



IPSWICH
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Action Notes

Meeting	Ipswich Policy Area Board
Date	13 July 2016
Time	10:00
Location	Orwell Room, Grafton House, Ipswich
Present	Cllr Christopher Hudson (CH) – Suffolk County Council (SCC) Cllr Simon Barrett (SB) – Babergh District Council (BDC) Cllr Glen Horn (GH) – Mid Suffolk District Council (MSDC) Cllr Carole Jones (CJ) – Ipswich Borough Council (IBC) Cllr Tony Fryatt (TF) – Suffolk Coastal District Council (SCDC) John Pitchford (JP) – Suffolk County Council James Cutting (JC) – Suffolk County Council Dave Watson (DW) – Suffolk County Council Bill Newman (BN) – Babergh & Mid Suffolk District Councils Matt Deakin (MD) – Babergh & Mid Suffolk District Councils Martyn Fulcher (MF) – Ipswich Borough Council Robert Hobbs (RH) – Ipswich Borough Council Tim Wickson (TW) – Ipswich Borough Council Philip Ridley (PR) – Suffolk Coastal District Council Desi Reed (DR) – Suffolk Coastal District Council
Apologies	None
Distribution	Published.
Action Notes Agreed	Agreed.

Items:

		Action	Attachments
1.0	Agree action notes of March 2016 meeting		
1.1	Agreed.	RH to publish on IBC website.	
2.0	Local Plan update		
2.1	IBC Local Plan currently undergoing Stage 2 Examination Hearings. Following the conclusion of this process, IBC anticipate six weeks of public consultation on modifications commencing in late September with a view to adoption in early 2017. The Examination has raised concerns regarding the level of employment land reserved in the context of housing undersupply. IBC raised the importance of the future housing need figure arising from the strategic housing market assessment (SHMA) in late 2016.		
2.2	BDC and MSDC are currently leading on the delivery of both the SHMA and the employment land supply assessment stage 2. The councils are conscious of the need for a new joint/aligned Local Plan and are aiming to undertake initial consultation under Regulation 18 of the Local Plan regulations in the spring of 2016.		
2.3	SCDC are aiming for an initial Examination Hearing in September 2016 for their site allocations plan and Felixstowe Peninsula area action plan.		
2.4	SCC are reviewing the minerals and waste policies and stressed the importance of linking these plans with the housing need figure arising from the forthcoming SHMA.		
2.5	Councillors raised concern about the capacity of the planning departments to meet the deadlines set and the potential need for a Project Manager to oversee the work. Officers agreed to circulate a suggested work programme for the evidence base preparation and the resource needs and costs in staff time in this regard.	Work programme, resources and costs in staff time to be circulated by BN, DR and RH.	
3.0	Role and definition of Ipswich Policy Area Board		
3.1	SB raised concern about potential duplication of work when items were also discussed in the		

3.2	<p>'Suffolk Growth' and 'Strategic Planning and Infrastructure Framework' groups. It was questioned whether the work of the Ipswich Policy Area (IPA) Board could be incorporated into either of these forums.</p> <p>It was felt the IPA Board continued to provide an effective forum for discussion of matters affecting the four local authority areas in planning for growth across the four local authorities but that these could be discussed within a wider forum.</p>	JP to draft proposal to merge IPA Board with SPIF group.	
4.0	<p>Strategic Planning and Infrastructure Framework update</p>		
4.1	<p>The tender to produce a SPIF has been issued and procurement is being undertaken by IBC due to access to the Homes and Communities Agency Framework. Interviews are expected to be undertaken in August with the project commencing shortly afterwards. A project manager has been appointed on a one year contract to oversee the delivery of this work. Consultation is expected in late-Autumn with a view to the document being adopted prior to May 2017.</p>		
5.0	<p>Strategic transport update including Upper Orwell Crossings consultation</p>		
5.1	<p>DW explained a Department for Transport consultation on the Road Investment Strategy 2 asking for evidence and issues was extended until the end of July. This focuses on priorities between 2020 and 2025 for investment.</p>	Local authorities encouraged to submit evidence to Highways England.	
5.2	<p>A Northern Route Transport Survey is underway focusing on the potential for a route north of Ipswich. Local authorities are to provide details regarding anticipated housing growth to the appointed consultants.</p>		
5.3	<p>The Upper Orwell Crossings project has secured £77 million funding. SCC are in the process of developing a final business case and, thereafter, will deliver full Environmental Impact Assessment and community consultation requirements. The project is currently undergoing six weeks of consultation.</p>	Local authorities to promote the public consultation.	
6.0	<p>Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) update</p>		
6.1	<p>SCC are in the process of commissioning Cambridgeshire Research Group to prepare an</p>		

	updated analysis of economic projections in informing household projections and a long-term trend. The consultants to be appointed to undertake the SHMA will review this evidence and affordable housing need. SCC suggest the 2014-based Government household projections underestimate levels of internal migration associated with a more buoyant economy.		
7.0	Employment Land Needs Assessment (ELNA) and Land Supply update		
7.1	The ELNA has been published and the consultants will be delivering a presentation to members of the IPA Board and SPIF group in late July.	RH to circulate provisional dates to members and confirm final date.	
8.0	Habitats Regulation Assessment Mitigation update		
8.1	IBC are leading on the procurement of consultants to undertake the production of a Recreational Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy to be completed in the spring of 2017.		
9.0	Additional evidence base update		
9.1	Additional retail evidence will be procured for Ipswich and Suffolk Coastal councils. A retail study has been recently completed for Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils.		
10.0	Any other business		
10.1	None.		
11.0	Date of Next Meeting		
11.1	To be agreed.		

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