

Committee: Planning Policy Working Group

Agenda Item

Date: 22 June 2017

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Title: Potential Garden Communities Landscape Appraisal

Author: Richard Fox, Planning Policy Team Leader Key decision: **No**

Summary

1. Appended to this report are landscape appraisals of three potential new garden communities prepared by Chris Blandford Associates.
 - North Uttlesford
 - Easton Park
 - West of Braintree

Recommendations

2. For information

Financial Implications

3. None

Background Papers

4. None

Impact

- 5.

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Communication/Consultation | The documents will form part of the evidence base to the Local Plan. |
| Community Safety | N/A |
| Equalities | N/A |
| Health and Safety | N/A |
| Human Rights/Legal Implications | N/A |
| Sustainability | A sustainability appraisal will be undertaken on the whole plan |

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Ward-specific impacts | Great and Little Chesterford Stebbing and Felsted Little Easton and Great Dunmow |
| Workforce/Workplace | N/A |

Situation

6. The three papers that are appended relate to landscape impact. These matters are important considerations in determining which potential new settlements can be allocated in the local plan.
7. The papers indicate that there will be impacts on these areas. However, it must be borne in mind that these issues are part of the planning balance that needs to be met in determining which sites to allocate and needs to be considered in the light of other factors such as housing need etc. Consideration also needs to be given to mitigating the negative impacts of growth on the landscape.

Risk Analysis

8.

| Risk | Likelihood | Impact | Mitigating actions |
|---|---|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Insufficient information is available to make an informed decision. | 1. The Council is working to a project plan to ensure there is a proportionate evidence base. | Local Plan found unsound. | Prepare proportionate evidence. |

1 = Little or no risk or impact

2 = Some risk or impact – action may be necessary.

3 = Significant risk or impact – action required

4 = Near certainty of risk occurring, catastrophic effect or failure of project.