



IPSWICH
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Action Notes

Meeting	Ipswich Policy Area Board
Date	17 July 2017
Time	17:30
Location	Gipping Room, Grafton House, Ipswich
Present	Cllr Lee Parker (LP) (Babergh District Council) (BDC) Cllr Carole Jones (CJ) (Ipswich Borough Council) (IBC) Cllr David Whybrow (Cllr DW) (Mid Suffolk District Council) (MSDC) Cllr Tony Fryatt (TF) (Suffolk Coastal District Council) (SCDC) Cllr Paul West (PW) (Suffolk County Council) (SCC) Bill Newman (BN) (Babergh/Mid Suffolk District Councils) Peter Thompson (PT) (Ipswich Borough Council) Martyn Fulcher (MF) (Ipswich Borough Council) Philip Ridley (PR) (Suffolk Coastal District Council) Desi Reed (DR) (Suffolk Coastal District Council) Graeme Mateer (GM) (Suffolk County Council)
Apologies	Robert Hobbs (RH) (Ipswich Borough Council) John Pitchford (JP) (Suffolk County Council) Dave Watson (DW) (Suffolk County Council) Tom Barker (TB) (Babergh/Mid Suffolk District Councils)
Distribution	Attendees only.
Action Notes Agreed	To be agreed.

Items:

		Action	Attachments
1.0	Appointment of a new Chair of the Ipswich Policy Area (IPA) Board		
1.1	Cllr West elected as new Chair of the Ipswich Policy Area Board		
2.0	Role of the IPA Board <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Plans – move from IPA to Housing Market Area / Functional Economic Area geography • Relationship with AECOM report on developing a Strategic Planning and Infrastructure Framework 		
2.1	PR outlined role of the board, which shares Economic and Housing Market Boundaries, and advised there has been a lack of strategic planning, which might be addressed through proposals in the Housing White Paper in terms of larger strategic plans. Devolution presented a challenge and opportunity for forming strategic plans.		
2.2	IBC looking to achieve a consensus to demonstrate that all local authorities have co-operated and met the duty to co-operate. All agreed that reference to Devolution should be omitted in future. The reference to wider geographies is still relevant and there is still need to look elsewhere. Officers to revise and refresh the Memorandum of understanding for the next Board meeting.	All	
3.0	Duty to co-operate matters		
3.1	BN of BDC/MSDC issued a scoping document on strategic issues. The key action is to move forward on the duty to co-operate and there is not full alignment between BDC/MSDC doing a separate approach from Ipswich and SCDC. There is commitment to joining up more closely. The key issue is housing growth. The Ipswich unmet need will have to be addressed. Expectation that BDC/MSDC will work closely with IBC and SCDC at the next stage of the Local Plan process and the timescales will become more aligned.		
3.2	BDC/MSDC acknowledged likely unmet need from Ipswich. SCC needs to work through a process that looks at options for directions around Ipswich. BDC/MSDC is committed to the whole IPA meeting it needs.		

4.0	Evidence base update		
4.1	Evidence base update. Strategic Housing Market Assessment completed. Strategic Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessment is being progressed for IBC/SCDC and BDC/MSDC.		
4.2	Employment Land Supply Assessment due for completion and follows on from the 2016 Employment Land Needs Assessment. Retail and Commercial Leisure Study being completed for IBC/SCDC. SCDC is also completing a strategic flood risk assessment. A landscape character assessment is due to be commissioned for SCDC with site specific assessments for all local authorities within the IPA. Water cycle studies, whole plan viability assessments and transport assessments also planned.		
4.3	In terms of options for directions of growth, transport is a key element. The evidence base studies need to feed into transport assessments.		
5.0	Local Plan Issues and Options Aligned Consultation		
5.1	Consultation commences for IBC/SCDC on 18 August and for BDC/MSDC on 21 August.		
6.0	Future timetable towards adoption of respective Local Plans		
6.1	Common approach and alignment needed and it is necessary the timetable published in the IBC and SCDC local development schemes is adhered to as closely as possible.		
6.2	BDC/MSDC are to review the timetable for submission after the first stage of public consultation.		
7.0	Any other business		
7.1	None.		
8.0	Date of Next Meeting		
8.1	To be confirmed. Anticipated around late September 2017.	RH to arrange.	

The full action notes of this meeting are assumed to be accessible to the public and to staff, unless the chair claims an exemption under the **Freedom of Information Act 2000**. For detailed guidance about applying the exemptions visit <http://www.ico.gov.uk/>



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