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Elmbridge Borough Council

Local Plan Working Group

Report of a meeting held on Thursday, 11 July 2019

Members of the Committee:

* B.J.F. Cheyne (Chairman)
Mrs. S.R. Kapadia (Vice-Chairman)

* A.P. Burley	Mrs. D.M. Mitchell
* C.R. Green	* Mrs. K. Randolph
* P.M. Harman	

Also present:

J.W. Browne, Mrs. C. Elmer, N. Haig-Brown, Rachael I. Lake, Mrs. M. Marshall
and T. Popham

6/19 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

7/19 Draft Options Consultation Document

The Working Group were asked to consider a report on the draft Options Consultation Document.

The Chairman explained that the agenda had been published in Part 2 and reminded the Working Group that the information presented at the meeting was restricted and remained sensitive prior to it being considered by Cabinet on 24 July 2019. The Chairman advised that apologies for absence had been received from Mrs. S.R. Kapadia however comments had been received from the Vice-Chairman for officers to consider.

The Working Group received a PowerPoint presentation, through which, the Local Plan Manager provided Members with an informed summary of the draft Options Consultation Document, providing Members with background information on national planning policy requirements, the current Local Plan programme and the work undertaken to date, including an overview of key findings.

The Local Plan Manager further provided the Working Group with a high level overview of the strategic options within the draft Options Consultation Document and explained to Members that the identification of possible housing locations associated with each option were not proposed allocations. The Local Plan Manager explained that not all promoted sites would go forward and had been included to simply identify potential land in the Borough. The Working

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Group raised concerns with particular sites identified for the purpose of the report and asked officers to include a summary to expand on the explanation to avoid any misconception that could be perceived by residents as part of the consultation.

The Working Group considered the Draft Options Consultation Questionnaire and noted the inclusion of an additional question; *“Place making and the continued success of well designed, well functioning places is fundamental to developing a growth strategy for the borough. What are the key characteristics that make your area a great place to live? What changes would you like to see in the borough over the next 15 years?”* The Head of Planning Services advised Members that the question was incorporated to allow for a place based question to be put forward to residents to further understand their views and vision for Elmbridge.

The Working Group discussed the anonymity of participants and whether the name of respondents could be kept confidential to allow for open and detailed responses to the Questionnaire. The Head of Planning Services advised that for official purposes the name of respondents would be attributed to the comments for the Inspectorate however it was possible to publish responses online without attaching the names.

The Acting Planning and Policy & Strategy Manager informed Members that the Options Consultation Document had been designed to be viewed online without difficulty and that documents had been embedded within the links to allow residents to navigate online with ease. In addition, Members noted that officers were prepared to respond to specific questions from residents online and where necessary provide press releases on significant points of clarification.

In respect of the next steps, officers advised that this involved publishing the draft Options Consultation Document, incorporating any amendments put forward by the Working Group, for the meeting of Cabinet on 24 July 2019 however that the Options Consultation Document would be publicly available on 16 July 2019, with the Consultation anticipated to start on 19 August 2019.

Resolved that

- a) the proposed scope and content of the draft Consultation Document and draft Consultation Response Form and their intended consideration by Cabinet on 24 July 2019 be noted; and
- b) the need to review the Development Management Plan policies and intention to incorporate this work into the Local Plan programme be noted.

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The meeting commenced at 4.00 pm and concluded at 4.47 pm

B.J.F. Cheyne
Chairman

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Democratic Services Officer

Miss. S. Ullah - Committee and Member Services Officer

Other Officers in attendance

Mrs. K. Tagliarini - Head of Planning Services
T. Ridley - Interim Planning Policy and Strategy Manager
Mrs. R. Thorold - Local Plan Manager
Mrs. Z. Belton - Principal Planning Policy Officer