

Minute of Executive Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 24 September 2020

27 **PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE WHITE PAPER AND CONSULTATION ON CHANGES TO THE PLANNING SYSTEM**

Consideration was given to the report of the Corporate Director of Place and Community as contained on pages 213 to 242 of the Book of Reports, which was to consider the proposed Council response to MHCLG's consultation on both the Planning for the Future white paper and the technical changes to the planning system.

The Strategic Planning, Regeneration & Implementation Manager outlined the report, he explained that there were two separate consultations taking place, the Planning for the Future white Paper as well as the related technical consultation on changes to the planning system, the suggested draft Council responses to the consultations were detailed at Appendix A & B of the report.

Comments and questions were raised in respect of the following:-

- New zonal style local plan required
- Focus on design /quality/style in zones
- 'Binding' housing requirement would be introduced
- Nationally set infrastructure levy–replace s106's to fund new infrastructure and affordable housing from same pot
- Planning process increasingly digitised
- More community consultation on specific zones
- Local plan preparation more intense
- Resources- Income / workload
- Propose change to standard method for calculating housing requirements for strategic plans (Local Plans)
- Delivering 'First Homes' concept
- Support small/medium size developers
- Proposal to extend 'permission in principle' consent regime

RESOLVED: A. That the proposed Council response to the Planning for the Future white paper at Appendix A be endorsed and further consideration by Cabinet on 13 October 2020 and Planning Committee on 15 October 2020 be noted.

B. That the proposed Council response to the technical consultation changes to the planning system at Appendix B be noted and the following agreed comments of the Committee be forwarded to the Corporate Director of Place and Community for consideration prior to a final response on technical

consultation being agreed in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning and submitted before the deadline of 1 October 2020: "To reconsider the technical responses, particularly the answers to questions 1 and 2 of Appendix B. To review the basis of whether housing stock calculations includes student properties and, if it does, then put argument to Government that student housing should be excluded from those calculations, as student housing is not likely to increase and that the revised calculations should then be reflected in the answer to question 2."