

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM: 12</b>
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2019</b>	<b>CATEGORY</b>
<b>REPORT FROM:</b>	<b>STRATEGIC DIRECTOR (SERVICE DELIVERY)</b>	<b>OPEN</b>
<b>MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:</b>	<b>KAREN BEAVIN 01283 595749</b> <a href="mailto:Karen.beavin@southderbyshire.gov.uk">Karen.beavin@southderbyshire.gov.uk</a>	<b>DOC:</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>LOCAL PLAN UPDATE</b>	
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	<b>ALL</b>	<b>TERMS OF REFERENCE: EDS03</b>

## **1.0 Recommendations**

- 1.1 That the Committee endorses the Council and the authorities comprising the Derby Housing Market Area (HMA) preparation of separate local plans, whilst developing Statements of Common Ground as required.

## **2.0 Purpose of the Report**

- 2.1 To update the Committee on the work to review the Council's adopted Local Plan and to seek endorsement of the way forward.

## **3.0 Detail**

- 3.1 At the meeting of this Committee on 25 January 2018 it was resolved to continue the established joint working with the Council's Derby HMA partners (Amber Valley and Derby City, together with the County Council) and to explore the potential of an overarching joint strategy/plan, liaising where necessary with other neighbouring local authorities.
- 3.2 By way of background regarding the current position of the other HMA authorities with their respective local plans, Derby City adopted its Local Plan Part 1 in January 2017 and is currently producing a draft Part 2 Plan for consultation; Amber Valley withdrew its Local Plan from examination in May 2019 and is beginning the local plan process afresh. South Derbyshire adopted its Local Plan Part 1 in June 2016 and the Local Plan Part 2 in November 2017; the Council will need to determine by June 2021 whether a review of the Plan is required.
- 3.3 A key mechanism for efficient joint working across the Derby HMA is the Joint Advisory Board (JAB), comprising one or two officers from each of the Derby HMA authorities, together with from the County Council, in addition to the appropriate Member representative for each authority, for this Council being the Chair or Vice-chair of this Committee.
- 3.4 The 'Future of Local Planning' report of 25 January 2018 referred to above highlights the provision in national planning policy for joint strategic plan making, i.e. a strategic plan covering more than one local planning authority. There is a 'sliding scale' of

involvement and thus inter-dependency between the HMA partners across the series of options that range from a Derby HMA-wide joint strategic plan, to each authority individually producing its own local plan. Discussion around these options took place at the JAB meeting on 4 July 2019 at which it was decided that officers should give further consideration to the options around joint strategic planning before making a recommendation to the Board.

- 3.5 Regardless of the plan-making option chosen, developing a Statement of Common Ground (SCG) throughout the plan making process between the HMA partners would be necessary. On 23 August 2019 officers met first with the Planning Advisory Service (PAS) specifically to discuss the formation and potential detail of a SCG, and then following that meeting, continued to discuss and evaluate the way forward. The SCG would not be a statutory document but would be an important part of the evidence base for each authority's Local Plan. The key focus of a SCG would be housing, however, it was recognised that this would inevitably overlap with work on employment land provision and would need to be underpinned by cross boundary work on infrastructure and the Green Belt. The SCG, or SCGs, would be iterative whilst the evidence base for the new local plans is established. Notably, independent evidence of Derby City's housing capacity will be required in order to justify any of the City's housing need being met elsewhere within the HMA.
- 3.6 Following the meeting with PAS and in the light of what a detailed SCG could include, HMA officers discussed whether a joint strategic plan would be the best fit for the Derby HMA, or whether producing a more detailed SCG(s) would be preferable. Officers agreed that the most appropriate option would be for each authority to prepare a new local plan for their area, with an end date of at least 2038, and that the authorities should seek to achieve and maintain alignment between plans. It was also agreed that some form of joint strategy or similar non-statutory document, such as could be appended to the SCG and subject to a light-touch sustainability appraisal, should be prepared, to be informed by the conclusions of the HMA Growth Opportunities Study which is in the process of being commissioned by Derby City Council through the JAB.
- 3.7 For South Derbyshire, to pursue separate local plans is the pragmatic option not least because of the different political structures and electoral systems of the HMA authorities.
- 3.8 The decision taken at the last JAB was for the officer discussions summarised above to lead to a recommendation of a preferred option being brought to and agreed by the JAB. It is, therefore, recommended that the officer conclusions set out above form the recommendation to the next meeting of the JAB. It should be noted that Amber Valley Borough Council at its Full Council meeting on 25 September endorsed the conclusion that the most appropriate option for each authority would be the preparation of a new local plan for their area, with the aim of the respective Derby HMA plans being prepared over a common timeframe.

#### **4.0 Financial Implications**

- 4.1 There are no direct financial implications from this report.

#### **5.0 Corporate Plan Implications**

##### **Employment Implications**

- 5.1 None identified

## **Legal Implications**

5.2 None identified

## **Corporate Plan Implications**

5.3 To facilitate and deliver a range of integrated and sustainable housing and community infrastructure is included as a key aim within the Corporate Plan.

## **Risk Impact**

5.4 None identified

## **6.0 Community Impact**

### **Consultation**

6.1 No public consultation directly arising from this report however a revised local plan would be subject to public consultation throughout the process.

### **Equality and Diversity Impact**

6.2 None directly arising from this report.

### **Social Value Impact**

6.3 None directly arising from this report.

### **Environmental Sustainability**

6.4 Local Plans are subject to sustainability appraisal as part of the production process.

## **7.0 Conclusions**

7.1 The options regarding the review of the Local Plan have been discussed and considered at length and the recommendation that the Council produce its own revised Local Plan for South Derbyshire is considered to be the best way forward for the authority.

## **8.0 Background Papers**

8.1 None.