

Meeting **JOINT COMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC PLANNING AND
TRANSPORT**

Date **23rd March 2012** agenda item number

From **JOINT OFFICER STEERING GROUP**

GREATER NOTTINGHAM JOINT PLANNING ADVISORY BOARD UPDATE

Summary

- 1 The Greater Nottingham Joint Planning Advisory Board (JPAB) oversees the preparation of Aligned Core Strategies across Greater Nottingham, and the implementation of the New Growth Point infrastructure projects. This report updates the Joint Committee on the work of JPAB.

Background

- 2 The last meeting of JPAB was held on 14th December 2011. The minutes of the December meeting are to be considered on 23rd March and are therefore not available for inclusion in this report.
- 3 On the 14th December, the main item of business was consideration of a draft of the Aligned Core Strategies prepared for formal Publication. The Aligned Core Strategies have now begun to undergo approval processes in the partner Councils, with this process expected to be completed by mid May, and publication as soon as practical thereafter. The City Council approved the parts of the Aligned Core strategies relevant to its area on 21st February 2012.
- 4 The meeting previous to the above took place on 20th October 2011, and the minutes of this meeting are attached (Appendix 1).

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Committee note the contents of this report.

Background Papers referred to in compiling this report

Greater Nottingham Joint Planning Advisory Board papers 14th December 2011.

Contact Officer

Matt Gregory
Greater Nottingham Growth Point Planning Manager,
Development Department

Nottingham City Council

Tel: 0115 876 3981

E-mail: matt.gregory@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

Appendix 1

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| ITEM 3 | MINUTES OF THE GREATER NOTTINGHAM JOINT PLANNING ADVISORY BOARD (JPAB) HELD ON 20th OCTOBER 2011 AT BROXTOWE BOROUGH COUNCIL |
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PRESENT

Broxtowe: Councillor S D Barber (Chair);
Erewash: Councillor G Smith;
Gedling: Councillor R Allan;
Nottingham City: Councillor A Clark;
Nottinghamshire County: Councillor Jackson;
Rushcliffe: Cllr J Cranswick

Officers in Attendance

Ashfield: Christine Sarris;
Broxtowe: Steve Dance;
Erewash: Steve Birkinshaw;
Gedling: Peter Baguley, Alison Gibson
Growth Point: Dawn Alvey, Matthew Grant, Matt Gregory;
Nottingham City: Grant Butterworth;
Nottinghamshire County: Sally Gill; ? Warrington
Rushcliffe: Paul Randle, Richard Mapletoft

Observers

Environment Agency: Naomi Doughty, Jim Davies;
Nottingham City: Councillor I Malcolm;

Apologies

Ashfield: Councillor Maxwell;
Broxtowe: Ruth Hyde;
Derbyshire: Chris Massey;
Erewash: Yvonne Wright;
Nottinghamshire City: Councillor J Urquhart;
Nottinghamshire County: Councillor R Butler;
Rushcliffe: Cllr Bell.

1. **Welcome and Apologies**

Councillor Steve Barber, Chair, welcomed those attending and introductions were made.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

3. **Minutes of the Last Meeting and Matters Arising**

The minutes of the meeting held on 20th October were approved. There were no matters arising.

4. **Aligned Core Strategies (ACS)**

MG gave a presentation summarising consultation responses on the Housing Provision Position Paper and the Climate Change Policy. The environmental sector generally welcomed the scenario based approach but would welcome lower housing figures. The development sector generally supported higher housing figures in line with the Household Projection figures published in October.

Cllr Clark noted that CPRE encouraged brownfield development first before greenfield but did not comment where greenfield development would be preferred first. MG – confirmed that the housing figures would require some green field development.

Cllr Barber commented that Greater Nottingham had many brownfield sites but infrastructure/remediation is a challenge particularly for short term delivery. It would be useful if this was understood at a national level to help make the case for extra resources.

Cllr Jackson – queried the possibility of a shorter plan period to avoid developers cherry picking sites. Matt Gregory – this issue could be discussed under Item 6.

Grant Butterworth – via the Decentralisation Minister Nottingham City are being asked to demonstrate plans for growth and resource requirements. Cllr Clark - need to play in Greater Nottingham infrastructure requirements.

Cllr Clark – queried whether councils are able to work to this current timetable for publication.

Cllr Barber – timetable tight but essential that all efforts are made to keep to plan.

MG set out the comments on the Climate Change policy highlighted that Government policy and general approach to carbon reduction had moved on from applying a basic ‘Merton Rule’ in favour of an energy hierarchy to achieve appropriate and sustained carbon reductions. Further work is required on the policy to review current guidance and to avoid confusion with references to the Building Regulations and Code for Sustainable Homes. A report of consultation is in preparation.

An overview of the draft vision and spatial portrait had been circulated. MG provided an overview – not policy but important is setting the context for the Core Strategies.

SB – Thought the vision readable and clear and invited comments from the board by 3rd November.

It was resolved to **NOTE** progress on the ACS.

5. Update from Rushcliffe Borough Council – Housing Provision

Paul Randle presented an update on proposals for housing provision within Rushcliffe Borough Council. PR set out that the council were not in support of retaining the RSS housing figures and local consultation on housing growth had been undertaken. The council proposed a combination of growth on strategic sites and smaller settlements to provide around 7,400 homes up to 2028. Many of the sites support delivery in the early years of the plan. The council remain committed to joint working and an aligned approach.

Cllr Steve Barber queried whether the infrastructure requirements of sites such as Newton had been considered. Richard Mapletoft confirmed that there were no major constraints. Steve Dance queried whether sustainable urban extensions had now been ruled out. Paul Randle confirmed that there was little support for Gamston although Clifton South could be revisited if the A453 scheme approval came forward.

Cllr Smith – commented that the housing numbers were 7,000 short of the RSS figure.

Paul Randle – the housing figures for Rushcliffe were set within the context of the planned revocation of the RSS, a possible shorter plan period and opportunities for growth outside of the borough.

Cllr Barber – highlighted a recent appeal being allowed due to no Core Strategy being in place. Timescale is key.

A general discussion was held regarding the merits of a shorter plan period – although it may reduce the overall figures, it may exclude large brownfield sites which will take longer to bring forward.

Ruth Hyde – need to focus on the many common areas between the councils in moving the strategies forward.

6. Planning Inspectorate Visit

Matt Gregory presented an overview of the issues of 'soundness' discussed with the Planning Inspectorate on 7th October and the relative risks of options for alignment of:

- a) All councils continuing to align their Core Strategies
- b) A separate Core Strategy for Rushcliffe with other councils continuing to align
- c) Separate Core Strategies for all councils

The Planning Inspectorate commended joint working to date. He advised that option b held the least risk for all councils. It was also noted that developers were deliberately seeking plans to be found unsound so that the presumption in favour of development would take precedence where no up to date plan was in place. MG requested that councils should consider their preferred approach to alignment.

Cllr Barber – option b seemed to be the sensible way forward but councils would need time to consider and invited councils to confirm their preferred approach to alignment and timescales by 3rd November.

It was resolved that councils would confirm their preferred approach to alignment and timescales by 3rd November 2011.

7. Draft National Planning Policy Framework Response

MG confirmed that a joint response on the Draft National Planning Policy Framework was submitted to the Department for Communities and Local Government on 17th October. The response had previously been circulated to the Board for comments.

It was resolved to **NOTE** the report.

8. Programme of Development

The board were informed of the latest position regarding the programme of development.

It was resolved to:

1. **NOTE** the action of the Executive Steering Group in approving revenue expenditure to support viability and master-planning work;
2. **SAFEGUARD** the £1m allocation for Ilkeston Station until September 2012;

3. **NOTE** the update on Community Infrastructure Levy.

9. **Local Sustainable Transport Fund**

Grant Butterworth updated on the current status of bids for the Local Sustainable Transport Fund and emerging governance arrangements.

It was resolved to **NOTE** the report.

10. **Any other business**

Cllr Jackson request that a copy of the presentations made at the meeting be circulated.

The next meeting will be held at 2.00pm on 20 October 2011 at the Town Hall, Beeston.