

REPORT TO:	ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM:
DATE OF MEETING:	29TH SEPTEMBER 2016	CATEGORY: RECOMMENDED
REPORT FROM:	DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY AND PLANNING	OPEN PARAGRAPH NO:
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SUBJECT:	DRAFT LOCAL PLAN PART 2 CONSULTATION RESPONSES	REF:
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	DISTRICT	TERMS OF REFERENCE: EDS03

1.0 Recommendations

1.1 It is recommended that the Committee note the content of the report.

2.0 Purpose of Report

2.1 To update Members on the Draft Local Plan Part 2 consultation.

3.0 Detail

3.1 Members will be aware that the Council undertook consultation on the Draft Local Plan Part 2 (the Draft Plan) from 20th June to 15th August earlier this year. The consultation included a series of seven public drop-in sessions around the District.

3.2 The majority of drop-in sessions were reasonably well attended with over 220 people having visited the events to gain further information about the Draft Plan. The most well attended sessions were at Etwall and Hilton.

3.3 The Draft Local Plan Part 2 consultation was a Regulation 18 consultation, which is the penultimate consultation in the process. Following this the final consultation to be undertaken is the Regulation 19 Pre-Submission consultation; this is concerned with the soundness and legal compliance of the Plan, as opposed to offering options or the opportunity to suggest changes.

3.4 There were 804 comments received overall regarding the Draft Plan from 184 consultees. Stakeholders and members of the public accounted for around 70% of responses and developers the remaining 30%. Comments were received on all aspects of the Plan; the majority of comments received were regarding the proposed housing sites and settlement boundaries. Policies covering retail, telecommunications, shopfronts and retail attracted the fewest responses.

3.5 Many comments were received regarding the proposed settlement boundaries. The majority of consultees agreed that the correct settlements have settlement boundaries. Over 50 changes to the proposed settlement boundary lines were suggested.

- 3.6 It is to be expected that the majority of comments received were regarding the proposed housing sites. All but a few of the sites promoted through this consultation had already been appraised by the Authority as part of the plan process. Any new information submitted regarding any previously-promoted site informed the Sustainability Appraisal process and in turn the production of the Pre-Submission Plan. A mixed response was received with regard to whether the proposed housing allocations should have their own individual policies.
- 3.7 With regard to the policy on Marina Development many respondents provided a mixed response, tending to suggest support in principle but with reservations about the detail. The Environment Agency highlighted the ambiguity in national planning guidance regarding the relevant Flood Risk Vulnerability Classification for water-based recreation that included sleeping accommodation. The Canal and River Trust were unclear as to the policy's overall purpose. In seeking to address the concerns raised, further discussions have taken place with the Canal and River Trust to determine the best way forward.
- 3.8 As with previous consultations, many responses were received with regard to Local Green Spaces, the majority of which supported proposed Local Green Spaces and/or promoted new areas for designation. A requirement of the national planning practice guidance is to contact the landowners of proposed Local Green Spaces and a consultation with landowners began in August with a request for comments to be received by 9 September. A number of landowners have expressed concern or objection to the proposed allocation of their land as Local Green Space. Others have expressed support provided that the boundary of the Local Green Space is amended slightly, for example to exclude an area of garden. Following the direct consultation with landowners, assessment of the suitability of proposed Local Green Spaces with regard to the criteria set out in the National Planning Policy Framework can be updated.
- 3.9 Other specific comments have been received regarding the Draft Plan and these have been considered and alterations made where appropriate.
- 3.10 Consulted upon at the same time were the Sustainability Appraisal, Habitat Regulations Screening Report and the Draft Consultation Statement. All of these documents evolve throughout the consultation process. Further information and detail has come forward through the Draft Plan consultation and as such changes will be made to these documents where appropriate, prior to the Regulation 19 consultation.
- 3.11 All of the comments made on the Draft Plan have been considered and have informed the finalising of the Pre-Submission Local Plan Part 2. All comments will be published on the Council's website alongside all other responses to the Part 1 and previous Part 2 consultation.

4.0 Financial Implications

- 4.1 None arising directly from this report.

5.0 Corporate Implications

- 5.1 The adoption of a complete South Derbyshire Local Plan is a key priority of the District Council and is included as an action within the Corporate Plan. The

successful adoption of Part 2 has many benefits throughout the work of the Council and will allow the spatial planning of the District to be appropriately addressed.

6.0 **Community Implications**

6.1 South Derbyshire will remain as one of the fastest growing areas in the country, and an adopted Local Plan will ensure this is achieved in a sustainable way, providing necessary infrastructure and community facilities for existing and new residents.

7.0 **Conclusion**

7.1 The consultation process on the Local Plan has continued to be an important element of the process and has been comprehensive throughout.

8.0 **Background Papers**

8.1 Draft Local Plan Part 2 – see www.south-derbys.gov.uk/localplanpart2