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9 June 2016

Dear Sir/Madam

**ECONOMIC GROWTH, ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT (OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY)
COMMITTEE**

A meeting of the above mentioned Committee has been arranged to take place on **WEDNESDAY 15 JUNE 2016 at 6.00 PM** in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER**, District Council House, Lichfield, to consider the following business.

Access to the Council Chamber is either via the Members' Entrance or the main door to the vestibule.

Yours faithfully

R. K. King

Strategic Director

**To: Members of Economic Growth, Environment and Development (Overview and Scrutiny)
Committee**

Councillors Cox (Chairman), Mrs Baker (Vice Chairman), Bamborough, Mrs Boyle, Drinkwater, Mrs Eagland, Mrs Evans, Miss Hassall, Marshall, Mills, Mosson, Smedley and Mrs Stanhope MBE.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Declarations of Interest
3. To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on the 21st April 2016 (copy attached)
4. Work Programme (copy attached)
5. Terms of Reference (copy attached)
6. End of Year Performance Overview 2015/16 for Development Directorate (copy attached)
7. Local Plan Update (copy attached)

Briefing Papers to be issued separately:

*Briefing Papers were introduced after the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Co-ordinating Group requested that the length and volume of agendas be addressed. Briefing papers, which are intended to provide Members with information on relevant issues, are an alternative to placing items on the Agenda. If Members wish a paper to be discussed it can be included on the Work Programme and scheduled for a future meeting.



**ECONOMIC GROWTH, ENVIRONMENT & DEVELOPMENT
(OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY) COMMITTEE
21st APRIL 2016**

PRESENT

Councillors Cox (Chairman), Mrs Baker (Vice-Chairman), Mrs Barnett, Mrs Boyle, Drinkwater, Mrs Evans, Mosson, Rayner, Miss Shepherd, Smedley and Mrs Stanhope MBE

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: were received from Councillors Mrs Eagland and Mills.

(In accordance with Council Procedure Rule No.17 Councillors Marshall, Pritchard and Mrs Fisher attended the meeting).

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were no declarations of interest.

MINUTES:

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 16th March 2016 as circulated were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman subject to a spelling amendment.

WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee received the work programme.

RESOLVED: That the Work Programme be noted.

DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT

A report was submitted on the outcome of the formal consultation on the Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), which set out the comments received together with proposed recommendations and amendments. Members gave detailed consideration to the consultation responses and sought further clarification on a number of issues.

In noting the views of Historic England the view was expressed that the Council should be more proactive in protecting historic areas and reference was made to the indirect impact of development including traffic. It was advised that the Community Infrastructure Levy could be used to implement highways improvements and the Council's SPD regime would ensure developers were clear about the Authority's commitment to the historic environment.

The Committee debated the granting of delegated authority to amend the SPD if the enactment of the Housing and Planning Bill required changes. In seeking to achieve a balance between timely decision making and accountability it was agreed that authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Economic Growth, Development and Environment in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee who could refer matters to the Committee if necessary.

RESOLVED: (1) That the recommendations as listed in Appendix B of the report relating to the Developer Contributions SPD be approved;

(2) That Cabinet be recommended to approve and adopt the Developer Contributions SPD; and

(3) That Cabinet be recommended to delegate authority to the Portfolio Holder for Economic Growth Development and Environment in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee to amend, if required, the Developer Contributions SPD following the enactment of the Housing and Planning Bill 2016.

STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Consideration was given to the formal consultation on the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) which set out the standards that could be expected by the public and statutory consultees for community involvement in the planning process.

Details were given of the representations received, together with changes proposed by Development Management and the Local Plans Officer.

The Committee discussed the importance of community involvement and it was noted that confusion could arise over Neighbourhood Plans, particularly the fact that they needed to be in agreement with the District Local Plan.

Reference was made to the graphics in the 'how it works' public information leaflet and it was confirmed that these would be updated.

Amendments were proposed to the wording on the frequency of Parish Forum meetings and an incomplete sentence in the 'how it works' leaflet.

RESOLVED: (1) That the recommendations as listed in Appendix B, C and D of the report relating to the representations and amendments received be approved;

(2) That Cabinet be recommended to approve and adopt the amended Statement of Community Involvement along with the withdrawal of the existing SCI which was adopted in 2006.

DEVELOPING A FORMAL CAR PARKING STRATEGY

The Committee received a report on the progress made in preparing a parking strategy for Lichfield District and consideration was given to the outcome of the consultation.

In response to questions about the consultation process it was confirmed that long stay permit holders were not consulted directly but were able to complete an online survey that was available to members of the public.

The Chairman outlined the views of the car parking Task Group, expanding upon the response included in the consultation response appended to the report.

Particular consideration was given to the proposed new car parking charges. Concern was expressed that increasing the cost of long stay permits could result in people transferring to other car parks or parking in residential areas. There was agreement that short stay prices be rounded up to the nearest pound since people frequently had insufficient small change.

The Cabinet Member for Economic Growth, Development and Environment advised that prices had not been increased for eight years and the Cabinet Member for Tourism and Communications noted that expenditure on car parks currently exceeded income with £6.5 million being spent on car parking over the last four years.

Following a vote the Committee agreed to recommend the tariff increases set out in the report to Cabinet subject to the following revisions:

- Long stay six months permits be increased to £225 instead of £250
- Long stay one month permits be increased to £45 instead of £50
- The short stay tariffs proposed in the report be rounded up to the nearest pound.

All other proposed tariffs (including no charge being levied for blue badge holders) were endorsed and it was agreed that the Cabinet be recommended to approve the strategy.

The Chairman and the Cabinet Member for Tourism and Communications thanked Members of the Car Parking Task Group and officers for their work in producing the strategy.

RECOMMENDED: (1) That the results of the consultation on the draft strategy report and proposals for new tariffs be noted;

(2) That Cabinet be recommended to approve the strategy;

(3) That Cabinet be recommended to approve the tariff increases as set out in the report subject to the following revisions:

- Long stay six months permits be increased to £225
- Long stay one month permits be increased to £45
- Short stay prices as proposed in the report be rounded up to the nearest pound.

(COUNCILLORS DRINKWATER, SMEDLEY AND MRS STANHOPE DECLARED INTERESTS IN THIS ITEM AS RELATIVES OF BLUE BADGE HOLDERS AND COUNCILLOR RAYNER DECLARED AN INTEREST AS A LONG STAY PERMIT HOLDER IN LICHFIELD CITY).

GREATER BIRMINGHAM AND SOLIHULL LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP – DELIVERING A MORE EFFECTIVE AND CONSISTANT PLANNING SYSTEM

The Committee's views were sought on the proposed planning guidance notes produced by the Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership (GBSLEP).

It was noted that on 2 April 2012 the Planning Committee had signed up to the GBSLEP Planning Charter to help create a consistent, business friendly approach across the Local Enterprise Partnership area to facilitate inward investment and planned economic growth.

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Marshall, who as Vice-Chairman of Planning, had represented the District Council on a working party set up by the GBSLEP to consider the delivery of a more consistent and effective planning system.

Councillor Marshall gave an analysis of the guidance that had been produced which covered:

- Member involvement in the Planning Application Process
- The Pre-Application Process
- Planning Conditions
- Planning Obligations

It was recommended that the guidance notes be adopted, subject to a number of amendments to allow the precise details of service delivery to be determined locally.

The Committee noted that the Council already complied with much of the guidance which would require only minor changes to current practice.

RESOLVED: (1) That the planning guidance notes be adopted by Lichfield District Council, subject to the following amendments:

- the threshold for Member engagement on pre-application discussions be determined locally;
- the content and delivery of 4 Member planning training sessions a year be determined locally;
- the content and frequency of Member post-development site visits to be determined locally;
- A 'right to reply' protocol for applicants/objectors at Planning Committee to be produced locally;
- the content and frequency of planning policy and legislative updates to elected Members be determined locally;
- Lichfield District Council to liaise with the County Council to secure quicker delivery of Section 106 legal agreements

(2) That subject to the above amendments, delegated authority be given to the Cabinet Member in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to approve the final wording of the guidance notes; and

(3) A review of the effectiveness of the guidance notes be considered after one year's operation.

LICHFIELD DISTRICT COUNCIL DRAFT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY – RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION AND THE LOCAL BUSINESS SURVEY

Consideration was given to the outcome of the consultation on the draft Economic Development Strategy and the findings of the Local Business Survey.

During the discussion questions were asked about the signage between Lichfield and Tamworth and consultation with Parish Councils. The Vice-Chairman stressed the importance of capturing information when providing business support, including where

businesses were based, their size and the nature of the enquiry. It was noted that assessing performance would help with the targeting of support and highlight any gaps.

In response to a question it was advised that the group originally established to explore the feasibility of a Business Investment District (BID) in Fradley had addressed a number of local issues and significant progress had been made on these.

RESOLVED: (1) That the results of the consultation exercise on the draft Economic Development Strategy and the key issues arising out of the Local Business Survey be noted and the changes to the Strategy and related Action Plan as set out in Appendix A to the report be agreed;

(2) That Cabinet be recommended to approved the draft Economic Development Strategy and associated Action Plan as proposed to be amended;

(3) That it be agreed that further work complementing the Strategy and crucial to its implementation be carried out including process mapping Council services involved in delivering economic development related services, reporting back to business the results of the Local Business Survey together with proposed actions, and putting in place arrangements for on-going business engagement; and

(4) That in due course and following approval of the Strategy, reports be presented to the Committee on economic development performance in the District and the effects of the Strategy.

VOTE OF THANKS

The Committee thanked the Chairman and Vice-Chairman for their work, commenting on the preparation that had gone into meetings and the excellent way they had been conducted. The Chairman thanked Members of the Committee for their effort and input.

(The Meeting closed at 8.25pm)

CHAIRMAN

ECONOMIC GROWTH, ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT (OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY) COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2016-17

Item	15 Jun	15 Sept	25 Jan	29 Mar	Details/Reasons	Link to 2016/17 One Year Action Plan	Officer	Member Lead
Policy Development								
Terms of Reference	✓						Christine Lewis	

ECONOMIC GROWTH, ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT (OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY) COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2016-17

Item	15 Jun	15 Sept	25 Jan	29 Mar	Details/Reasons	Link to 2016/17 One Year Action Plan	Officer	Member Lead
<p>Local Plan – Strategy, Land Allocations and Monitoring.</p> <p>Associated Neighbourhood Plans and Community Infrastructure Levy</p>	✓	✓	*	*	<p>To receive reports on the preparation and implementation of the Lichfield District Local Plan, associated Neighbourhood Plans and infrastructure delivery mechanisms</p> <p>The Lichfield District Local Plan when finalised and adopted will establish spatial policy for Lichfield District. An overarching Strategy has been adopted. A detailed land allocations document with development management policies is now scheduled to be prepared.</p> <p>To receive reports on progress with Neighbourhood Plans which are being prepared by designated neighbourhood areas.</p> <p>In agreeing a Development Strategy for Lichfield District it is important to identify related infrastructure requirements and the means by which these will be delivered including using developer contributions obtained under the Community Infrastructure Levy.</p>	<p>Prepare a Local Plan including principles of sustainable development and the protection of key built and natural environmental assets</p> <p>Deliver increased levels of affordable housing to meet varied requirements across the District</p>	Ashley Baldwin	

ECONOMIC GROWTH, ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT (OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY) COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2016-17

Gbslep – delivering a more effective and consistent planning system				✓	Review of system		Sean Coghlan	
High Speed 2 – Phases 1 and 2		*			<p>To receive information in respect of the proposals for a High Speed rail line which as a first phase would run between the West Midlands and London with a second phase providing links to Manchester and Leeds</p> <p>The Government has confirmed its support for a High Speed rail network with the initial focus being on developing a high-speed link between London and the West Midlands known as HS2. A Hybrid Bill was deposited in Parliament in November 2013 seeking the necessary approvals and is currently going through the House of Commons Select Committee stage. Proposals and consultation in respect of Phase 2 will be published in due course.</p>	<p>Whilst maintaining a fundamental objection to HS2, the District Council via the Local Plan for Lichfield recognises the need to identify local transport priorities. If HS2 gains the necessary parliamentary approvals the District Council working with partners will need to consider how best to maximise any benefits and these will be dependent upon improved transport connectivity</p>	Craig Jordan	
Performance monitoring	✓		✓		To consider the performance of the Directorate against the 15/16 Action Plan (June meeting) and the 16/17 Action Plan top 10 for Development (January meeting)	N/A	Richard King	TBA

ECONOMIC GROWTH, ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT (OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY) COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2016-17

Friarsgate Scheme	*				To receive updates on progress of the project	Work with developers to move forward the Friarsgate Shopping Centre Scheme	Helen Bielby	
Lichfield City Centre Business Improvement District					To receive reports and briefing papers on the progress of BID proposals relating to Lichfield City Centre.		Elizabeth Thatcher	
Lichfield District Economic Development Performance		✓			To receive update reports/briefing papers on the economic performance of Lichfield District in 2016/17.		Matt Fletcher	
Review of The Lichfield District's 2015 Festivals and Events Programme and Preview of 2017 Programme				*	To outline to the Committee the extent and success of the Lichfield District 2015 Festivals and Events Programme and to outline the proposed 2016 programme.	s that we will help 'boost business' and the local economy by supporting and delivering an extensive programme of events and festivals that builds upon the district's cultural reputation, the enthusiasm of local organisations and people and realise the potential of our historic assets and iconic locations.	Lizzie Thatcher	

ECONOMIC GROWTH, ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT (OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY) COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2016-17

Economic Development Service Review					To receive reports on a review of the Council's Economic Development Service		Richard King/Craig Jordan	
Car Parks Management Review					To receive reports on a review of the Council's car parks management arrangements		Richard King/Craig Jordan	
Car Park Management					<p>To receive reports and briefing papers on the operation of the Councils Car Parks and Car Parking Strategy.</p> <p>To receive reports and briefing papers on on-street Car Parking Enforcement following the transfer of responsibilities to Staffordshire County Council</p>		John Roobottom	
Development Control Performance		*		*	To brief the Committee on Development Control performance		Claire Billings/Se an Coghlan	

14. ECONOMIC GROWTH, ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT (OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY) COMMITTEE

DELEGATED TO THE ECONOMIC GROWTH, ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT (OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY) COMMITTEE

14.1 To be responsible for the overview and scrutiny of the work of the Executive and the Council in relation to its policy objectives, strategies, performance targets and provision relating to:

- a. Development matters, including the policies and strategies which affect the physical, social and economic environment and the proper planning and management of the built environment and economic regeneration, and monitoring the effects of policy implementation against stated objectives and where necessary recommending and if appropriate to carry out any review including review of section 106 obligations and Community Infrastructure Levy matters.
- b. Any matter affecting the Lichfield District area or its inhabitants (including local business) relating to economic prosperity and local economic performance.
- c. Local Plan (including consultation with interested parties as to its formulation, consideration of policies and steering its progress)
- d. Planning Committee (to monitor its operation and make recommendations as to how the operation and effectiveness of the Committee can be improved; reviewing the format of the Planning Committee report and where appropriate to recommend improvements to the presentation, structure and content of the report, and to receive reports detailing changes in legislation that affects the operation of the Planning Committee).
- e. Reports on the performance standards within the remit of the Economic Growth & Development and Tourism & Communications portfolios and, if appropriate,

to make recommendations to improve the level of service where satisfactory performance standards are not being achieved.

- f. The outcome of Planning and Enforcement Notice appeals.
 - g. Reviewing items of best practice for dealing with planning and design issues relating to planning applications.
 - h. The role and decisions undertaken by the Economic Growth & Development and Tourism & Communications Portfolio Holders
 - i. Functions undertaken by Tourism Services (including tourism information, marketing and promotion).
 - j. Functions undertaken in respect of Car Parks management and enforcement
- 14.2 To assist the Council and the Cabinet in the development of its budget and policy framework to align resources with the Council's priorities
- 14.3 To conduct research and consultation to support the analysis of policy issues and the identification and appraisal of possible options
- 14.4 To consider and implement mechanisms to encourage and enhance community participation in the development of policy options
- 14.5 To question members of the Cabinet and/ or Committees and Chief Officers about their views on issues and proposals affecting the area and/or about their decisions and performance whether generally or in comparison with plans and targets over a period of time or in relation to particular decisions, initiatives or projects
- 14.6 To liaise with other external organisations operating in the area, whether national, regional or local, to ensure that the interests of local people are enhanced by collaborative working
- 14.7 To review and scrutinise the performance of other public bodies in the area and invite reports from them by requesting them to address the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and local people about their activities and performance
- 14.8 To review and scrutinise the decisions made by and performance of the Cabinet and Committees and Council officers in relation to individual decisions and, over time, in respect of Development matters.

- 14.9 To set up Task and Finish Groups to support the Committee in the exercise of its functions.
- 14.10 To question and gather evidence from any person, with their consent
- 14.11 To oversee Best Value principles relating to the Economic Growth & Development and Tourism & Communications Portfolios and to receive reports from Cabinet and Council
- 14.12 To exercise overall responsibility for the finances made available to the Committee
- 14.13 To report annually to Full Council on the work of the Committee and make recommendations for future work programmes and amended working methods if appropriate
- 14.14 To exercise the right to call in, for reconsideration, decisions made but not yet implemented by the Cabinet relating to the Economic Growth & Development and Tourism & Communications Portfolios.
- 14.15 To make recommendations to the Cabinet or appropriate Committee and/or Council arising from the outcome of the scrutiny process.

END OF YEAR PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW 2015/16 FOR DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Report of the Cabinet Member for Economic Growth, Environment and Development



Date:	15th June 2016
Agenda Item:	6
Contact Officer:	Richard King
Tel Number:	01543 308060
Email:	richard.king@lichfielddc.gov.uk
Key Decision?	NO
Local Ward Members	Relevant to all ward Members

**ECONOMIC GROWTH,
ENVIRONMENT AND
DEVELOPMENT
(OVERVIEW AND
SCRUTINY) COMMITTEE**

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 To advise Members of progress against the activities and projects set out in the Development Services Top Ten / One Year Action Plan for 15/16. The report also includes statistical information (key performance indicators) relating to activity delivered by the Service during the last financial year. Both the narrative report and the related statistics reflect performance as at 31st March 2016.
- 1.2 To advise Members of the targets which have been proposed for the activity and performance indicators for the Service for 2016/17.
- 1.3 Members are invited to raise questions and comment (or where appropriate, request a more detailed report).

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are requested to consider and comment on the performance report overview for 15/16 which is attached at **Appendix A**, the statistical analysis attached at **Appendix B** and the targets for the 2016/17 performance indicators at **Appendix C**.

3. Background

- 3.1 During autumn 2014, Council Members and officers developed Service plans setting out the priorities and budget allocations for the following financial year for each of the teams which make up the totality of Council services. Approximately 14 separate Service Plans were produced and they were all reviewed via the overview and scrutiny process.
- 3.2 A top 10 was developed for each Directorate / Cabinet Member as a result of this exercise and these were reported to and endorsed by the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee in January 2015. The most significant and critical issues from the Directorate Top 10s were collated to form the Corporate Top 10 or Annual Action Plan which was approved by Full Council in February 2015.
- 3.3 The end of year performance report against the Top 10 for Development Services is attached at **Appendix A**. Some of the Actions set out were deemed to be so significant corporately that they were included in the Corporate Top 10 / Annual Action Plan for 2015/16. Progress on the corporate top ten actions will be reported to Cabinet in July 2016 (which will reflect any comments made by this Committee in relation to the attached report)

- 3.4 A copy of the six month performance report for the Development Service is attached at **Appendix A**. This Committee has contributed to several of the activities and projects which feature in the Development Service Top Ten including:
- Continued to make good progress with the Site Allocations Local Plan, part 2 of the District's Spatial Plan.
 - Put in place a raft of planning guidance to assist in the implementation of the Local Plan
 - Progressed a CIL Charging regime to adoption
 - Maintained a good level of performance as regards the processing of planning and building control applications
 - Supported the Lichfield City BID and Burntwood Business Community in developing and implementing initiatives to sustain and grow the local economy
 - Progressed the Friarsgate scheme through the planning process and gained planning permission
 - Reviewed car parking policy and adopted a car parking strategy
 - Developed an Economic Development Strategy and reviewed arrangements for the delivery of economic development services
- 3.5 Service Managers routinely monitor activity and performance delivered by their teams; progress against key performance indicators is attached at **Appendix B**. Some data is collected monthly, others quarterly or annually.
- 3.6 At the last meeting of this Committee, Members considered the activity and performance indicators for 2016/17. These PIs have been developed having regard to the Directorate Top 10 (approved in January 2016), other service issues / policy or legislative changes and the comments and suggestions made by Members of this Committee. Targets for these PIs have been proposed having regard to performance during 2016/17. The PIs and their related targets are attached at **Appendix C**

Alternative Options	APPENDICES A and B are for noting. Members could, if so desired, suggest alternative performance targets for 2016/17 (APPENDIX C)
Consultation	There has not been any consultation on this specific report. However, there has been consultation in relation to most of the actions set out in APPENDIX A , including extensive consultation on local planning matters and in relation to supporting the local economy.
Financial Implications	None arising directly from this report. A more detailed report on the Council's performance against the financial strategy will be considered by Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet in September. At the year end, the Directorate had underspent/overspent its budget by X.....
Contribution to the Delivery of the Strategic Plan	<p>This report demonstrates that the Development Service made a significant contribution to achieving the aims of the Plan for Lichfield District 2012-16 including as follows:</p> <p>We'll shape place – implementing the spatial policies and plans included in the Local Plan: Strategy delivering new housing including affordable housing, employment, commercial/office floorspace and retail; supported local neighbourhoods to shape individual locations via neighbourhood plans</p> <p>We'll boost business – helped to safeguard and strengthen key centres providing for services and facilities; brought forward proposals for new retail and commercial floorspace; and, worked with partners to identify new investment opportunities.</p> <p>We'll support people – provided opportunities for people to access housing and jobs.</p>

Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Implications	Equality and diversity implications are considered during the planning and delivery of the day to day activities of the Service. Over the course of the past year the Service and its constituent teams has assessed the equality impacts of various policies and schemes including in respect of Supplementary Planning Documents, the Statement of Community Involvement, Car Parking Strategy, Economic Development Strategy and Community Infrastructure Levy-related material.
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Crime & Safety Issues	None.
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	Risk Description	How We Manage It	Severity of Risk (RYG)
A	Information provided to Members is too 'high level' and inadequate for robust scrutiny	Members can request further details or a separate report on any item referred to in the report. The Cabinet Members, Director and Service Managers are in attendance at the O&S meeting and can elaborate on the content of the report	Green

Background documents Directorate Top 10 – reported to EGED (O&S) Committee in January 2015 Mid-Year Performance report - reported to EGED (O&S) Committee in January 2016
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Relevant web links

Development Services Directorate

✓	<i>On Target</i>
=	<i>In Progress</i>
X	<i>Behind Target</i>

Implement Fit for the Future

Actions	Due Date	On Target?	Progress Update
Operate within the Directorate's budget (Councillor Pritchard)	31-Mar-16	✓	We are operating within the Directorates budget.

Implement Fit for the Future phase 2

Actions	Due Date	On Target?	Progress Update
Implement the outputs of the Development Services review (Councillor Pritchard)	31-Mar-2016	✓	The outputs are being implemented

Adopt and deliver the Local Plan

Actions	Due Date	On Target?	Progress Update
Adopt the Local Plan and commence work on the Associated Site Allocations Plan (Councillor Pritchard)	31-Mar-16	=	<p>Position at June The Local Plan Core Strategy was adopted in February 2015 and now forms part of the Statutory Development Plan for the District. A legal challenge to the Plan was heard in the courts on the 10th and 11th June. A decision is expected by the end of July. Background work to support the Site Allocations Plan has commenced.</p> <p>Position at September The legal challenge to the Plan referred to above was unsuccessful. An appeal to that judgement has been submitted to the Court of Appeal. Background work to support the Site Allocations Plan has continued.</p>

Actions	Due Date	On Target?	Progress Update
			<p>Position at December The written request for permission to appeal to the Court of Appeal was refused, however, the Appellants have now requested an oral hearing which is due to be heard on 25 February 2016.</p> <p>Position at March The request to have the earlier High Court decision considered by the Court of Appeal was dismissed and no further legal challenges are permitted. The Local Plan Strategy has therefore been confirmed as forming part of the Development Plan for the District. Work is continuing to inform the preparation of a Part 2 Site Allocations Local Plan.</p>

Adopt Community Infrastructure Levy

Actions	Due Date	On Target?	Progress Update
Adopt Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule and Regulation 123 List (Councillor Pritchard)	31-Mar-16	=	<p>Position at June Consultation has taken place on a CIL draft charging schedule, the results and the possibility of recommending any changes to the CS are currently being evaluated. Depending on the outcome of the evaluation it is intended that the CS will be independently examined in late autumn of this year and if deemed sound, implemented from early 2016. Separately, a Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document is in preparation to assist implementation of policy on CIL and Section 106.</p> <p>Position at September The updated Infrastructure Delivery Plan will shortly be published. The Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document is still in preparation. An update report was submitted to the Economic Growth, Environment and Development (Overview & Scrutiny) Committee on 23 September 2015.</p> <p>Position at December Examination into the Council's Draft Charging Schedule has been arranged for 28 January 2016.</p> <p>Position at March The Council has received the Examiner's report following consideration of the CIL Charging Schedule. Subject to certain modifications, the Examiner is content with the Council's CIL proposals. The report, conclusions and recommendations will be reported to members shortly. Work is now taking place to ensure that the Council is fully prepared to launch the CIL charging regime later this year.</p>

Develop Lichfield City and Burntwood Town Centres

Actions	Due Date	On Target?	Progress Update
Support the creation of a Business Improvement District for Lichfield City and ballot in the summer (Councillor Pritchard)	30-Sep-15	✓	<p>Position at June BID Ballot taking place in July 2015. Report to Cabinet 7 July 2015</p> <p>Position at September The BID Ballot was successful. Report to on Cabinet 6 October 2015 agreeing the operating and baseline agreement between the Council and the BID company. The BID will support economic development in the City.</p> <p>Position at December BID Manager has been appointed and meetings have been arranged with relevant Council Officers.</p> <p>Position at March The BID is now functioning with a Board, Chair and BID Manager all in place. The BID is developing a work programme based on the themes contained in the earlier BID prospectus and beginning to implement the proposed actions.</p>
Provide support to the Burntwood Business Community (Councillor Pritchard)	31-Mar-16	✓	<p>Position at June Positive meeting was held between LCP, District Councillors and Burntwood Town Council on 16 July 2015 where regeneration proposals were discussed. Meeting to take place shortly between LCP,LDC and SCC officers to address highways issues.</p> <p>Position at September A meeting has taken place between LCP, LDC and SCC officers to identify the barriers to development that need to be overcome. Discussions with Staffordshire County Council regarding a Burntwood Deal are ongoing.</p> <p>Position at December Constructive dialogue ongoing between Morrisons and LCP to overcome barriers to development.</p> <p>Position at March On-going dialogue with local councillors, the Town Council, LCP, Staffs CC and other parties regarding issues relevant to a re-development of the Olaf Johnson site adjacent Sankeys Corner including in respect of development covenants and highway access. Separate discussions with LCP concerning development on the 'blue hoarding' site south of Morrisons.</p>

Implement the Friarsgate Scheme

Actions	Due Date	On Target?	Progress Update
Complete an amended Development Agreement (Councillor Pritchard)	31-Mar-16	✓	<p>Position at June Report to Cabinet on 7 July 2015. Development Agreement to be finalised following that meeting.</p> <p>Position at September Revised Development Agreement has been signed.</p> <p>Position at March Implementation of the Development Agreement is now taking place with relevant milestones monitored and on target</p>
Determine the planning application for the revised Scheme (Councillor Pritchard)	31-Mar-16	=	<p>Position at June Planning application due to be submitted by the end of January 2016. The application submission currently being dealt with.</p> <p>Position at September Planning application still on target to be submitted in early 2016. Pre application discussions are ongoing.</p> <p>Position at March Planning application to be determined in May 2016</p>

Consider and where appropriate implement the findings of the Peer Review

Actions	Due Date	On Target?	Progress Update
Review Economic Development Service in conjunction with Tamworth Borough Council (Councillor Pritchard)	31-Mar-16	=	<p>The Economic Development Services Review has commenced with the agreement of a Project Initiation Document and Project Management Plan and the setting up of a Review Project Team comprising representatives from relevant services within the Council plus Tamworth Borough Council and Staffordshire County Council. Key work streams have been established including defining what is meant by economic development, which Council services and outside organisations play into economic development, what are the key economic ambitions of the District Council and how services and partners can work better to deliver upon these. The results of this work will be reported to members shortly and inform the next stages of the review.</p> <p>Position at March The review has now concluded with the key output being the production of an Economic Development Strategy and related Action Plan linked to delivery of strategic objectives set out in the Council's new Strategic Plan 2016-2020. The review has considered how the Authority delivers economic development services including via a shared service arrangement led by Tamworth Borough Council on its behalf, and how improvements can be made. In response to the 2014 LGA Peer</p>

Actions	Due Date	On Target?	Progress Update
			Review the review has also assessed resource requirements to ensure that there is sufficient inputs being made to implement the Strategy.
Produce Economic Development Strategy (Councillor Pritchard)	31-Oct-15	X	<p>Position at June & September Background work on developing an Economic Development Strategy has commenced and is on-going and will link with the progression of the Economic Development Service Review.</p> <p>Position at December Three meetings of the Project Team have taken place and a draft Economic Strategy and Action Plan will be submitted to Economic Growth, Environment and Development (Overview & Scrutiny) Committee on 27 January 2016.</p> <p>Position at March Consultation on a draft Strategy took place between 5th February and the 4th March – the results of the consultation exercise and those relating to a local business survey are to be reported to EGED (O&S) Committee in April and subsequent to that Cabinet when it will be recommended that the Strategy is approved and implemented.</p>
Review service delivery (Councillor Pritchard)	31-Mar-16	✓	Service delivery has been reviewed.

Car Parking Strategy Review

Actions	Due Date	On Target?	Progress Update
Complete the Car Parking Strategy Review (Councillor Mrs Fisher)	1-Jul-2015	✓	<p>Position at June and September The Car Parks Management Review has commenced with the agreement of a Project Initiation Document and Project Management Plan and the setting up of a Review Project Team comprising representatives from relevant services within the Council plus external challenge provided by Tamworth Borough Council. A detailed report has been prepared for consideration by the Project Team setting out current policy as it applies to parking provision in the District, key metrics on usage, occupancy rates, income and costs, & issues likely to impact upon future demands for parking. This information will help inform subsequent consideration of the levels and nature of demand for parking in the future and parking related services and options as regards service delivery. Reports on the aforementioned matters will be presented to members as part of the agreed review arrangements.</p> <p>Position at December Proposed Draft Car Parking Strategy prepared for consideration at Economic Growth, Environment and Development (Overview & Scrutiny) Committee on 27 January 2016.</p> <p>Position at March Consultation has taken place on a draft Car Parking Strategy report with a report due to go back to members shortly. The report set out a detailed approach to car parking management and also included proposals for improvements and new charging rates.</p>

Neighbourhood Plans

Actions	Due Date	On Target?	Progress Update
Support defined areas in bringing forward neighbourhood plans including the holding of referenda (Councillor Pritchard)	31-Mar-2016	✓	<p>A total of 15 neighbourhood areas have been designated to date providing an opportunity to bring forward Neighbourhood Plans. 3 Plans relating to Stonnall, Little Aston and Alrewas have been the subject of examination and all found to be acceptable subject to modifications being made. The results of the examinations are due to be reported to the November Cabinet meeting when the District Council will also have to consider whether to send modified Plans to formal referendum.</p> <p>Position at March Two Neighbourhood Plans – Little Aston and Stonnall – have been the subject of referendums following examination and both been agreed. A report will shortly go to LDC members to formally approve the plans and for these to become part of the District's Development Plan. The Alrewas NP has not progressed following examination but has been withdrawn for further work to be undertaken pending future re-submission. A NP for Wiggington, Hopwas and Comberford has recently been examined and subject to proposed modifications and agreement of members will go forward to referendum. A further NP covering Shenstone has also been examined and the Examiner's report is awaited. Other NP's including those for Lichfield City and Burntwood are also being taken forward</p>

Fazeley Townscape Heritage Initiative

Actions	Due Date	On Target?	Progress Update
If successful with the Part One application, take forward a Part Two development stage application for funding to support a Townscape Heritage Initiative in respect of Fazeley (Councillor Pritchard)	31-Mar-2014	✓	<p>The Part One HLF application was unsuccessful and having received detailed feedback which was reported to the Economic Growth, Environment and Development (Overview and Scrutiny) Committee a decision has been made not to re-submit but to consider alternative options for improving the townscape of Fazeley.</p> <p>Position at March Alternative approaches are now being examined to see how resources can be directed towards maintaining and bringing back into use important buildings in Fazeley.</p>

Development Services Performance and Activity Indicators 2015/16

PI Code & Short Name	Q1 2014/15	Q2 2014/15	Q3 2014/15	Q4 2014/15	2014/15	Q1 2015/16	Q2 2015/16	Q3 2015/16	Q4 2015/16	2015/16
	Actual Performance	Actual Performance	Actual Performance	Actual Performance	Actual Performance	Actual Performance	Actual Performance	Actual Performance	Actual Performance	Actual Performance
1. The percentage of major planning applications determined in 13 weeks (statutory national benchmark of 60% or above) ¹ .	100%	60.0%	84.6%	100.0%	80%	85.7%	100%	100%	100%*	95.8%*
2. The percentage of minor planning applications determined in 8 weeks (statutory national benchmark of 65% or above).	71.9%	86.5%	77.30%	70.7%	79%	65.2%	47.5%	74.6%	69.8%*	65.1%*
3. The percentage of other planning applications determined in 8 weeks (statutory national benchmark of 80% or above).	96.0%	93.3%	94.70%	85.6%	95%	86.9%	42.8%	71.2%	87.8%*	69.5%*
4. The percentage of all planning appeals dismissed (national benchmark 70% or above).	72.7%	40.0%	80.00%	70.0%	68%	33.3%	66.6%	87.8%*	75%	60.9%*
5. The number of major planning decisions allowed at appeal as a percentage of all major decisions over a two year period (national benchmark of below 20%).	10%	12.5%	12.9%	13.3%	10%	11.8%	11.8%	7.0%	6.4%*	N/A
6. No. of building control applications checked within 2 weeks of receipt (seek to achieve 90%)	85%	85%	87%	87%	86%	83%	83%	91%	92%	87%
7. No. of land charges applications determined in 10 working days (seek to achieve 100%).	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
8. The number of net dwellings completed in a financial year	Not available for quarters	Not available for quarters	N/A	N/A	226 net (231 gross)	Not yet available	Not yet available	Not yet available	Not yet available	Not yet available
9. The number of affordable housing completions in a financial year	Not available for quarters	Not available for quarters	N/A	N/A	26	Not yet available	Not yet available	Not yet available	Not yet available	Not yet available
10. Retail vacancy levels within the centres of Lichfield City and Burntwood.	Figures not available	Figures not available	N/A	N/A	Lichfield 8.8% Burntwood 6.25%	Figures not available for Quarter	Lichfield 8.7% Burntwood 6.25%	Not available for Quarter	Lichfield 9.3% Burntwood 4.55% (Dec 2015)	
11. Number of visitors to the district and estimated visitor spend	Figures are only available at the end of each year	Figures are only available at the end of each year	Figures are only available at the end of each year	Figures are only available at the end of each year	Visitors: 2,918,915 Spend: £96,324,195	Figures are only available at the end of each year	Figures are only available at the end of each year	Figures are only available at the end of each year	Figures are only available at the end of each year	Not yet available

* As of Q1 2014/15 – Certificates of lawfulness and prior notifications are no longer counted against NI157. 36 of these types of applications were received in this period

¹ Note: for applications involving Environmental Impact Assessments the figure is 16 weeks.

Development Services

Performance and Activity Indicators 2016/17: The targets

Performance Indicator (Descriptor)	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
	Actual Performance	Actual Performance	Target
1 The percentage of major planning applications determined against statutory national indicators of 60% or above.	86.5%	95.8%	85%
2 The percentage of minor planning applications determined against statutory national indicator of 65% or above.	76.6%	65.1%	85%
3 The percentage of other planning applications determined against statutory national indicator of 80% or above.	92.4%	69.5	90%
4 The percentage of all planning appeals dismissed.	65.7%	60.9%	70%
5 The number of major planning decisions allowed at appeal as a percentage of all major decisions over a two year period – below 20%.	13.3%	6.4%	5%
6 The percentage of building control applications checked within 2 weeks of receipt	86%	87%	90%
7 The Percentage of land charges applications processed in 10 working days	100%	100%	100%
8 Increase visitor numbers across the District by at least 1%	Visitors: 2,918,915 Spend: £96,324,195	?	?
9 Revenue spend as a percentage of the net revenue budget.	RK	RK	RK
10 Reduce property vacancy rates in Lichfield City and Burntwood	Lichfield City 8.8% Burntwood 6.25%	Lichfield City 9.15% Burntwood 4.55% (Dec 2015)	Lichfield City 8.5% Burntwood 4.0%

Local Plan update

Cabinet Member: Councillor I. Pritchard

Date: 15th June 2016

Agenda Item: 7

Contact Officer: Craig Jordan

Tel Number: 01543 308202

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Key Decision? NO

Local Ward

Members



**Economic Growth,
Environment and
Development (Overview
and Scrutiny)
Committee**

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Council has made a commitment to progressing the Local Plan Site Allocations document.
- 1.2 The progression of the document has been delayed due to the IM Properties legal challenge and outstanding issues associated with the Birmingham City and the wider Greater Birmingham Housing Market Area (GBHMA).
- 1.3 This report recommends and justifies progressing the Local Plan Strategy Site Allocations, with a commitment to a plan review upon completion to deal with the numbers arising from the GBHMA.
- 1.4 To accompany this an update to the Local Development Scheme and an accompanying resource plan are required.
- 1.5 In light of changes to Government guidance the report makes reference to a requirement to change Policy H2: Provision of Affordable Homes of the Local Plan Strategy. This change will bring Policy H2 in line with national policy.
- 1.6 Finally the report provides an update on Neighbourhood Planning, of which there are 16 designated Neighbourhood areas, with two adopted plans and two due to go to referendum.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Committee note the outstanding issues associated with meeting Birmingham's housing need and support the recommended option associated with the Plan, set out at para 3.13.
- 2.2 The Committee support the development of a resource plan associated with taking forward the Local Plan.
- 2.3 The Committee support the development of an updated Local Development Scheme in line with the approach recommended at para 3.13.
- 2.4 The Committee recommend to Cabinet the withdrawal of the Council Policy adopted on 8th December 2015 in relation to the delivery of affordable housing.
- 2.5 That as far as affordable housing on small rural sites is concerned, the Committee recommend to Cabinet the approval of the use of the adopted Local Plan Strategy Policy H2: Provision of Affordable Homes as a material consideration in the determination of relevant planning applications.
- 2.6 That the committee notes the progress reported in relation to Neighbourhood Plans within Lichfield District.

3. Background

Local Plan Site Allocations update

- 3.1 The purpose of this section is to update Members on the progress of the Lichfield District Local Plan Allocations document in light of the emerging issues relating to the undersupply of homes within Birmingham City and the wider GBHMA.
- 3.2 The Lichfield District Local Plan Strategy was adopted by resolution of Full Council on 17th February 2015.
- 3.3 As Members will already be aware, a legal challenge to the Local Plan Strategy by IM Properties was unsuccessful. The Claimants sought to appeal but this request was dismissed on the 2nd March 2016. Given the demands on the Council to respond, this legal challenge had a significant negative impact on the progression of the Lichfield District Local Plan Allocations document.
- 3.4 The adopted Local Plan Strategy is due to be followed by the Lichfield District Local Plan Allocations document which will provide further detail to the strategic policies contained within the adopted Local Plan Strategy. Further to this the Local Plan Strategy includes text which commits the District Council to the consideration of a full or partial review of the Local Plan should it be identified that further provision of housing relating to the shortfall within the GBHMA is required within Lichfield District.
- 3.5 The Inspectors final report on the Birmingham City Development Plan has now been published and provides clarity over the Objectively Assessed Housing Need (OAHN) for the City Council. The Inspector concluded that the housing requirement within the Plan could not be accommodated within the administrative boundaries of Birmingham and as such a shortfall of approximately 37, 500 homes would need to be addressed beyond the city's boundaries.
- 3.6 At the time of writing, the distribution of the 37, 500 has not been agreed. Consequently there is a level of uncertainty associated with how much Lichfield District Council will have to take forward as part of any update to its Local Plan Strategy. The same applies to other Council's within the GBHMA.
- 3.6 However, while the Inspector found the Birmingham City Development Plan to be sound, a holding notice has recently been imposed by the Secretary of State Greg Clark MP preventing Birmingham City Council from adopting its Plan until such time as this notice is withdrawn.
- 3.7 This holding notice presents further uncertainty over the 37, 500 shortfall figure, which in turn presents an issue for Lichfield District Council because if the 37, 500 figure rises there may be more pressure for Lichfield District Council to accommodate Birmingham related growth.
- 3.8 In conclusion, while the IM Properties legal challenge has been resolved the Birmingham housing issue remains uncertain. As stated earlier, the Council is committed, through its Local Development Scheme to produce a Lichfield District Local Plan Allocations to follow the adopted Local Plan Strategy. The Lichfield District Local Plan Allocations document will provide further allocations and policies to guide development within the District to 2029. Taking this forward in light of the above presents challenges to the District Council due to the variety of approaches that could be taken.
- 3.9 Given the complexity of the situation, legal and professional planning advice has been sought respectively from Kings Chambers and the Planning Advisory Service (PAS), focusing on the following options:

- Option 1 – Progress with the Lichfield District Local Plan Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD) to deal with the remaining Local Plan Strategy requirements and commit to an early review of the Local Plan once the situation with regards to Birmingham is clearer. It is likely that a review would commence immediately upon adoption of the Local Plan Allocations.
- Option 2 – Undertake a partial review of the Local Plan Strategy to take account of the Birmingham requirement along with producing site allocations to deal with remaining Local Plan Strategy requirements.
- Option 3 – Commence a full Local Plan review to replace the adopted Local Plan Strategy and forthcoming allocations DPD with a single comprehensive Local Plan which also accounts for Birmingham's housing need.

3.10 Option 1 can be summarised as having the following outcomes:

- Local Plan Strategy contains a number of requirements which are not wholly met by the allocations within the Strategy document and are to be dealt with through the production of Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD). For example; remaining housing requirement including allocations within Key Rural and other rural settlements; employment land portfolio to meet employment land requirements set within Local Plan Strategy.
- Proceeding with Option 1 will enable the District Council to consider and address these issues promptly through the production of the Allocations DPD. Option 1 represents the most expedient approach to Plan production.
- Option 1 provides the greatest certainty to communities and the development industry that the remaining requirements of the Local Plan Strategy will be met quickly.
- Option 1 could be adaptable and adapted to form partial review and take account of the Birmingham issue once more certainty exists.

3.11 Option 2 can be summarised as having the following outcomes:

- Would require clarity on the Birmingham issue which could cause delay a in plan production and the failure to deal with the remaining requirements of Local Plan Strategy promptly. Uncertainty still related to the figure to be accommodated within Lichfield District and the timing of the delivery of any such provision.
- It is probable that any such identified need for Birmingham is likely to come forward later in the plan period (Birmingham Plan Period is two years beyond Lichfield District to 2031 as compared with 2029). As such potential options for this can be considered alongside the Allocations DPD production and would not prevent the Council progressing with the Allocations DPD.

3.12 Option 3 can be summarised as having the following outcomes:

- Option which would take the longest period to deliver a plan.
- Would require significant time and resources to refresh/update evidence base.
- Essentially mean departing from a recently adopted, NPPF compliant Local Plan Strategy which is programmed to guide development until 2029.
- Advice indicates any subsequent Allocations DPD can amend policy within an adopted DPD as such there is no need or requirement to fully review Local Plan.

3.13 In light of the above advice it is recommended that the District Council continue to proceed with the Local Plan Allocations DPD (Option 1). The reasoning for this is that this option is the most likely to deliver the overall Local Plan for Lichfield District sooner than the other options. There are still requirements (housing, employment etc) which need to be met from the Local Plan Strategy and progression of an Allocations DPD will provide certainty to communities and the development industry

sooner than other options would allow. Undertaking Option 1 provides a flexible approach which can be adapted if the position relating to Birmingham becomes clearer, at which stage it would be possible to move from Option 1 to Option 2. The other options are all considered viable approaches, however the recommendation to progress with option 1 is considered to present the most expedient approach to delivering the allocations as set out in the adopted Local Plan Strategy. A commitment to a comprehensive review dealing with shortfall within the GBHMA, as well as any other matters that arise can then be completed over a longer time period, but within the Plan period.

3.14 With all options there is a need to undertake an update of the Local Plan evidence base, the following have been identified as essential:

- Employment Land Availability Assessment
- Green Belt Assessment
- Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment
- Gypsy and Traveller Five Year Land Supply
- Habitat Regulations Assessment
- Infrastructure Modelling
- Playing Pitch Assessment
- Rural Settlement Sites Study
- Saved policy Review
- Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment
- Sustainability Appraisal
- Town Centres Study
- Urban Capacity Assessment
- Viability Appraisal

3.15 Where possible these will be undertaken in-house, however this will have to be balanced with staff capacity as well as the need for specialist expertise. A resource plan will need to be put together to support the development of delivering the evidence base. There are likely to be other pieces of evidence that emerge in due course that will also need to be resourced.

3.16 Given that the original timescales for the Site Allocations DPD have not been complied with, an updated Local Development Scheme will need to be produced and submitted to CLG/ The Planning Inspectorate.

Affordable Housing

3.17 In 2015, in response to a High Court ruling, changes to Government guidance resulted in a withdrawal of national policy relating to the threshold at which new housing sites within rural areas are required to provide for affordable housing. As the Lichfield District adopted Local Plan Strategy links to national standards a gap in policy emerged meaning that for smaller sites the Council could not seek affordable housing even if evidence suggested that this was justified. In response a report was prepared proposing that the Council adopt a policy which would allow it to seek affordable housing on smaller housing sites outside Lichfield and Burntwood. This policy was approved in December 2015 and has been implemented ever since.

3.18 In May of this year the Court of Appeal restored the previous government policy setting the threshold at which sites within rural areas are required to provide affordable housing – these are sites which provide 10 dwelling units or over, or incorporate over 1, 000 sq.m combined gross floorspace.

3.19 As a consequence, presently the adopted informal policy of the Council and the latest national guidance are inconsistent.

3.20 The adopted Local Plan Strategy has within it Policy H2: Provision of Affordable Homes which states in relation to housing sites outside Lichfield and Burntwood:

‘Outside these two main urban areas, affordable housing will be required on housing developments in line with nationally set thresholds’

- 3.21 It is therefore considered that the adopted Local Plan Policy H2: Provision of Affordable Homes accords with national policy relating to the provision of affordable homes within the rural areas and can be used as a material consideration in the determination of planning applications. To ensure that the Council’s approach is in line with national guidance it is suggested that the Authority should now withdraw its previously agreed policy and revert back to use of the Local Plan Policy H2.

Neighbourhood Plans

- 3.22 There are 16 designated Neighbourhood Areas in the District. The first two Neighbourhood Plans (Stonnall and Little Aston) have now been made following adoption by Full Council subsequent to successful referendums.
- 3.23 Three further Neighbourhood Plans have been subject to examination and the examiner’s reports into these plans have been published (Alrewas, Wigginton, Hopwas and Comberford and Shenstone). With regards to these three Neighbourhood Plans, the Wigginton & Hopwas Neighbourhood Plan has been recommended by Cabinet to proceed to referendum which is likely to take place in Autumn 2016. Alrewas Parish Council have chosen to withdraw the Neighbourhood Plan following their consideration of the Examiner’s recommendations in order to undertake further work and resubmit the plan to examination at a later date. The District Council is currently in the process of considering the Examiner’s report to the Shenstone Neighbourhood Plan and will produce a decision statement in due course.
- 3.24 A number of other Neighbourhood Plans are continuing to progress within communities and the District Council will continue to engage, providing advice and guidance to those communities when requested. The status of the District’s emerging Neighbourhood Plans can be seen at www.lichfielddc.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplans

Alternative Options	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Committee commit to a partial or full review of the Local Plan.2. A resource plan is not established, and as such there would be a lack of forward planning.3. The Committee do not agree to update the LDS, which would leave the Council in conflict with legislation4. The Committee do not amend the approach to affordable housing, which would leave the Council in conflict with recent changes to Government policy.
Consultation	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Consultation will be required on the Local Plan Allocations
Financial Implications	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Consultation is required as part of the planning process. It is expected the cost of complying with the recently adopted SCI will give better value than the previous SCI.2. There will be costs associated with developing the evidence base, these costs need to be established as part of the resource plan.

Contribution to the Delivery of the Strategic Plan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Supports the priority of a vibrant and prosperous economy as it assists in the delivery of the planning function of the Council. 2. Supports the priority of Healthy and Safe communities by ensuring the provision of housing. 3. Supports the priority of Clean, green and welcoming places to live by assisting in allocating land for affordable housing, as well as supporting the delivery of residential and commercial developments.
Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Implications	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. None, an Equality Impact Assessment would be required to accompany any Local Plan submission.
Crime & Safety Issues	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. None.

	Risk Description	How We Manage It	Severity of Risk (RYG)
A	An approach to the Local Plan is not agreed and there is a lack of clarity associated with how Lichfield District Council continue with meeting its commitments to delivering Site Allocations	Proceed to agree approach to taking forward the Local plan	Yellow
B	A resource plan is not established	Proceed to agree approach to developing a resource plan	Yellow
C	The LDS is not updated	Proceed to agree approach to developing a revised LDS	Yellow
D	The Affordable Housing policy is not amended	Proceed with recommended amendment	Green

Background documents: Local Plan Strategy 2015

Relevant web links: [Local Plan Strategy 2015](#), [Local Development Scheme](#)