

PAPER NO. 4

REPORT TO THE EXECUTIVE MEETING OF 7 MARCH 2016

Meeting: Executive
Date: 7 March 2015
Subject: Notes and recommendations of meetings of Executive Advisory Panels
Report of: Peter Storey, Democratic Officer
Portfolio Holders: Councillor King
Status: For information and to agree recommendations

1 Purpose of the Report

1.1 To advise Executive of the work and to seek agreement to the recommendations of the following Advisory Panel:

- Local Planning Executive Advisory Panel

2 Recommendation:

2.1 **Recommended that the record of the following meeting be noted and the recommendations therein be agreed:**

- **Local Planning Executive Advisory Panel: 9 December 2015 (Appendix A)**

2.2 **That the recommendations contained in the notes of the meeting be agreed.**

3 Summary of Reasons for the Recommendations

3.1 The arrangements for the Executive Advisory Panels require that they report back to Executive with notes of their meetings.

4 Impact on Communities

4.1 None.

5 Key Facts

5.1 None.

6 Legal Issues

6.1 None.

- 7 Resource Issues
- 7.1 None.

- 8 Equality Impact Assessment Implications/Outcomes
- 8.1 None.

- 9 Impact on the Organisation
- 9.1 None.

- 10 Community Safety Implications
- 10.1 None.

- 11. Carbon Management Implications
- 11.1 None.

- 12. Risk Management Implications
- 12.1 None.

- 13 Consultation
- 13.1 None.

- 14 Options Considered
- 14.1 None.

- 15 Background Papers
- 15.1 None.

Previous report(s): None

Information Issued Under Sensitive Issue Procedure: N

Ward Members Notified: n/a

Appendix A: Local Planning Executive Advisory Panel: 9 December 2015

**Local Planning
Executive Advisory Panel**

Meeting Notes

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

Wednesday 9th December 2015

Commencing: 2.00 pm

Councillors Present: Galton, Dr Hill, Holyoak, King (Chairman) (arrived at 3.07pm), Mrs Page (left at 3.58pm), Rickman & Tomlin.

Officers Present: D. Atkinson (DA), T. Nelson (TN), J. Parsons (JP), R. Patel (RP), S. Pointer (SP) and P. Storey (PS).

Item	Action
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In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman (Cllr Mrs Page) took the Chair for items 1 -3 and the introduction to item 4.

1.

Apologies for Absence

There were none.

2. **Notes of the Previous Meeting**

The notes of the meeting held on 4 November 2015 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3. **Matters Arising**

There were none.

The Chairman arrived following the introduction to item 4 and took the Chair.

4. **Kibworth Petition**

JP gave legal advice on the petition submitted by Kibworth Neighbourhood Planning Group, which had been referred to the Panel by Council on 2 November 2015. The advice was that although the Core Strategy was now out of date in terms of housing and as the Local Plan not sufficiently advanced the Council would most probably lose any appeal and most probably have costs awarded against it should any planning applications be refused on the grounds of prematurity. It was suggested that many other local authorities would be in a similar position and that the Executive be asked to raise this issue with the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) to see what action could be taken.

SP

The Panel agreed to let members of the Kibworth Neighbourhood Planning Group address them as the issues raised were District wide. The representatives referred to the cumulative effect of piecemeal development and the impact on infrastructure and transport. It was agreed that these were issues for the District as a whole.

RECOMMENDATION to the Executive that the issue of determining planning applications before the up to date, adopted, District Local Plan is in place was agreed be raised with the appropriate ministers within the Department

for Communities and Local Government.

Members stated that they had raised transport issues with the County Council and been informed that LCC had limited powers because of lack of District policy on pooling transport contributions from developers. Currently in the county only North West Leicestershire had followed this route. SP

The Panel wished to send a letter to the County Council expressing their concerns and asked the officers to draft a letter for members to comment on.

RECOMMENDATION to the Executive that a letter be sent to the County Council expressing concerns at the transport and education issues arising from the cumulative effect of piecemeal development.

5. Local Plan Options Consultation – Initial Feedback

TN provided initial feedback on the Local Plan Options consultation which had ended on 30 October 2015. 3,897 representations had been received from 563 respondents. 67% of the representations had been received via the on line portal, which was a high percentage for a Local Plan. It was noted that detailed analysis of the responses would be undertaken and reported back to future meetings. TN

Members had received some complaints that the on line portal had been difficult to access and use. TN stated that the complaints had been investigated and it was not clear what the issues had been. The Panel asked that the issues with the on line portal be resolved for future consultations. TN

SP stated that the strategic transport issues were being considered and it was intended to carry out further testing of Strategic Development Areas. It was noted that a further report would be made to the Panel, including any impacts on the timetable for the Local Plan. SP

It was noted that in Table 3 at item 5 the number of respondents to each Option did not necessarily indicate the number favouring that particular Option (as suggested by Q3 'Which Housing and Employment Option(s) do you favour?' and Q9 'We'd like to know which Strategic Distribution Option(s) you favour.')

6. Strategic Transport Assessment Evidence Document

SP introduced a report on the Strategic Transport Assessment of options. Scenarios 6-11 were being concentrated on as they were informed by later information on housing supply, potential SDA sites, potential growth at Magna Park and reflected the Local Plan options. The County Council had expressed a preference for focussing development in strategic development areas. SP stated that it was proposed to carry out further transport modelling of potential SDA sites. SP

It was AGREED that:

1. An email link be sent to Panel members to enable them to access the on line data. SP
2. That the Market Harborough figures for number of dwellings in Appendix A be clarified. TN
3. That the figures in the dwellings column of Table 1 be explained further. TN
4. That a report be made to the next meeting of the Panel updating the information and providing more clarification. SP

7. Local Plan - Infrastructure Providers

RP reported that responses from infrastructure providers to the consultation had been very low, especially from the utilities. A reminder had been sent and the time extended. DA stated that officers needed to identify specific individuals DA/RP

within stakeholder organisations to approach for a response and generally increase levels of proactivity in terms of obtaining input from stakeholder organisations. Some of the responses received related to specific sites rather than infrastructure generally.

The Panel noted possible inconsistency in the responses from Highways England regarding strategic distribution development in Lutterworth. SP thought that some of the Highways England responses were in relation to housing development rather than strategic distribution and was asked to seek clarification.

SP

It was AGREED that:

1. Clarification be sought from Highways England regarding their responses and particularly potential strategic distribution development at Lutterworth.
2. The views of the A5 Working Group be sought at their meeting in January 2016 on development in the A5 corridor.

SP

8. Local Plan – Proposed Content

SP provided an illustration of the likely content and format of the Local Plan. The Chairman asked members to send any comments to SP outside the meeting.

SP stated that policies in the local plan would protect existing employment sites and encourage green infrastructure, affordable and sustainable housing. The Panel suggested that there should be policies on self build and extra care provision. There was also an opportunity to include sites for bungalows and single storey dwellings when sites were allocated for housing.

SP

The panel noted the scope and draft content of the Local Plan.

9. Duty to Co-operate – Strategic Planning Issues

TN informed the Panel of the strategic planning issues which would form the basis of continuing duty to co-operate discussions with neighbouring local authorities and other bodies as part of the local plan preparation process. It was noted that the Council had to co-operate not just within its strategic housing market area but with other neighbouring local authorities and the bodies could vary according to the strategic planning issue.

The Panel noted the report.

10. Scraftoft Neighbourhood Plan – Examiner’s Report and Summary of Progress on Other Neighbourhood Plans

SP presented a report on the Scraftoft Neighbourhood Plan and stated that Examiner’s recommendations had been accepted by the Parish Council. A report would be made to Council on 14 December 2015 to seek a referendum on accepting the Plan, provisionally to be held on 11 February 2016.

Officers were encouraged to see that most Neighbourhood Plans being produced contained proposals for housing development. Without a Neighbourhood Plan any housing developments would need to be considered under the Core Strategy (which was out of date in terms of housing) and would therefore mainly fall within the purview of the NPPF.

The Panel noted the timetable for the Scraftoft Neighbourhood Plan.

11. Five Year Housing Supply: Interim report 30 September 2015

TN presented the latest five year housing supply calculation. The annual housing target looks likely to be exceeded in 2015/16. SP stated that if the current year’s

trend continued over the second half of 2015/16 it could lead to the 20% buffer being removed from the calculation. There were issues with future development, however, where some development was of a lower density than expected.

Members stated that some of the reasons that the five year housing target was not being met were the number of sites where allocations were not coming through, the need to replace completed developments in the target and the inability of the Council to require developers to increase their build rate. DA stated that the Government had looked at ways to encourage developers to build once they had received planning consent but had not decided on any action.

It was noted that the housing supply calculation would be updated at 1 April 2015.

12. Dates of Future Meetings

- 13 January 2016

It was AGREED that the Member workshop planned for 20 January 2015 would be premature and should be cancelled. SP

The meeting closed at 4.15.p.m.