

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**16 JUNE 2021**

### **LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK PROGRESS UPDATE**

#### **1.0 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To update Members on progress towards delivery of the Plan Review in relation to the Allocations and Development Management Policies and seek approval to consult later in the summer on an Allocations & Development Management Options Report. To seek approval to update the Plan Review Timetable to reflect this approach.

#### **2.0 Background Information**

- 2.1 Committee will recall that there have been a number of delays to the preparation of the Allocations & Development Management element of the Plan Review. These have principally been caused by the imposition of the lockdown in response to the pandemic and ongoing difficulties in relation to the identification of potential sites to accommodate additional Gypsy & Traveller pitches.
- 2.2 The evidence base that supports the Plan Review has now been substantially completed and a further call for sites has identified potential options for site allocations. The Local Development Framework Task Group considered the various issues on 7 June 2021.

#### **3.0 Proposed Approach**

- 3.1 Given the delays experienced and the necessity to address the current shortfall in available pitches for Gypsy & Travellers the Task Group considered that the next public stage of the Plan Review process - the Allocations & Development Management Options Report consultation - should occur this summer. In order for this to be possible a number of practical issues need to be addressed.
- 3.2 Firstly the next Committee Meeting is not until 8 September 2021 and therefore it is proposed that delegated authority be given to the Director - Planning & Growth to prepare and publish an Options Report, this would be done in consultation with the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Opposition Spokesperson of this Committee and the Local Development Framework Task Group.
- 3.3 Secondly, as is the normal practice, ward Members who are impacted upon by proposals will be consulted and have an opportunity to raise any issues or concerns with the Task Group. This approach will seek to ensure that adjacent ward Members are also consulted as appropriate.
- 3.4 Thirdly, that given the difficulties of consulting over the summer and the potential COVID issues in relation to consultation activities that a longer period of consultation is undertaken providing enough opportunity for people to participate into early September.

#### **4.0 Proposed LDF Plan Review Timetable**

4.1 The Local Development Framework Task Group at its meeting on 7 June 2021 following consideration of the proposed approach set out in Section 3 have endorsed a new proposed LDF Timetable:

<b>Amended Allocations &amp; Development Management DPD</b>
<b>Options Report (July/August/September 2021)</b> Detailed Approach to Gypsy & Traveller policy and allocations
<b>Publication of Draft DPD (and final Integrated Impact Assessment) for period of Public Representation (December 2021/January 2022)</b>
Consideration of representations and any potential amendments
<b>Submission of DPD to Secretary of State (March 2022)</b>
<b>Examination by Inspector (June 2022)</b>
Consultation on <b>Main Modifications (September/October 2022)</b>
Receipt of <b>Inspector's Report (December 2022)</b>
<b>Adoption and Publication (February 2023)</b>

#### **5.0 Equalities Implications**

5.1 An Integrated Impact Assessment is being prepared alongside the Plan Review process to ensure that the impact on groups with protected characteristics of the proposals are considered as part of the policy making process. It is clearly extremely important that housing provision in line with identified need is identified for the Gypsy & Traveller community.

#### **6.0 Digital Implications**

6.1 No digital implications identified.

#### **7.0 Financial Implications – FIN21-22/2419**

7.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

#### **8.0 Community Plan – Alignment to Objectives**

8.1 The Community Plan Objective “Accelerate the supply of new homes including associated facilities” includes a requirement to complete the Plan Review and identify sites for Gypsy & Traveller pitch provision.

#### **9.0 RECOMMENDATIONS that:**

- a) the progress set out in the report towards producing the Allocations & Development Management Options Report be noted;
- b) the proposed amended timetable as set out at paragraph 4.1 be adopted and comes into force on 17 June 2021; and

- c) the Director – Planning & Growth be given delegated authority to finalise and publish for consultation the Allocations & Development Management Options Report following consultation with relevant Ward Members as set out in paragraph 3.3 the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Opposition Spokesperson and the Local Development Framework Task Group.

**Reason for Recommendations**

**To comply with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and amending regulations.**

**Background Papers**

Local Development Scheme September 2020.

For further information please contact Matthew Norton on Ext 5852.

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