



CABINET: 11 JUNE 2019

Report of: Borough Solicitor

Relevant Portfolio Holder: Councillor D Evans

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SUBJECT: CALLED IN ITEM - REFERRED FROM EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - LOCAL PLAN

Wards affected: Borough wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To advise on the agreed comments of the Executive Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 28 March 2019 in relation to a called-in item entitled "Local Plan".

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That Cabinet give consideration to the comments of the Executive Overview and Scrutiny Committee as detailed in paragraph 3.2 below in light of the comments of the Director of Development and Regeneration contained within paragraphs 4.1 – 4.3.

3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Minute No. 61 of the meeting of the Executive Overview and Scrutiny Committee did not seek a different decision but has requested Cabinet to consider its agreed comments as set out below.
- 3.2 The resolution of the Executive Overview and Scrutiny Committee is:-

"RESOLVED: That the Committee does not wish to ask for a different decision, however the following agreed comments be referred back to Cabinet:

- A. That the Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee oppose the development of a 30 year local plan.
- B. That Cabinet considers the inclusion of safeguarded sites going forward.
- C. That the existing West Lancashire Local Plan 2012-2027 remains in place.
- D. That Plan B sites should continue to be protected until 2027.”

4.0 COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION

- 4.1 That Comments A and B from Executive O&S Committee be noted at this stage and form part of the consideration of officers and the Local Plan Cabinet Working Group in the drafting of the next version of the Draft Local Plan. The revised Draft Local Plan will in due course be presented to Cabinet and the accompanying report will provide an explanation of the rational for any proposed policy option that appears at odds with the comments expressed by Executive O&S Committee.
- 4.2 In relation to Comment C, the adopted West Lancashire Local Plan 2012-2027 does still remain in place, and would do so until this Council adopts a new Local Plan.
- 4.3 With regard Comment D, under the adopted Local Plan the Plan B sites are not protected until 2027. Under the current policies, if the Plan B is triggered before 2027, the Council may consider it necessary to release one or more of the Plan B sites to meet development needs. As such, at this moment in time, Comment D is not feasible and not in accordance with the adopted Local Plan. However, the Council might choose to amend these policies and restrict development of the Plan B sites until 2027 through a new Local Plan, and so Comment D can be considered as a new Local Plan is prepared, alongside Comments A and B.

Background Documents

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Report.

Equality Impact Assessment

The decision does not have any direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and / or stakeholders. Therefore no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

Appendices

- 1. Report of the Executive Overview and Scrutiny Committee Meeting held on 28 March 2019