

Cambridge City Council: Planning & Transport Scrutiny Committee [16/7/2019]

Agenda item 6: Supplementary Note –

Greater Cambridge Local Plan inception and Joint Planning & Transport Advisory Group terms of reference

Summary

This note is a supplement to the Greater Cambridge Local Plan inception and Joint Planning & Transport Advisory Group terms of reference paper published with the agenda for the Planning & Transport Scrutiny Committee on 16th July 2019.

The note explains proposed changes to the published draft terms of reference, which derive from:

- discussion of terms of reference at South Cambridgeshire District Council's Cabinet meeting held on 1st July 2019; and
- Questions sent to the Executive Councillor for Planning Policy and Open Spaces in relation to this agenda item ahead of the committee meeting.

Appended to this supplementary note is a revised draft terms of reference for discussion.

Issues

Points raised at South Cambridgeshire Cabinet included:

- The need to explicitly state that the group will report into the two Councils' respective decision-making processes
- The need to be clear that the group's focus is on the Local Plan, not on transport strategy, and that therefore its name should be reviewed to avoid confusion.

Points raised in questions sent to the Executive Councillor ahead of this committee meeting included:

- Concern that the role of the Advisory Group was unclear in terms of whether or not it would have a decision-making function, or whether any changes were proposed to existing governance processes.
- Concern that the Winding Up of the Group section was unclear.

Proposed amendments to the terms of reference

Proposed amendments to the terms of reference include:

- Amendment of the group's name to "Joint Local Planning Advisory Group"
- Amendment of wording implying that the Group will be responsible for transport strategy
- Amendment of the Outcomes of the group from "Ensure" to "Facilitate a shared policy position"
- Clarification in the Outline section that "The Group will report its recommendations to the respective Local Planning Authorities, for decision-making to be completed through each Council's existing democratic processes."

- Clarification in the Winding Up of the Group section that the Group will be wound up “by any of the following means”.