

DATE OF UPDATE: 06/12/21
LOCAL PLAN WORKSTREAM STATUS PERIOD:
QUARTER 3
01.10.21 - 31.12.21

RAG Status		AMBER
Reasons	Actions	Date
A vacant senior planning post needs to be filled following the appointment of Joanna Hill.	Follow through recruitment processes.	19.11.21 - 30.03.22
There is a risk consultants do not deliver evidence base on time and/or within specification.	Project manager has established a monthly coordination meeting with consultants. Lead officers in close contact with consultants.	06.09.21 - 31.03.22
Transport Modelling adjusted to include VISUM work for the regulation 19 version of the Local Plan. Tight timescale for transport study input into Reg 18 plan	Reviewing work required through to end of March 2022.	13.10.21 - 30.08.22
Reasonable Alternatives to develop options.	Work underway by officers.	01.10.21 - 30.12.21
Required Decisions		
Description	Expected by	Due Date
Support for Emerging Development Options	LPLG	09.12.21
Receive consultants studies to support the Local Plan evidence	LPLG	28.02.22

Executive Summary

All 17 Consultants have now been appointed and LP Officers are in active engagement on the Evidence Base work. A paper on methodology and programme was agreed by LPLG in April and the Group and Cabinet agreed the Local Plan objectives during May. LPLG and Cabinet considered housing numbers in June. The Preliminary Outline Strategy for the Local Plan was supported by Cabinet on 02.09.21.

299 sites identified through the call for sites process have now been assessed by officers. The assessments were published for comment by the Parish and Town Councils, Ward members and Promoters with a deadline of 29.11.21 and this information is currently being reviewed.

Officers have met the Landowners and Promoters of all 16 larger sites/clusters of sites and consideration is now being given to the next steps in the process.

The next major stage in the Reg 18 work is the identification of the development options. Four Officer workshops have taken place with the SA consultants (AECOM) and a further one is planned. A workshop is taking place with LPLG on 09.12.21 to discuss the emerging development options, which will need to be evaluated further.

Staff changes continue to be a significant factor. Briefings have taken place for the new Chief Executive and Interim Director of Planning. A Senior Planner role is currently subject to recruitment and an interim senior planner has commenced work to provide cover in the meantime. It is vital that all staff changes are related to the LP preparation are managed promptly and effectively given the demanding timescales and the current crucial stages of the process.

The next three months are crucial to the identification of the preferred strategy and the drafting of the Regulation 18 Local Plan. Work is commencing on drafting the policies and explanation of the plan as well as evaluating the alternative sites. The achievement of the timetable is dependant on the prompt completion of all this work.