

NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

CABINET – TUESDAY, 1 MAY 2018

Title of report	LEICESTER AND LEICESTERSHIRE AUTHORITIES' JOINT STRATEGIC GROWTH PLAN: RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION
Key Decision	a) Financial No b) Community Yes
Contacts	<p>Councillor Trevor Pendleton Tel: 01509 569746 trevor.pendleton@nwleicestershire.gov.uk</p> <p>Strategic Director of Place Tel: 01530 454555 james.arnold@nwleicestershire.gov.uk</p> <p>Head of Planning and Infrastructure Tel: 01530 454782 jim.newton@nwleicestershire.gov.uk</p>
Purpose of report	To respond to the Leicester & Leicestershire Draft Joint Strategic Growth Plan Consultation
Reason for decision	To respond to the Leicester & Leicestershire Draft Joint Strategic Growth Plan Consultation
Council priorities	Participation in the development of the Strategic Growth Plan will support the following priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Building Confidence in Coalville - Homes and Communities - Businesses and Jobs
Implications: Financial/Staff Link to relevant CAT Risk Management	<p>Already budgeted for, with an earmarked reserve to cover the cover the cost of evidence base, administration associated with the consultations and a contribution to the Joint Strategic Planning Manager role. Staffing implications are considered as part of normal workloads and establishment.</p> <p>None</p> <p>Risks have been managed by the Joint Startegic Planning Manager</p>

Equalities Impact Screening	Was considered, and a report is included in the evidence base
Human Rights	Was considered, and a report is included in the evidence base
Transformational Government	The draft Joint Strategic Growth Plan has been prepared in collaboration between the City and County Councils of Leicester & Leicestershire, as well as each of the District and Borough Councils, and the LLEP.
Comments of Head of Paid Service	Report is satisfactory
Comments of Section 151 Officer	Report is satisfactory
Comments of Monitoring Officer	Report is satisfactory
Consultees	Attached at appendix 1
Background papers	Leicester & Leicestershire Draft Joint Strategic Growth Plan
Recommendations	THAT CABINET ENDORSES THE SUGGESTED RESPONSE TO THE CONSULTATION, WHICH APPEARS AT SECTION 3 OF THIS REPORT

1.0 CONTEXT

- 1.1 The draft Leicester & Leicestershire Joint Strategic Growth Plan was published for public comments in January 2018, having previously been prepared by a group made up of officers of each of the councils (Leicester City Council, Leicestershire County Council and the seven borough and district councils) (“Councils”) . The draft strategy was then considered by the Strategic Planning Group (SPG) (which is principally Directors/Chief Executives), and then the Members’ Advisory Group (MAG). The MAG is Portfolio Holders/Leaders, and is chaired by Cllr Trevor Pendleton.
- 1.2 The decision to publish for consultation was made by each of the constituent Councils, through their own governance procedures. None of the Councils endorsed the document, it was simply agreed to publish it for consultation.
- 1.3 Each of the Councils has held events/exhibitions to consider the draft Strategic Growth Plan. The number, nature and locations of these were left entirely at the discretion of the individual Councils themselves. NWLDC chose to hold one event in Ashby, and one in Kegworth.
- 1.4 We have also held seminars, open to all Members. These were not as well attended as we might have hoped, however all Members have had the opportunity to engage with the process.

- 1.5 Members have received a number of informal briefings. Feedback so far has been limited, and the view was that the re-opening of transit on the Leicester to Burton Line should be supported in principle, a wider role for the Coalville area should be explored, in particular whether a new settlement should be considered, and that the northern gateway should be supported subject to infrastructure to support it. There was also a suggestion that the plan was flawed because it did not expressly consider what is planned beyond the boundary of Leicestershire.
- 1.6 Some of the evidence base, which supports the draft strategy, has not been made available until relatively late in the process. This has resulted in pressure from the anti-development lobby in particular for the consultation to be extended. The transport modelling was only published mid-way through the consultation. Cllr Pendleton, as chair of MAG, has agreed to extend the consultation until 10th May.

2.0 CONSULTATION EVENTS HELD IN THE DISTRICT

- 2.1 There have been two consultation events held in the District, the first was at Tesco in Ashby, on 1 February, and the second was at Kegworth Parish Council offices on 22 February. Both events attracted a total of approximately 250 people. Notes of these events are at **Appendix 1**.

- 2.2 Key messages can be summarised as follows:

Ashby

Support for A511 and M42 / A42 improvements
Support for new M1 Junction 20a and new Expressway
Concerns about congestion, including around Northern Gateway
Housing types and tenures, and quality
Local issues such as town centres of Coalville and Ashby

Kegworth

Support growth around city
Not sure where Northern Gateway would be
Housing tenure (affordable homes, rented homes)
Support for M1 – M69 link
Local issues such as HS2 impact, current highway improvements

3.0 THE PROPOSED RESPONSE TO THE CONSULTATION

- 3.1 The adopted Local Plan makes reference to in-principle support for re-opening of transit along the Leicester to Burton Line, but does not make any statement about committing resource or growth to support a business case. It is a possibility that significant additional housing growth would be needed to support passenger services along the line, however that possibility does not preclude a reference to support for re-opening the route to be included within the Growth Plan.
- 3.2 The adopted Local Plan makes provision for housing to at least 2036 (which is the plan period for the current review). The specific focus of the Local Plan review is on jobs. The wider priority for the District Council is on the regeneration of Coalville, and therefore it is

appropriate that the Growth Plan should consider a greater role for the wider Coalville area.

- 3.3 The Draft Strategic Growth Plan indicated that, between 2031 and 2050, approximately 10,000 new homes should be provided within a Northern Gateway. The document clarifies that North West Leicestershire District would accept 4,000 of those. The overall numbers were projected forward using the Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment (HEDNA) figures, and it is a reasonable assumption that those homes will need to be accommodated somewhere. It is considered to be preferable for those homes to be located close to where a significant number of jobs are. This will bring about pressure on infrastructure, which is already experiencing stress. The Council's support for the Northern Gateway is therefore dependent on the provision of strategic infrastructure to support it.

Appendix 1 – Notes of consultation events

Strategic Growth Plan Consultation: Recorded Notes

1. MEETING DETAILS

Name of meeting /event Draft Strategic Growth Plan Consultation

Type of meeting / event Roadshow

Venue Information: Tesco, Ashby de la Zouch

Date and time of session /meeting: 1.2.2018, 10am - 4pm

This form completed by: Caroline Ormond **2.2.2018**

Staff present:

Lead facilitator/presenter: Caroline Ormond

Note-taker: Ian Jordan

Other staff representatives: Ian Nelson, Emma Trahearn, Daphne Robinson

Others (ie partner staff) :

Number of participants: 200 (approx.)

Organisations represented: North West Leicestershire District Council

2. KEY POINTS FROM DISCUSSION

Views expressed about Strategic Growth Plan in general & rationale behind developing the Plan	Support idea of planning far in to the future Like idea of all the districts working together
Views expressed about key matters, building blocks or priorities of the Plan	Support for improvements to the A511, particularly around Bardon. A number of views that this should be fast tracked.
Views expressed about the evidence base underpinning the Plan (ie HEDNA)	
Views expressed about general (approach to) distribution of growth across L&L	
Views expressed about specific elements of the proposals	

- A46 Corridor as primary growth area	
- Leicester as 'Central City'	
- Northern Gateway	<p>Concerns about more development in northern gateway – it is congested enough</p> <p>Need to know exactly where the houses are going to go in the Northern gateway</p> <p>Like the idea of large areas of housing following existing settlement pattern – don't want to unnecessarily destroy areas of countryside.</p> <p>Housing in Castle Donington needs to be aimed at lower salaried workers if you are going to reduce congestion – no one wants to work 12 hour shifts in a warehouse if they have any other choice.</p>
- Southern Gateway	
- Lutterworth / Melton as Key Centres	
- Coalville / Hinckley / L'boro / Mkt H'boro as 'managed growth'	<p>Coalville is being abandoned – no plan for it. Town centre is empty – no shops or cinema. Support development of housing at SE Coalville but where are they going to shop?</p> <p>Why is there no bypass for Coalville? Gets clogged up with traffic every day</p>
Views expressed about essential infrastructure in general	
View expressed about specific elements of the proposals	
- A 46 Expressway	<p>Support the development of a new j20a link road</p> <p>Numerous people interested in receiving more details about improvements to M42/A42</p> <p>Some concern about widening the A42 as it will</p>

	result in more traffic using it
- A5 Expressway	
- M42/A42 Expressway	Support improvements to M42/A42 – much overdue.
- Rail improvements / HS2	
- Other schemes / improvements	<p>Need to sort out traffic on Market Street, Ashby</p> <p>No more development on Tamworth Rd, Ashby – it's the only open space left on a gateway in to Ashby</p> <p>A lot of concern about where S106 contributions go. Concerns expressed about amenities and facilities being provided where housing is.</p> <p>Like living in Ashby because of the good connections to surrounding towns and cities but lack of public transport (particularly off peak) is an increasing problem</p> <p>National Forest needs protecting – has improved greatly in last 22 years</p> <p>Concern over building on greenfield sites - need to develop brownfield sites first</p> <p>Social housing is very important</p> <p>The quality of housing (including social housing) needs to be high</p>

Strategic Growth Plan Consultation: Recorded Notes

1. MEETING DETAILS

Name of meeting /event Draft Strategic Growth Plan Consultation

Type of meeting / event Roadshow

Venue Information: Kegworth Parish Council, Kegworth

Date and time of session /meeting: 22.2.2018, 10am - 4pm

This form completed by: Caroline Ormond **26.2.2018**

Staff present:

Lead facilitator/presenter: Caroline Ormond (NWLDC Communications)

Note-taker: Ian Jordan (NWLDC Planning Policy)

Other staff representatives: Ian Nelson (NWLDC Planning Policy)

Others (ie partner staff) : Gillian Squires (NWLDC Community Focus)
Andy Yeomanson (LCC Highways)

Number of participants: 51 (approx.)

Organisations represented: North West Leicestershire District Council,
Leicestershire County Council

2. KEY POINTS FROM DISCUSSION

Views expressed about Strategic Growth Plan in general & rationale behind developing the Plan	Understand the need to plan far in to the future
Views expressed about key matters, building blocks or priorities of the Plan	Support for bulk of housing / jobs to be developed near the city. Unsure about where development of a 'northern gateway' would go. Perception that there is no land left to develop around Kegworth / Castle Donington. Wish to ensure that a good proportion of the homes to be built are affordable.

Views expressed about the evidence base underpinning the Plan (ie HEDNA)	
Views expressed about general (approach to) distribution of growth across L&L	
Views expressed about specific elements of the proposals	
- A46 Corridor as primary growth area	
- Leicester as 'Central City'	
- Northern Gateway	Need to know exactly where the houses are going to go in the Northern gateway Perception that there is no land left to develop around Kegworth / Castle Donington
- Southern Gateway	
- Lutterworth / Melton as Key Centres	
- Coalville / Hinckley / L'boro / Mkt H'boro as 'managed growth'	
Views expressed about essential infrastructure in general	
View expressed about specific elements of the proposals	
- A 46 Expressway	Support for proposed new link from M1 to M69 to help relieve congestion on existing M69 / M1 junction
- A5 Expressway	
- M42/A42 Expressway	

<p>- Rail improvements / HS2</p>	
<p>- Other schemes / improvements</p>	<p>Kegworth bypass is long overdue</p> <p>Local people are tired of disruption caused by M1 junction improvements, development of Roxhill and bypass. They are looking forward to these being completed so that planned improvements within the village can start.</p> <p>Anticipating compensation for HS2 route, as it has affected two significant developments that were providing S106 contributions for the village</p>