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| Meeting: | Joint Committee on Strategic Planning and Transport |
| Date: | 11 June 2020 |
| From: | Joint Officer Steering Group |

Greater Nottingham Joint Planning Advisory Board Update

1 Summary

- 1.1 The Greater Nottingham Joint Planning Advisory Board (JPAB) oversees the preparation of aligned Local Plans across Greater Nottingham, and the implementation of projects funded through the partnership. This report updates the Joint Committee on the work of JPAB, and other strategic planning matters within the remit of the Committee.

2 Background

- 2.1 The last meeting of JPAB was held on 30 March 2020. The latest available minutes are from the meeting held on 15 December 2020, and these are appended to this report (appendix 1).
- 2.2 A summary of the main issues discussed at the 5 March meeting is provided below, updated as necessary.
- 2.3 JPAB received a report feeding back on the two Councillor workshops held in January and February. The report proposed a succinct high-level vision for what the area will look like once the policies and proposals are implemented.
- 2.4 The main points that were agreed to inform the vision are:
- Climate change/carbon neutrality are key, including flooding
 - New homes to meet needs of population, balancing economic and environmental factors
 - Right type of homes - Different types of housing for different life stages. Need to facilitate down-sizing/ageing etc.
 - GBI special feature of Nottingham that is special and cherished – enhance and link up/connect
 - Concept of 15 minute neighbourhood'
 - Access for deprived communities (GBI/jobs/connectivity) very important
 - Quality of life and access especially important with more permitted development
 - Economic development and Covid recovery
 - Vibrant and viable town centres esp post Covid
 - Environmental net gain
 - Well designed places, neighbourhoods and developments
 - Well connected, with required infrastructure at the right time
 - Cohesive, safe and healthy communities
 - Health priorities linked to GBI.
 - Future proof with flexible policy approach – drone deliveries, driverless cars etc. Multi purpose/flexible buildings

- 2.5 It was also agreed at the workshops that optimising the accessibility and availability of existing infrastructure was key, as was the optimising the re use of existing buildings and the potential of brownfield sites. Accordingly, an outline of a proposed strategy was proposed to JPAB as follows:
- Strategy based around urban living and enhancing quality of life and avoiding “town cramming”. City and town centres key role (eg wider Broadmarsh area). More limited opportunities / emphasis on SUEs.
 - Still a role for key settlements within this strategy
 - Secondary theme, supporting the regional economy through accessible sites with strong growth potential (Toton and Ratcliffe upon Soar, City centre)
 - All linked to good quality, accessible and improved GBI.
- 2.6 As a result of the workshop findings, a short draft vision and strategy policy were prepared for consideration and comment by JPAB, and these are at appendix at appendix 2. It was acknowledged that these are still being developed, so there is an opportunity to amend and improve them.
- 2.7 A presentation was given on the findings of the Nottingham Core HMA and Nottingham Outer HMA Employment Land Needs Study by Litchfields planning consultants, and update reports were presented on the Waste and Minerals Local Plans, and on Homes England Capacity Funding Projects Monitoring.
- 2.8 The meeting agenda papers are available to view at <http://www.gnplan.org.uk/about-gnpp/joint-planning-advisory-board-meetings/>.

3 Recommendation(s)

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

4 Background papers referred to in compiling this report

- 4.1 JPAB Papers, 30 March

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APPENDIX 1

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| ITEM 3 MINUTES OF THE GREATER NOTTINGHAM JOINT PLANNING ADVISORY BOARD (JPAB) MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 15 DECEMBER 2020 VIA MS TEAMS |
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PRESENT

Ashfield: Councillor M Relf
City: Councillor L Woodings
Derbyshire County: Councillor T King
Erewash: Councillor M Powell
Gedling: Councillor J Hollingsworth
Nottinghamshire County: Councillor T Harper (Chair); Councillor G Wheeler
Rushcliffe: Councillor R Upton

Officers in Attendance:

Ashfield: Christine Sarris
Broxtowe: Ruth Hyde; Matthew Kay
Derbyshire County: Steve Buffery
Erewash: Steve Birkinshaw
Gedling: Alison Gibson
GN Planning Partnership: Matthew Gregory; Peter McAnespie, Mark Thompson
Nottingham City: Paul Seddon
Nottinghamshire County: Stephen Pointer
Rushcliffe: John King; David Mitchell

Observers:

Louisa Aspden
David Bainbridge
James Beverley
Tom Collins
Adrian Cox
Joe Drewry
Caolan Gaffney
Robert Galij
Tom Genway
Rob Gilmore
Kelvin Humphreys
Sam Salt
Paul Stone

Apologies:

Ashfield: Cllr Jason Zadrozny
Gedling: Joelle Davis
Homes England: Lucy Blasedale
HS2/NCC: Ken Harrison
Nottingham City: Cllr Sally Longford; Cllr Adele Williams; James Ashton
Nottinghamshire County: Councillor Phil Rostance; Matthew Neal; Adrian Smith;

1. **Introductions and Apologies**

Councillor T Harper (Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting which was being held virtually due to Covid-19 restrictions and apologies were noted.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

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

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 22 September 2020 were approved as recorded.

4. **Presentation: Green & Blue Infrastructure Study (Phase 1)** (John King)

4.1 JK gave a slide presentation of the Green & Blue Infrastructure Study (GBI Study) which will form part of the evidence base to support the Strategic Plan for EBC, BBC, City, GBC and RBC. It forms two parts:

- (i) Broad review of existing strategy
- (ii) Identifying green infrastructure corridors and establishing principles for GBI.

4.2 The objectives are to look at areas where corridors can be enhanced and where wildlife and habitats could be improved. This Study builds on and updates the 6Cs work undertaken 10 years ago for the current Core Strategies.

4.3 It looks at sub regional corridors which extend beyond the Greater Nottingham area including rivers and canal corridors. There will be assessments for each of the identified area which will undergo a SWOT type analysis.

4.4 JK explained that the ecological networks would be looked at separately as required by the emerging Environment Bill. The work will be carried out by the Nottinghamshire Biodiversity Group with a view to protecting them and improving connectivity.

4.5 The next steps will be to discuss the GBI Strategy with key stakeholders next year and for the GBI Strategy to be published with the Preferred Options in the summer for consultation.

4.6 LW advised that natural wetlands and water storage and footpaths alleviated flooding and questioned if Daybrook was part of the plans. Her observation would be to link up ancient woodlands with GBI either side and have low or traffic free routes to encourage more cycling and walking to improve the biodiversity of those areas.

4.7 JK clarified that each identified corridor would be looked in respect of potential flood mitigation measures and cycling was a key element in non-traffic or quiet areas.

4.8 MP asked if the Trent Valley Vision and Erewash River geography could be linked. JK was aware of the Trent Valley Vision and would make sure that it would be absorbed into the Strategy as it had been raised by other consultees.

- 4.9 MG reminded councillors that GBI would be an important consideration when considering sites for development.
5. **Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan Update** (Matt Gregory)
- 5.1 TH explained that the recommendation of the report was to note progress on strategic plans for Greater Nottingham and agree the proposal to develop preferred growth options.
- 5.2 MG referred to section 2 of the report that consultations for the plan had closed in September 2020. Responses are currently being collated and will be considered early in the new year to progress with the timescales of the plan.
- 5.3 MG mentioned that EBC's Growth Options Local Plan was in a similar position and their consultation period closed in the summer.
- 5.4 MG highlighted the growth options which were published for comment and outlined that there was a need to either agree single option or a blend of more than one, with a test and challenge approach. The Councils would need to articulate a shared vision of how the area should be in 2038, which should include key factors such as climate change, carbon neutrality, Covid recovery, regional development. and HS2. He emphasised that councillors' roles were critical in the two workshops proposed to be held in the new year.
- 5.5 Workshop 1 will consider the responses to the Growth Options consultations, and how a range of potential growth outcomes could be accommodated. A second workshop will refine the range of options taking into account factors such as site assessments, site sustainability and deliverability, impacts/benefits on green and blue infrastructure etc. preferred options will be recommended at the March 2021JPAB meeting.
- 5.6 Evidence based work continues, and the Gypsy and Travellers Housing Needs Assessment is currently in a draft form for comment, to be signed off early in the new year.
- 5.7 An Employment Land Study is being undertaken and the consultants are holding workshops with stakeholders to consider various employment scenarios including those to assist with Covid recovery.
- 5.8 MG stated that Mark Thompson was appointed on secondment from BBC to provide a dedicated resource to manage the work for the Strategic Plan(s) over the next two years.
- 5.9 Next steps will be transport assessments and modelling, Green Infrastructure stage 2 work and progression of the Sustainability Appraisal, aiming for approval to consult following the County Council elections in May.
- 5.10 Correspondence between parish councillors who wished to pause the Strategic Plan is included in the agenda for the public record.

Joint Planning Advisory Board was resolved to:

- (a) NOTE the progress with Strategic Plan preparation in Greater Nottingham; and
- (b) AGREE the proposal to develop a preferred growth option through Councillor workshops.

6. **Government Consultations: Planning for the Future White Paper and Changes to the current planning system: Consultation on changes to planning policy and regulations** (Matt Gregory)

- 6.1 TH reported that the Government's White Paper published on 6th August 2020 would have an impact on the work of JPAB.
- 6.2 MG advised that a joint response was sent to Government which is attached in the appendix. The Government has subsequently indicated that further consultations will be undertaken as the new system develops even beyond the term of the existing Government as developing the new planning system will take time. He also reported that the standard methodology consultation received a high level of responses. The Government will be publishing a response to the comments received and is likely to take a different approach.
- 6.3 LW advised of concerns raised by the Nottingham Disability Group in respect of the White Paper with only 10% allocated for adaptable/accessible housing. She advised that Part M still applied but questioned who would police this. LW to circulate the comments from the Disability Group to address their concerns for consideration. (See appendix 1 below).
- 6.4 MG has had sight of the comments and advised that once a planning application for development is submitted details on access are resolved at this time. The opportunity for comment is reduced under proposals in the White Paper. Design guides are proposed to resolve such issues in areas identified for growth. However, these take a long time to prepare and councils have limited skills and experience in this area. The Infrastructure contributions should ideally be payable at commencement of development and not on occupation, as is currently proposed. The approach proposed in the White Paper would require LAs to borrow to fund any necessary infrastructure with the onus on the LA to deliver and take the risk.

Joint Planning Advisory Board was resolved to NOTE the joint response to the Planning for the Future White paper.

7. **Waste and Minerals Local Plans Update**
(Stephen Pointer/Steve Buffery)

- 7.1 Nottingham/Nottinghamshire
SP gave an update on the Nottingham/Nottinghamshire Plan progress. Hearings concluded at the end of October and have since prepared Modifications for consultation up to 8 January 2021. This will then be submitted to the Inspector to report back 4-6 weeks later. A Waste Needs Assessment will be carried out as evidence base towards a Joint Waste Plan during 2021.

Derby/Derbyshire

- 7.2 SBuf advised that both Derby/Derbyshire Councils have carefully looked at proposed sand and gravel sites with a consultation period from 20 October to 13 December. Comments were invited on potential sites for allocation of sand and gravel in the Trent Valley area. They received 200 responses which are currently being assessed. One site has been put forward for potential allocation in the Derbyshire and Minerals Local Plan. The two councils intend to publish a draft Local Plan in the spring. Due to the County Council elections in May and purdah, if timescales slip they may have to publish the Waste Local Plan in the summer.

Joint Planning Advisory Board was resolved to NOTE the progress with the Nottinghamshire/Nottingham and Derbyshire Waste and Minerals Local Plans.

8. **Homes England Capacity Funding projects monitoring**

(Peter McAnespie)

- 8.1 PMcA referred to Appendix 1 of the report for a project update and Appendix 2 for repurposing of funding originally earmarked for the Island project. The two main points to note were (i) part of the Stanton site has now been sold and active discussions are progressing to bring the land forward for development (ii) the underspend by the City Council and how to spend the funding with different projects which was agreed at the last ESG and noted for JPAB.
- 8.2 MP commented that it was time for some good news that the 192-acre Stanton site had finally been sold to Verdant (David Ward and Trust Utilities). There is no current live planning application for the site but Verdant are intending to consult with EBC for an outline planning application in summer 2021. In a press release given they intend to use the local rail access to the mainline to reduce heavy goods vehicles with better road access connection to the M1.
- 8.3 Both TH and MR congratulated EBC on their success. MR also mentioned the ADC have successfully agreed the re-opening of the Maid Marion Line and acquired new carriages for the Robin Hood Line.

Joint Planning Advisory Board resolved to NOTE this report and the details set out in Appendix 1 and NOTE the re-purposing of Nottingham City Council's Island project underspend as set out in Appendix 2.

9. **Any other business**

The Chair wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

10. **Future Meetings 2021**

It was announced that future meeting dates would be circulated in due course. These are confirmed as follows:

| DATE | TIME | VENUE |
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| Tuesday 30 March 2021 | 2.00 pm | Microsoft Teams Virtual meeting |
| Tuesday 29 June 2021 | 2.00 pm | Council Chamber, Ground Floor, Council Offices, Beeston or Microsoft Teams Virtual meeting |
| Tuesday 28 September 2021 | 2.00 pm | Council Chamber, Ground Floor, Council Offices, Beeston or Microsoft Teams Virtual meeting |
| Tuesday 14 December 2021 | 2.00 pm | Council Chamber, Ground Floor, Council Offices, Beeston or Microsoft Teams Virtual meeting |

MEETING CLOSED AT 3.00PM

APPENDIX 2

Draft Greater Nottingham 2028 Vision Statement

We need to develop a succinct vision for the plan which will set out how we want to see Greater Nottingham grow and evolve to 2038. Whilst everyone will have a different perspective, common themes will be shared by all. We need a vision which reflects that changes will happen, and we want to manage that change to achieve the best outcome for the area.

By 2038 Greater Nottingham will lead sustainable development in the region. It will make the most of its economic, cultural, heritage and natural assets and be at the forefront of tackling and adapting to the impacts and challenges of climate change. The area's carbon footprint will be minimised, the unique abundant natural resources will be capitalised on and green and blue infrastructure, landscapes, heritage and biodiversity will be protected, enhanced and increased. Recognising the climate emergency, the councils will seek to be carbon neutral before the government's target of 2050.

The strategic plan will secure a more sustainable, prosperous, safe, healthy and vibrant Greater Nottingham. People from all sections of society will be provided with better access to homes, jobs, services and nature. The area's natural environment, heritage, built form and settlements will be all be preserved and enhanced. 70, 000 new homes will be delivered, incorporating different types of homes for different life stages. Sites for development will be identified firstly within the main built up area of Nottingham and to a lesser extent adjoining it, resulting in an improved quality of life. As a result, urban living will be a popular choice, whilst new development elsewhere will be focused at key settlements and implemented in a sustainable manner, promoting 15 minute neighbourhoods and mitigating against and adapting to the causes and impacts of climate change.

Economic development will tackle the impacts of the pandemic and include a HS2 hub station to serve the East Midlands, at Toton in Broxtowe and the economic growth potential of the former Ratcliffe-upon-Soar power station will be realised. Innovation will continue to be encouraged by capitalising on links with the Universities and nurturing of new business start-ups. The area will be the pre-eminent sporting centre in the region with a broad range of cultural, tourist and sports facilities.

The City Centre will see the innovative redevelopment of the Broadmarsh centre and town centres will remain vibrant and viable addressing the challenges post Covid by broadening the range of services and community facilities on offer.

The area's unique built and natural environment will be enhanced through sensitive and well designed places, neighbourhoods and developments which will be strongly connected with timely infrastructure. Environmental net gains will be delivered alongside developments and through the enhancement of existing and the creation of new habitats.

The public transport network will continue to be world class and grow, and new NET routes will be provided. There will be new smart cycling and walking networks connecting our neighbourhoods with employment areas and the city and town centres.

All development will take account of flood risk, be energy efficient and high design quality, making efficient use of resources and enabling waste prevention.

Draft Greater Nottingham Overarching Strategy Policy

1. Sustainable Development in the plan area will be achieved through:
 - Ensuring development maximises opportunities to enhance the Green and Blue Infrastructure network and incorporates Green and Blue Infrastructure into new development;
 - Promoting urban living through identifying sites for development firstly within the main built up area of Nottingham, and to a lesser extent adjoining it;
 - Ensuring that new development adjoining the built up area of Hucknall, or in or adjoining key settlements (to be defined below) is of a scale and that supports these as sustainable locations for growth;
 - Creating sustainable and attractive places with an enhanced quality of life for residents through implementing a '15 minute neighbourhood' approach; and
 - Maximising the economic development potential of key sites including the former Ratcliffe-upon-Soar power station, Toton/Chetwynd and the wider Broadmarsh area.

2. The settlement hierarchy to accommodate this growth is defined on the Key Diagram and consists of:
 - a) the main built up area of Nottingham;
 - b) adjacent to the Sub Regional Centre of Hucknall;
 - c) Key Settlements identified for growth; and

In other settlements (not shown on the Key Diagram) development will be small scale as defined in Part 2 Local Plans.