

CABINET

7 SEPTEMBER 2015

Present: Councillors Chowney (Chair), Forward, Cartwright, Hodges, Poole, Atkins, Cooke and Davies

12. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6 JULY 2015

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 6 July 2015 be approved and signed by the chair as a correct record

13. HASTINGS LOCAL PLAN - DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN (DMP) INSPECTOR'S REPORT

The Senior Planner presented the report of the Assistant Director of Regeneration and Culture on the outcome of the examination in public of the Hastings Development Management Plan (DMP) and the process and timescale for the adoption of the plan by the council.

In February 2014, the council had adopted the Hastings Planning Strategy, which identified the overarching objectives for sustainable development of homes and employment space within the Borough up to 2028. It was necessary for the council to adopt a DMP to provide a greater level of detail on its policies in respect of design, amenity, access, ground conditions, pollution, hazards and the protection of the historic and natural environment, which prospective planning applications will be assessed against. The DMP also allocated sites for residential and employment usage, and included specific policies relevant to the development of these sites.

The proposed DMP had been subject to an extensive public consultation, followed by an examination in public by an independent Inspector between October and December 2014. The examination in public comprised a series of formal hearing sessions, when those who had made representations on the Plan were able to attend and give evidence for the Inspector to consider. The final hearing session was held on 16 January 2015, and the Inspector then undertook site visits before drafting his final report.

The Inspector assessed the DMP to examine whether the preparation of the plan was sound and complied with the duty to co-operate and the relevant legal requirements. The Inspector found that the DMP submitted to the Secretary of State came close to achieving the right balance between the economic, social and environmental roles referred to in the framework (NPPF). Accordingly, he recommended eight main modifications, to ensure the plan was sound and legally compliant.

The Inspector's modifications had been incorporated in the revised DMP, which it was proposed to submit to Full Council for adoption at its meeting on 23 September 2015.

Councillor Chowney proposed an additional recommendation to thank the Inspector, Richard Hollox, for his efforts and to wish him a happy retirement.

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Councillor Chowney moved approval of the recommendations to the report, which was seconded by Councillor Poole.

RESOLVED (by 5 votes for, 0 against with 2 absentions) that:

- 1) Cabinet considered the Inspector's recommendations and proposed main modifications (MM's) to the plan, as attached at appendix A to the Assistant Director for Regeneration and Culture's report;**
- 2) Cabinet recommends to Council the incorporation of the Inspector's 8 main modifications into the DMP;**
- 3) Cabinet considered the main modifications as incorporated in the DMP together with all minor modifications and the policies map attached as Appendices B, Ci and Cii to this report and recommends that Council adopt the Hastings Development Management Plan;**
- 4) Cabinet expresses its appreciation to all those staff responsible for the preparation of the plan and in particular officers from the Planning Policy team, and;**
- 5) Cabinet thank the Inspector, Richard Hollox, for his efforts and wish him a happy retirement**

The reason for this decision was:

In accordance with Section 23 (c) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by Section 122 (3) of the Localism Act 2011 to enable the council to adopt its next key planning document (the Hastings Development Management Plan) as part of the development plan for the borough, as encouraged to do so by government to ensure that a statutory planning framework is put in place at the earliest opportunity to guide investment and growth within Hastings over the plan period to 2028.

14. DEVOLUTION PROSPECTUS FOR THREE COUNTIES SOUTH (3SC)

The Director of Operational Services presented a report to inform members about work being undertaken by East Sussex, West Sussex and Surrey County Councils to develop proposals for a combined authority, within the context of devolution in England.

The government has placed an emphasis upon co-operation between public bodies across local areas, by developing combined authorities across public service providers. East Sussex County Council had led work to develop a devolution prospectus for the three counties around the two complimentary work streams of economic growth and enhanced productivity and public service transformation. The work streams identified in the prospectus incorporated proposals in respect of transport links, digital infrastructure, housing and actions to achieve and retain a highly skilled workforce. The prospectus did not currently include Brighton and Hove.

It was essential for the council to take an active role in ensuring that the new structure and programme paid attention to the particular social and economic conditions in Hastings and similar coastal towns. There was also a need to highlight the importance of sustainable growth and regeneration in areas currently outside the high wage /cost economy of much of the rest of the South East. The Chief Executive of

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East Sussex County Council had sought comments on the draft prospectus by 27 August 2015, to enable submission by 4 September 2015. The comments made by the Leader of the Council to the initial consultation had been appended to the Director of Operational Service's report.

Councillor Chowney moved approval of the recommendations to the report, which was seconded by Councillor Hodges.

RESOLVED (unanimously) that:

- 1) **Cabinet confirms its support for the comments attached as an appendix to the Director of Operational Service' report, and;**
- 2) **The council should work to try and ensure that issues of economic and social inclusion form a significant part in the offer finally made to government around a future combined authority**

The reason for this decision was:

To establish a platform on which the council's participation in the devolution agenda can be based.

15. **MINUTES OF THE MUSEUMS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 13 JULY 2015**

The minutes of the Museums Committee meeting held on 13 July 2015 were submitted.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Museums Committee meeting held on 13 July 2015 be received

16. **MINUTES OF THE CHARITY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 27 JULY 2015**

The minutes of the Charity Committee meeting held on 27 July 2015 were submitted.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Charity Committee meeting held on 27 July 2015 be received

(The Chair declared the meeting closed at. 6.31 pm)