

Committee: Local Plan Panel

Date: 21 March
2024

Title: Update on Consultation

Report Author: Dean Hermitage – Director of Planning
Andrew Maxted – Interim Planning Policy
Manager

Summary

1. Responses to the Regulation 18 consultation are due to be published by 18 March. These will be published to the council's website and a link provided to the LPP. 1742 individual comments were submitted, totalling c.5,000 comments / points.
2. A verbal update on the responses will be provided to the LPP on 21 March. The volume of material is sizable.
3. A report will be provided to members of the LPP later in March and this will set out suggested / provisional responses and thoughts arising from the comments. It is recommended that the report and initial discussion remains confidential at this stage and until the LPP's position on certain matters is settled. To make draft / provisional views on potentially contentious policy issues and site allocations public can result in risk to the local plan at examination. A final version of the report can be published in due course.
4. The Freedom of Information Act (2001) and Environment Information Regulations acknowledge that provisional work and drafts can be exempted from release. The need for public authorities to have a 'safe space', or 'space to think in private' is recognised in the relevant legislation. It is not uncommon.

Recommendations

5. That the LPP notes the consultation response update.

Financial Implications

6. Within existing local plan budget.

Background Papers

7. Regulation 18 Consultation response [to be added once available].

Impact

8.

Communication / Consultation	The final draft (Regulation 19) Plan is to be published for consultation in summer 2024 for eight weeks.
Community safety	None
Equalities	None
Health & Safety	None
Human Rights / Legal	None
Sustainability	The Local Plan will have positive impacts on sustainability across the district.
Ward-specific Impacts	All wards
Workforce / Workplace	None

Risk Analysis

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
Failure to successfully steer the local plan to submission will likely result in government intervention and continued speculative development in the meantime.	2 – LDS, project plan and LPP in place.	4 - Lack of an adopted (or advanced local plan) leading to potentially unacceptable development.	Various mitigations in place.

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.