

Title of Report	LOCAL PLAN REVIEW – DRAFT OBJECTIVES	
Presented by	Councillor Robert Ashman Planning and Infrastructure Portfolio Holder	
Background Papers	<a href="#">National Planning Policy Framework</a>  <a href="#">Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report 2020</a>  <a href="#">Council Delivery Plan</a>  <a href="#">Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Growth Plan</a>	Public Report: Yes
		Key Decision: Key
Financial Implications	The cost of the substantive Local Plan Review is met through existing budgets.	
	Signed off by the Section 151 Officer: Yes	
Legal Implications	The agreed draft objectives will be included in the next consultation stage for the Substantive Local Plan Review. This consultation must be undertaken in a way that accords with the council's agreed Statement of Community Involvement.	
	Signed off by the Deputy Monitoring Officer: Yes	
Staffing and Corporate Implications	No staffing implications associated with the specific content of this report. Links with the Council's Priorities are set out in the report itself.	
	Signed off by the Head of Paid Service: Yes	
Purpose of Report	To consider a set of potential Local Plan Objectives for inclusion in the next stage of public consultation for the Substantive Local Plan Review.	
Reason for Decision	The preparation of the Local Plan is a Cabinet function.	
Recommendations	<b>THAT CABINET REQUEST THE LOCAL PLAN COMMITTEE AGREE THE DRAFT OBJECTIVES AT PARAGRAPH 2.8 FOR INCLUSION IN THE NEXT PUBLIC CONSULTATION STAGE OF THE SUBSTANTIVE LOCAL PLAN REVIEW.</b>	

## 1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Substantive Local Plan Review will need to contain a set of objectives. These overarching objectives will describe, in overall terms, what the Local Plan aims to achieve and will provide a guiding framework for the plan's policies and proposals. Each Local Plan policy should help achieve one or more of the objectives.

- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to present a set of draft objectives for Cabinet's consideration and approval. Subject to the consideration of both Cabinet and the Local Plan Committee, it is intended that these draft objectives will then be included in the next stage of consultation on the Local Plan Substantive Review.

## **2. DRAFT OBJECTIVES**

- 2.1 The 15 objectives in the adopted Local Plan provide a starting point for this exercise. It is not appropriate simply to roll these forward into the Local Plan Substantive Review even though they may still seem valid; they need to be re-visited to take account of updated information and any changes in circumstance since the adopted Local Plan was prepared.
- 2.2 In developing a revised set of objectives a number of other sources have been considered, in addition to the adopted Local Plan.
- 2.3 One input to this review process is the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) objectives from the (draft) Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report (2020). These SA objectives provide the framework by which the sustainability credentials of the emerging plan will be tested.
- 2.4 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) has been revised since the Local Plan was adopted and this should be a further influencing factor on the Local Plan Review objectives. It is important that the objectives are grounded in the requirements as set out in the NPPF.
- 2.5 Important local perspective can be added from the council's own Delivery Plan. Whilst this covers a shorter timeframe than the Local Plan Review, it is an important statement of the council's key priorities which strategic documents, such as the Local Plan, can help to deliver. Also, and where appropriate, other key council strategies such as the Health & Wellbeing Strategy and the Zero Carbon Roadmap/Action Plan may inform the objectives of the Local Plan Review.
- 2.6 Finally, the objectives in the Leicester & Leicestershire 2050 Strategic Growth Plan are also considered to be relevant.
- 2.7 To take this forward, the adopted Local Plan objectives have been assessed against the influencing factors described above. This assessment is presented in the table in Appendix A of this report and this helps to identify common themes and explains the reasoning behind proposed changes. Climate change is a particular area which has been given added emphasis to reflect the Council's commitment to achieve carbon neutrality. Where possible, similar matters have been consolidated to help reduce the overall number of objectives.
- 2.8 The assessment table concludes with proposed, revised objectives for the Local Plan Review. For convenience, the 11 suggested objectives are listed below.

*1 - Enable the health and wellbeing of the district's population.*

*2 - Enable the delivery of new homes, including affordable housing, which meet local housing needs including in terms of size, tenure and type.*

*3 - Achieve high quality development which is sustainable, which responds positively to local character and which creates safe places to live and work.*

*4 - Reduce the need to travel and increase opportunities for cycling, walking and public transport use.*

*5 - Support the district's economy, including its rural economy, by providing for a range of employment opportunities which respond to the needs of businesses and local workers.*

*6 - Enhance the vitality and viability of the district's town and local centres which have an important role serving our local communities with a particular focus on the regeneration of Coalville.*

*7 - Ensure new development mitigates for and adapts to climate change, including reducing vulnerability to flooding, and contributes to reduced net greenhouse gas emissions to support the district becoming carbon neutral by 2050.*

*8 - Conserve and enhance the district's built, cultural, industrial and rural heritage and heritage assets.*

*9 - Conserve and enhance the district's natural environment, including its biodiversity, geodiversity, water environments and landscape character, notably the National Forest and Charnwood Forest as well as its other valued landscapes.*

*10 - Promote the efficient use of natural resources and brownfield land, control pollution and facilitate the sustainable use and management of minerals and waste.*

*11 - Maintain access to services and facilities including jobs, shops, education, sport and recreation, green space, cultural facilities, communication networks and health & social care and ensure that development is supported by the physical and social infrastructure the community needs and that this is brought forward in a co-ordinated and timely way.*

2.9 The number of objectives (11) is slightly less than in the adopted Local Plan (15). This is because a number of objectives have been merged to consolidate the overall number. For example, community safety is now included in design as is local identity.

2.10 Subject to Cabinet's and the Local Plan Committee's consideration, the draft objectives will be part of the next public consultation for the Local Plan Review. This will expose them to wider scrutiny and the feedback received can be used to inform future iterations of the objectives. The objectives will complement an overall 'Vision' which is a narrative statement explaining what the district will be like at a future point when the Local Plan Review has been delivered. A draft Vision is in preparation.

<b>Policies and other considerations, as appropriate</b>	
Council Priorities:	<p>All the Council Priorities impact on the subject matter of this report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Supporting Coalville to be a more vibrant, family-friendly town</li> <li>- Our communities are safe, healthy and connected</li> <li>- Local people live in high quality, affordable homes</li> <li>- Support for businesses and helping people into local jobs</li> <li>- Developing a clean and green district</li> </ul>
Policy Considerations:	<p>Adopted Local Plan National Planning Policy Framework</p>
Safeguarding:	None specific
Equalities/Diversity:	The Local Plan Review as an entity will be subject to an Equalities Impact Assessment.
Customer Impact:	None specific
Economic and Social Impact:	<p>The decision, of itself, will have no specific impact. The Local Plan Review as a whole will deliver positive</p>

	economic and social impacts and these will be recorded through the Sustainability Appraisal.
Environment and Climate Change:	The decision, of itself, will have no specific impact. The Local Plan Review as a whole will deliver positive environmental and climate change benefits and these will be recorded through the Sustainability Appraisal.
Consultation/Community Engagement:	The draft objectives will be subject to public consultation as part of the plan preparation process. The consultation arrangements will be governed by requirements in the Statement of Community Involvement.
Risks:	A risk assessment for the Local Plan Review has been prepared and is kept up to date. As far as possible control measures have been put in place to minimise risks, including regular Project Board meetings where risk is reviewed.
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