

Committee: Individual Cabinet Member Decision Making - Planning Services

Date of meeting: 27 February 2018

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Subject: | Draft Response to the new London Plan Consultation |
| Lead Officer: | Suzanne Parkes, Planning Policy & Strategy Manager |
| Portfolio Holder: | Councillor Karen Randolph, Planning Services |
| Link to Council Priorities: | P1, P4 |
| Exempt information: | None |
| Delegated status: | For Resolution |
| Key decision: | No |

Executive Summary:

The last London Plan (Further Alterations to the London Plan (FALP)), adopted 2015, is currently under review to take account of changes in national policy and to address several strategic issues raised during the Examination in Public (EiP). This includes the failure to meet identified housing need. As part of the review, the Mayor of London has published its draft new London Plan for public consultation between 1 December and 2 March 2018.

As a neighbouring borough, the Council is particularly interested in those cross-boundary strategic planning issues that could have implications for its own Local Plan preparation and how the benefits of growth and development in London could be shared with other local authorities.

Recommendation:

that the Council's response to the draft new London Plan (as set out in Appendix 'A' to this report) be approved and submitted to the Mayor of London by 2nd March 2018.

Report:

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The last London Plan (Further Alterations to the London Plan (FALP)), adopted 2015, is currently under review to take account of changes in national policy and to address several strategic issues raised during the Examination in Public (EiP). This includes the failure to meet identified housing needs. As part of the review, the Mayor of London has published its draft new London Plan for public consultation between 1 December and 2 March 2018.
- 1.2 The new London Plan will set out the overarching planning framework for those local authorities within the Capital, and provide the policies within which each London Authority must confirm when preparing their own individual Local Plans. The Plan will provide a strategic plan for development for the next 25 years, from 2019 to 2041.

2 The draft new London Plan

- 2.1 This London Plan is an entirely new Plan, by the Mayor of London Sadiq Khan, and will be the third London Plan to be prepared (previous plans are dated 2004 and 2011). Once adopted it will replace all previous versions including any modifications and alterations. Those most recently made were in 2015 with the adoption of the Further Alterations to the London Plan (FALP).
- 2.2 Overall, the Plan differs significantly from the current London Plan. It introduces a new concept of 'Good Growth', which the Mayor defines as growth that is socially and economically inclusive and environmentally sustainable (cross-cutting policies). The Mayor considers this Plan to:
- be a more engaging and accessible Plan, with supporting maps and graphics;
 - be more tangible, with descriptive and directive policies;
 - better integrate with the different policy areas and explain how the various policies tie together; and
 - be more ambitious and delivery focused.
- 2.3 The draft new London Plan is structured as follow:
- Chapter 1: Six Core 'Good Growth' policies
 1. Building strong and inclusive communities
 2. Making the best use of land
 3. Creating a healthy city
 4. Delivering the homes Londoners need
 5. Growing a good economy
 6. Increasing efficiency and resilience
 - Chapter 2: Overall spatial development pattern, including connection within the Wider South East
 - Chapter 3: Design
 - Chapter 4: Housing
 - Chapter 5: Social Infrastructure
 - Chapter 6: Economy
 - Chapter 7: Heritage and Culture
 - Chapter 8: Green Infrastructure and Natural Environment
 - Chapter 9: Sustainable Infrastructure
 - Chapter 10: Transport
 - Chapter 11: Funding the London Plan
 - Chapter 12: Monitoring

3 Key issues for the Borough

- 3.1 As with the FALP, the key issue for the Borough emerging from the draft new London Plan is housing provision. However, in contrast to the FALP the new draft London Plan seeks to meet the housing needs of Londoner's within the Greater London Authority (GLA) area. In addition, the Mayor acknowledges the series of complex and interlinked sub-market housing

areas that operate within London and is seeking to increase the delivery of new homes within Outer London ensuring that need is met where it arises, where there are opportunities for growth, and in the most sustainable locations.

- 3.2 Nevertheless, concern remains as to:
- the type of new homes to be delivered
 - the need for a strategic review of the Green Belt led by the Mayor; and
 - the need for the Mayor to acknowledge the Kingston and North-East Surrey Housing Market Area (Area).
- 3.3 The above points are set out in detail in the Council's draft response (Appendix A to this report).
- 3.4 In addition, moving forwards one key area of interest for this Council will be the identification of Kingston as an Opportunity Area for growth post 2033; linked to the development of Cross Rail 2. The draft new London Plan identifies the potential for an additional 9,000 homes and 5,000 jobs in the Chessington and Berrylands and Hogsmill Valley areas.

4 Conclusion

- 4.1 Adjoining the Greater London Authority area, the draft new London Plan is an extremely important segment of the wider planning policy framework that the Council needs to be aware of and respond to, ensuring that the interests of Elmbridge Borough are protected.
- 4.2 The Council therefore needs to continue to engage with the Mayor and neighbouring London Boroughs through the preparation of both the new London Plan and, their respective individual Local Plans.

5 Recommendation

- 5.1 Subject to the agreement to the Portfolio Holder the Council's formal response will be submitted to the Mayor by 2 March 2018. In submitted the response it will be made clear that it is subject to the Council's standard 'call-in' procedures and that the Council reserves the right to make any amendments.

Financial implications:

None for the purpose of this report.

Environmental implications:

None for the purpose of this report.

Legal implications:

If the Council does not respond to the consultation, it could be argued that it has not met its 'duty to cooperate'. This is a legal duty introduced by the Localism Act 2011 and incorporated into the Town and Country Planning Act 2004 (as amended). The implications could be that the Council is vulnerable to challenge

when preparing its new Local Plan. Not responding to the consultation could also mean that the Council forfeits the opportunity to appear at an Examination in Public of the London Plan.

Equality Implications:

None for the purpose of this report.

Risk Management Implications:

None for the purpose of this report.

Community Safety Implications:

None for the purpose of this report.

Background papers:

None for the purpose of this report.

Enclosures/Appendices:

Appendix 'A': Elmbridge Borough Council's Response to draft new London Plan.

Contact details:

Suzanne Parkes: 01372 474810 sparkes@elmbridge.gov.uk