

**Committee:** Local Plan Panel

**Date:** 8 May 2024

**Title:** Local Plan Update

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## Summary

1. This report provides a general update on Local Plan progress since the last meeting of the Local Plan Panel (LPP) on 10 April. Further detail will be provided verbally at the meeting.

## Recommendations

2. That the LPP notes the update.

## Financial Implications

3. Within existing local plan budget.

## Background Papers

4. None

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

## Situation

5. Since the last public meeting of LPP, the LPP has been provided with first drafts of three local plan chapters for review. These have also been reviewed by legal Counsel. Further draft chapters will follow later this month.
6. The LPP has also been provided with draft responses to approximately half of the comments received in response to the Regulation 18 consultation. These two tasks involve the reviewing of many hundreds of pages of draft material on behalf of the council. Officers are reviewing and drafting responses to the remainder of the consultation comments and these will be shared with LPP later this month. Responses to the comments will then be finalised, along with required amendments to the Local Plan, and all will be published alongside the Regulation 19 Plan at the end of June 2024.
7. The Regulation 18 comments themselves are online at <https://uttlesford-consult.objective.co.uk/kse/event/37646>.
8. An LPP workshop is scheduled this month and officers will present draft revisions to, and options for, site allocations and masterplans based on the latest available evidence. Following LPP feedback and the consideration of further evidence these will be finalised and published as part of the Regulation 19 Plan at the end of June 2024.
9. The Regulation 18 Plan set out the district's housing requirement in this plan period (2021-2041) is 13,680, with 5,772 commitments and 980 housing completions. The latest provisional allocations are being worked on, on the basis that since Regulation 18 commenced, commitments have increased to 7,630 (final figures to be confirmed). Latest permissions and completion figures are still being reviewed based on the position at 31 March 2024 (whereas the Regulation 18 numbers were as of 31 March 2023). Whilst the commitments figures demonstrate the sheer volume of housing permissions coming forward each year in the district with no Local Plan in place, it does allow for flexibility and amendments (i.e. reduction) to the overall number of homes to be provided within the Local Plan.
10. Further updates will be provided at the meeting.
11. The draft minutes from the 16 April meeting of Scrutiny Committee (where Local Plan progress was reviewed) are included as [appendix 1](#). Officer consideration of the comments raised by public speakers at the March meeting of the LPP are included at [appendix 2](#).

## 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.