harborough District, in neighbouring districts and in other districts in Leicester and Leicestershire, Coventry and Warwickshire, in the context of the Duty to Cooperate.

In May 2017 a Duty to Cooperate Workshop with neighbouring authorities highlighted that further work was required to support the Draft Proposed Submission Local Plan and Policy BE2 relating to strategic distribution. There was a clear need to ensure the relationship between employment growth and housing was sound and clearly evidenced and that any resulting Duty to Cooperate matters could be addressed. The Panel on 19th June 2017 had received a verbal report on that workshop and Panel members requested that notes of the workshop be sent to them. At the meeting the Panel had also received a revised Policy BE2, however further research (now undertaken by GL Hearn) was required to understand the housing implications of strategic distribution growth in the District. That research has now been received. There was a possibility that the conclusions might change as a result of workshops to be held later in the week of this meeting.

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Consultation has taken place with Duty to Cooperate partners and further consultation with them will take place before the policy is finalised. The Council's retained lead Counsel has also been consulted. Liaison with statutory consultees and Duty to Cooperate partners is also ongoing. The Interim Strategic and Local Planning Manager stated that there was a Duty to Co-operate with partners but this was not a duty to agree with them, although it was hoped that there would be agreement.

It was noted that the Objectively Assessed Need (OAN) has not changed, although the housing requirement, to be included in the Local Plan, has been increased and the figure being worked to was now 557.

The Panel expressed some concerns regarding how traffic movements could be managed in relation to Policy BE2 2c and d to ensure an increase in the proportion of the workforce commuting from locations within the District whilst ensuring this did not lead to excessive traffic congestion on the local road network both within and outside the District. The Interim Strategic and Local Planning Manager stated that the Local Plan was covered the period through to 2031 and there would be dynamic movements in household formation and location and work movements within that period. Traffic impacts would be assessed by Leicestershire Highways Authority.

The Panel ADVISED THE EXECUTIVE that, subject to any further comments received from Duty to Cooperate partners and considered at the Panel meeting on 23rd August 2017, the Executive be minded to recommend to Council that Policy BE2 as set out in Appendix A to the officer's report be incorporated into the Proposed Submission Local Plan.

Councillor Page asked that her vote against the above advice to Executive be recorded in the notes of this meeting.

6. Harborough District Local Plan: Draft Proposed Submission, Further Changes to Policies

Cllr Brodrick (Chairman) left the room for the consideration of this item. Cllr Rickman, Vice-Chairman, took the Chair for this item and closed the meeting.

The Head of Planning and Regeneration presented his report, requesting the Panel to advise the Executive to incorporate further changes into the Draft Proposed Submission Local Plan before recommending it to Council for approval for publication.

The Panel at its previous meeting on 19th June 2017 had, subject to any changes recommended to the Executive by the Panel and/or arising from outstanding evidence, advised the Executive that the Draft Proposed Submission Local Plan document and associated Policies Maps be considered by the Executive and recommended to Council for publication in order that the public and interested parties can make representations on their soundness.

The report stated that further amendment had been made since that date and these will be included in the final Proposed Submission Local Plan that is programmed to come back to the Panel meeting on 23rd August 2017. The report and appendices A and B included the introductory statements added in each chapter and the proposed substantive changes to policies.

The Proposed Submission Local Plan is expected to be published in September 2017 to enable the public and interested parties to comment on its soundness under Regulation 20 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. Representations made will be submitted alongside the Plan to the Secretary of State together with a statement relating to them in order to enable the Examination to be undertaken.

It was noted that the housing figures in the Local Plan would be updated to include new planning consents which were granted by 30th September 2017 before submission and that the five year housing supply includes resolutions to grant consents for housing development. Members queried whether, in the event that further consents reduced the need for site allocations in Market Harborough, the site at Burnmill Farm could be only released towards the end of the plan period. Officers responded that, despite the NPPF referring to bringing sites forward from later in the Plan period, Inspectors preferred to see development from the beginning of the Plan period and not to have phased development through the period of the Plan, unless required for infrastructure reasons.

Questions were asked in relation to Policy H6 - Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation. The Interim Strategic and Local Planning Manager stated that the explanation to this policy confirmed that a pitch was the size of two caravans and that a Showman's Licence was required for a pitch on a travelling showman's site. It was agreed to include reference to licence holders in relation to travelling showpeople.

The Panel referred the Draft Proposed Submission Local Plan to Executive with the comments as set out below.

The Panel ADVISED THE EXECUTIVE that the Draft Proposed Submission Local Plan document be considered by the Executive and recommended to Council for publication be amended to include the text in Appendix A and the revised policies in Appendix B to the officer's report, with the following suggested amendments:

- **Policy GD7 Green Wedges: 1 – the addition of Bushby to the Leicester/Scraptoft Green Wedge;**
- **Section 13 Introduction 13.1.1 – to refer to Scraptoft, Thurnby and Bushby as being adjacent to (rather than forming part of) the built up area of Leicester;**
- **Section 13 Introduction 13.1.1 – the addition of the word “some” before “bus services to Leicester;”**
- **Section 14 Introduction 14.1.1 – replace “numerous” with “there are” before “bus services connecting the town...”**

The meeting closed at 2.59pm.