

Housing and City Development Scrutiny Committee

15 April 2024

Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan

Report of the Statutory Scrutiny Officer

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To scrutinise the priorities and intended outcomes of the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan (GNSP), and how its development been informed by the various stages of consultation.

2 Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked:

- 1) to make any comments or recommendations in response to the report from the Portfolio Holder for Highways, Transport and Planning on the development of the GNSP; and
- 2) to consider whether any further scrutiny of the issue is required (and, if so, to identify the focus and timescales).

3 Background information

- 3.1 The GNSP is being produced to replace the Greater Nottingham Aligned Core Strategies, which were adopted in 2014, and so will form part of the Council's statutory Development Plan within its Policy Framework. The Aligned Core Strategies constitute Part 1 of the Nottingham Local Plan, providing the strategic context for Part 2 of the Plan (the Land and Planning Policies Document), which sets out the strategic policy direction for future development in the city up to 2028. There is, however, a legal requirement to review the Local Plan every five years.
- 3.2 'Greater Nottingham' includes the Local Authority areas of Nottingham City Council, Broxtowe Borough Council, Gedling Borough Council, Rushcliffe Borough Council and part of Ashfield District Council (in Nottinghamshire), and Erewash Borough Council (in Derbyshire). The Aligned Core Strategies contain the strategic planning policies for the Greater Nottingham area up to 2028 in the context of a consistent policy framework established on a common evidence base to meet the full, objectively assessed need for housing and other development. Together, the Aligned Core Strategies provide a consistent and coherent strategic spatial planning framework for the Nottingham Core (Greater Nottingham) Housing Market Area.
- 3.3 The GNSP is a voluntary arrangement between the plan-making Local Authorities. It would be possible for each partner to prepare a single Local Plan

for their area. However, it has been agreed that there is a substantial benefit in having a consistent and coherent strategic Planning policy approach across the region, which will also help to provide certainty for users of the Planning system across Greater Nottingham. In addition, working in partnership enables significant cost savings, including through shared commissioning of evidence-base studies and with just one public examination required for the Plan, instead of four.

- 3.4 There have already been several rounds of consultation on the content of the GNSP, including on Growth Options (July 2020 and February 2021), the Preferred Approach to Housing and Employment (January 2023) and the Preferred Approach to Distribution and Logistics Development (September 2023). The next stage will be the publication of the final draft GNSP itself to enable formal representations to be made. The GNSP and copies of all representations received will then be submitted to the Secretary of State for a public examination. If found sound at examination, the GNSP can then be adopted.
- 3.5 Oversight of the GNSP development process is carried out by the Greater Nottingham Joint Planning Advisory Board (JPAB), which is made up of the relevant Executive Councillors from each of the partner Local Authorities. For Nottingham, this is the Portfolio Holder for Highways, Transport and Planning. The JPAB is not a decision-making group, so all formal resolutions on the GNSP are made by each partner's Executive body – except for the submission to the Secretary of State and final adoption, which are matters for the Full Council.

4 List of attached information

- 4.1 Report: Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan – Scope and Context
Appendix 1: Draft Greater Nottingham 2041 Vision Statement and Draft Spatial Objectives

5 Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information

- 5.1 None

6 Published documents referred to in compiling this report

- 6.1 [Greater Nottingham Planning Partnership](#)

7 Wards affected

- 7.1 All

8 Contact information

- 8.1 Adrian Mann, Scrutiny and Audit Support Officer
adrian.mann@nottinghamcity.gov.uk