

MILTON KEYNES NEW LOCAL PLAN: PLAN MK AND THE SITE ALLOCATIONS PLAN

Contact Officer: Bob Wilson (Development Plans Manager) – Tel: 01908 252480

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To consider the role of this Cabinet Advisory Group.
- 1.2 To note the terms of reference of the Group.
- 1.3 To consider the process and timetable for the preparation of both plans (the Plan MK and the Site Allocations Plan) and to seek Cabinet's approval for this timetable.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That the role and terms of reference for the Cabinet Advisory Group be noted.
- 2.2 That the process and timetable for the preparation of the Plan MK and the Site Allocations Plan plans be noted.

3. Background

- 3.1 The adopted Core Strategy was agreed by the Council in July 2013 following a public examination held in the summer of 2012. The Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State explains in paragraph 94 of her report that the Core Strategy is sound with modifications, which include the following additional paragraph at 5.3 of the adopted Core Strategy:

'5.3 In addition to the Strategic Land Allocation, other sites will be considered for development through the Site Allocations Plan to provide short term flexibility and contingency to ensure that at least 28,000 homes will be provided by 2026, ahead of a full review of this Core Strategy in Plan:MK (see Policy CSAD1 'Review of the Core Strategy')

- 3.2 The Development Plans team have been working on taking both the Plan MK and the Site Allocations Plan forward. Given the experience of preparing the Core Strategy, it is important to agree a process which aims to avoid confusion and any unnecessary delay.
- 3.3 A timetable is provided for both plans and these highlight the key stages. The following section sets out the work where political input will be crucial and other areas where the Development Plans team can make progress.

4. Work where external support is required- under way or to be carried out

- 4.1 The table overleaf sets out the evidence work comprising factual information. Content is from research, but political input is needed about how this evidence is managed and then used. E.g. the Strategic Housing Market Assessment

once published (and subject to its content) could be quoted to support 'hostile' planning applications where it will be used to add weight to the applicant's case to support the granting of that permission. Therefore it is proposed to discuss the key conclusions and the publication of evidence at pre-meetings of this Group.

EVIDENCE (External support required)
Strategic Housing Market Assessment - additional work (e.g. updated travel to work data)
Employment Land Study
Town Centre Health checks
Retail Capacity Study
Viability Analysis
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, Drainage Study, Water Cycle Study
Constraints mapping (N Sainsbury's team)
Multi-Modal Model (transport)
Landscape Character Assessment
Townscape Character Assessment/Conservation Area work

5. Work requiring political input which will be the main work of the cabinet advisory group

5.1 This will be the main substance (as summarised in the table below) of the meetings held in public. Having taken account of the evidence which can then be published, the key decisions on what the first draft of the new Plan MK and the Site Allocations Plan should contain can be discussed and shaped at these meetings.

POLICY FORMULATION
Decisions on whether MK grows- what does the evidence indicate?
Subsequent decisions on how and where MK grows- based on the evidence
For the Site Allocations Plan- decisions on how to assess sites and then: which sites to allocate and estimates of housing numbers on those sites

5.2 A programme for this work (both the publication of evidence, some of which is already under way and the preparation of the new policy) is set out in the timetable below. For the Site Allocations Plan the first draft setting out the range of sites put forward by landowners and their agents will be ready for July next year. Public consultation will follow around these potential sites once they have been identified. This will then be progressed through the regulatory stages with the aim of adopting the Site Allocations Plan by the end of 2015.

ANNEXES: Annex A First Draft PlanMK Process - Key Stages
 Annex B Site Allocations Process - Key Stages