Meeting Local Plan Advisory Group

Date and Time Monday, 11th January, 2021 at 6.00 pm.

Venue This meeting will be held virtually and a live audio stream can

be listened to via www.winchester.gov.uk.

**Note:** Owing to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and government guidance, it will not be possible to hold this meeting in person. The Council has therefore made arrangements under the Coronavirus Act 2020, and subsequent Regulations permitting remote meetings, to hold the meeting virtually. If you are a member of the public and would like to listen to the audio stream of the meeting you may do so via <a href="https://www.winchester.gov.uk">www.winchester.gov.uk</a>

#### **AGENDA**

#### PROCEDURAL ITEMS

1. Apologies

To record the names of apologies given.

#### 2. Disclosure of Interests

To receive any disclosure of interests from Members and Officers in matters to be discussed.

Note: Councillors are reminded of their obligations to declare disclosable pecuniary interests, personal and/or prejudicial interests in accordance with legislation and the Council's Code of Conduct.

3. To note any request from Councillors to make representations on an agenda item

Note: Councillors wishing to speak about a particular agenda item are required to register with Democratic Services three clear working days before the meeting (contact democracy@winchester.gov.uk or 01962 848 264). Councillors will normally be invited by the Chairperson to speak immediately prior to the appropriate item.

- 4. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 23 November 2020 (Pages 5 8)
- 5. **Public Participation**



– to receive and note questions asked and statements made from members of the public on issues relating to the responsibility of this Advisory Group. NB members of the public are required to register with Democratic Services three clear working days before the meeting (contact democracy@winchester.gov.uk or 01962 848 264)

#### **BUSINESS ITEMS**

Members of the public and visiting councillors may speak at Local Plan Advisory Group, provided they have registered to speak three working days in advance. Please contact Democratic Services **by 5pm on Tuesday 5 January 2021** via <a href="mailto:democracy@winchester.gov.uk">democracy@winchester.gov.uk</a> or (01962) 848 264 to register to speak and for further details.

- 6. Local Plan website and branding (verbal update)
- 7. Draft Strategic Issues and Priorities document (to follow)

Lisa Kirkman Strategic Director: Resources and Monitoring Officer

All of the Council's publicly available agendas, reports and minutes are available to view and download from the Council's <a href="Website">Website</a> and are also open to inspection at the offices of the council. As part of our drive to minimise our use of paper we do not provide paper copies of the full agenda pack at meetings. We do however, provide a number of copies of the agenda front sheet at the meeting which contains the QR Code opposite. Scanning this code enables members of the public to easily access all of the meeting papers on their own electronic device. Please hold your device's camera or QR code App over the QR Code so that it's clearly visible within your screen and you will be redirected to the agenda pack.



23 December 2020

Agenda Contact: Dave Shaw, Senior Democratic Services Officer, 01962 848 221, dshaw@winchester.gov.uk

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Local Plan Advisory Group

Councillor Porter (Chairperson)

Cllr Brook Cllr Evans Cllr Ferguson Cllr Horrill Cllr Rutter

Cllr Thompson

# **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The purpose of the Advisory Group is to receive updates and discuss matters relating to the preparation of the Council's Local Plan and to assist the Cabinet and Council in their decision making so as to ensure:

- that the preparation of the Local Plan is integrated with the wider aims and objectives of the Council on behalf of its communities
- that Members are actively informed on progress on the Local Plan and provided with appropriate opportunities to participate in policy development
- that there is a shared understanding of issues relating the preparation of the evidence base, arrangements for community involvement, duty to cooperate with neighbouring authorities, preparation and publication of documents and associated public consultation.
- that there are high levels of public engagement with the preparation of the Local Plan

Whilst noting that decision making is a matter for Cabinet and Council, the Advisory Group may be expected to comment upon:

- the implications of the emerging evidence base and arrangements for community involvement; publication of preparatory draft documents and associated public consultation.
- any Local Plan document for initial consultation;
- any Proposed Submission Local Plan Document prior to submission to the Secretary of State.
- the Inspector's report and recommended modifications after the Examination.

Whilst it will normally meet in public the Advisory Group may meet privately to discuss matters which are confidential or policy related at the discretion of the Chairperson. As a non-decision making body the format of information and advice to the Advisory Group will primarily be by presentation and oral update rather than written report. A brief minute of the Advisory Group will be taken.

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

To receive and note questions asked and statements made from members of the public on matters which fall within the remit of the Advisory Group.

NB members of the public are required to register with Democratic Services three clear working days before the meeting (see above for further details).

# **Filming and Broadcast Notification**

This meeting may be recorded and broadcast live on the Council's website. The meeting may also be recorded and broadcast by the press and members of the public – please see the Access to Information Procedure Rules within the Council's Constitution for further information, which is available to view on the Council's website.



#### **LOCAL PLAN ADVISORY GROUP**

# Monday, 23 November 2020

Attendance:

Councillors
Porter (Chairperson)

Brook Horrill Evans Rutter Ferguson Thompson

Full audio recording and video recording

### 1. **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

Councillor Porter declared a personal (but not prejudicial) interest due to her role as a County Councillor.

# 2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Group noted a correction to Minute 4 of the previous meeting to replace the word "Visual" with "Village".

One Member questioned whether the third action point on page 4 of the minutes regarding the impact of a change to the threshold of affordable housing numbers had been provided. The Strategic Planning Manager confirmed that this information had been included in a report to Cabinet on 29 September 2020 (CAB3261 refers) and he could circulate to Group Members.

The Group noted that all of the actions listed in the minutes had been progressed.

#### **RESOLVED:**

That subject to the correction noted above, the minutes of the previous meeting held 14 September 2020 be agreed as a correct record.

# 3. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no questions asked or statements made.

# 4. LOCAL PLAN ACTION PLAN - PRESENTATION AND ACTION PLAN

The Strategic Planning Manager gave a <u>presentation</u> on the Local Plan Action Plan.

The Strategic Planning Manager and Corporate Head of Regulatory responded to Members' questions on the following:

- What additional measures would be in place to engage with the Gypsy and travelling show peoples' communities?
- What were the implications of the proposal to designate a new green belt?
- What approach was the South Downs National Park Authority adopting?
- Further clarification regarding the content of design codes and whether these would vary for different locations, including different parts of the town centre.
- What additional engagement and assistance would be provided to areas of the district which did not currently have any existing form of design code?
- Would the government provide additional resources to compensate for the extra work required in response to the White Paper, for example to enable the mapping system for the digital engagement work?
- To reflect the Council's climate emergency declaration, would the consultation on the Strategic Issues and Priorities offer the opportunity for responses favouring protecting green spaces and biodiversity?
- Could the Local Plan be utilised to assist with future planning for accommodation for students? Was there future possibility for additional Article 4 directions to limit the numbers of houses in multiple accommodation?
- Further clarification of the meaning of the Urban Capacity Assessment and how this would be undertaken.
- Requested an update on the ongoing discussions with the Partnership for South Hampshire and other local authorities' views on the issue of greenbelt.
- The rationale of the Council's proposed public consultation in February/March 2021 being undertaken at a high level, but at the same time seeking comments on the Strategic Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA), without inclusion of specific housing sites or a housing target from government.
- Requested further information on the proposed role of the Chief Officer for Design and Statement.
- Would the "call for sites" also include a call for employment land? The risk of employment land being lost to meet additional housing requirements.

- The importance of adequate infrastructure provision in planning for the future.
- The inclusion of County Council owned land in the SHELAA.
- The importance of clarity in the consultation regarding the exact status and purpose of the SHELAA.

At the invitation of the Chairperson, Councillor Bell addressed the Group as summarised briefly below:

Welcomed the confirmation that the "call for sites" would include employment land and highlighted recent examples of employment sites being converted to housing. Expressed concern about the recent publication by a private developer of proposals for a "Royal Down" development of 5,000 dwellings between Hursley and Olivers Battery. Emphasised the significant impact such a large scale development would have on a number of nearby areas. In addition, highlighted that Hursley was already at risk of ground water flooding which would be exacerbated by such a proposal. Sought confirmation that the development proposal was premature and unacceptable.

In response, Councillor Porter and the Strategic Planning Manager reiterated previous reassurances about the status of the SHELAA as a list of all sites that had been submitted for consideration for future development by developers and/or landowners. Inclusion in the SHELAA was not confirmation that a site would be developed and each site would be assessed against the same criteria.

Councillor Porter highlighted that the best method for members of the public and other interested parties to be kept informed was to sign up to receive a residents' newsletter – link available via the front page of the Council's website: www.winchester.gov.uk

As a result of points raised and discussions thereon, the following action points were agreed:

- The "call for sites" be expanded to include custom build homes (it was also confirmed it would include employment land).
- The consultation should emphasise that brownfield sites would be prioritised over greenfield sites.
- The wording in the Action Plan relating to the options for accommodating growth should be redrafted to clarify the exact status and purpose of the SHELAA.

Members thanked officers for their work in producing the draft Action Plan. The Corporate Head of Regulatory confirmed that the Action Plan would be submitted to Cabinet on 16 December 2020 and the consultation document to Cabinet on 20 January 2021.

The meeting commenced at 4.00 pm and concluded at 5.50 pm

Chairperson