



Havering
LONDON BOROUGH

TOWNS AND COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY SUB- COMMITTEE

19 January 2017

REPORT

Subject Heading:

**Review of Cabinet Report - Havering
Local Plan**

CMT Lead:

Steve Moore, Director of Neighbourhoods

Report Author and contact details:

Lauren Miller, Development Planning
Team Leader
Lauren.miller@havering.gov.uk x3051

Policy context:

National Planning Policy Framework 2012
London Plan 2015 (Consolidated with
Alterations since 2011)
Havering Local Development Framework
2008

SUMMARY

This report provides an update on the Havering Local Plan Update Report which was presented to Cabinet in December 2015.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked to review the report and note its content.

REPORT DETAIL

1. Background

On 16th December 2015 an update on the Havering Local Plan was presented to Cabinet.

The report provided an update on the progress of the Local Plan to date including details of the initial Local Plan consultation that took place earlier in 2015 and the preparation of evidence base to support the Plan.

The report also sought Cabinet approval to publish an updated Local Development Scheme (LDS) which is a statutory document setting out the plans and policy documents that will be prepared and a timetable for their delivery.

Finally, the report provided an update on recent changes to national policy for wind turbines and informed Cabinet members on how this will be dealt with in the emerging Local Plan.

2. Local Plan Update

Since reporting to Cabinet in December 2015 significant progress has been made on the Local Plan as detailed below.

Evidence Base

The Local Plan is required to be supported and justified by a credible and robust evidence base. The key pieces of evidence that have progressed since December 2015 are set out below. These documents will be finalised and published prior to the consultation on the Pre-Submission version of the Local Plan.

- **Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) 2016** - Havering's SFRA Level 1 was published in 2014 and provides a robust depiction of flood risk across the borough. Since the report was finalised the Environment Agency has published revised climate change projections which are required to be taken into account. An update of the 2014 SFRA has therefore been produced.
- **Open Space, Allotments and Sport and Recreation Needs Assessment** - provides a comprehensive assessment of the borough's existing supply of and future need for open spaces, allotments and sports facilities (both indoor and outdoor).
- **Infrastructure Delivery Plan** –identifies the infrastructure needed to support the population and housing growth over the plan period. The study covers transport, water supply, wastewater and its treatment, energy,

telecommunications, utilities, waste, health, social care, education and burial space.

- **Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment** – provides a robust assessment of current and future need for Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpersons accommodation within the Borough. Please note that it is outside of the scope of the GTAA to make recommendations or decisions about how this need should be accommodated and the study will not consider the suitability of sites.
- **Town Centre Audits** The surveys provide an up to date understanding of the uses and vacancies within each town centre. The Audit will inform decisions on any updates to the town centre designations within the Local Plan.
- **Wind Energy Assessment** seeks to identify areas within the borough that are potentially suitable for the development of wind turbines. This is in response to the Written Ministerial Statement (HCWS42) on the 18th June 2015 and the subsequent amendments to the Planning Practice Guidance which states that Local Planning Authorities should only grant planning permission for wind turbines if the development site is in an area identified as suitable for wind energy development in a Local Plan.
- **Residential Car Parking Standards Study** will set out the evidence to inform local car parking standards within the Plan.
- **Transport Background Paper** brings together a number of transport evidence base documents to support the Plan.
- **Outer North East London Strategic Housing Market Assessment** This study has been undertaken with the London Boroughs of Barking and Dagenham and Redbridge. It outlines the objectively assessed need for private and affordable housing within the housing market area for the outer north east London area. Prior to the publication of this study updated population and household projections were published by the GLA. Work is underway to ensure that these projections are reflected in the SHMA.
- **Local Plan Viability Assessment** –seeks to determine the likely impact that the policies and standards in the Local Plan will have on the viability of developments within the borough. The purpose of the viability assessment is to show (in general terms) that the cumulative impact when considering the Plan as a whole does not put the implementation of the Plan at risk
- **Sustainability Appraisal** - seeks to ensure that the promotion of sustainable development is integrated in the plan making process. It is a key

tool used to appraise the environmental, economic and social effects of plans, strategies and policies.

- **Green Belt Study** – assesses Havering's green belt against the purposes of green belt as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework. A Green Belt Topic Group has been set up by the Towns and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee to scrutinise and better understand the process involved in green belt land designation within the local plan system. Several meetings and a tour of green belt sites have taken place. A further meeting is scheduled for 30th January 2017.

Duty to Co-operate

The Havering Local Plan is being prepared in accordance with the 'Duty to Co-operate' which places a legal duty on local authorities and other public bodies to engage constructively, actively and on an on-going basis to maximise the effectiveness of Local Plan preparation on strategic cross-boundary matters.

Since December 2015 officers have carried out a programme of engagement with neighbouring boroughs and other public bodies including those such as the GLA and the Environment Agency. This has included individual meetings as well as a formal duty to co-operate workshop with neighbouring boroughs in November 2016.

Direction of Travel – Engagement

The Local Plan Direction of Travel Document was published in November 2016 as a way of engaging with and keeping stakeholders up to date and providing further detail on the emerging strategy and policy approach that will be reflected in the Pre-Submission Local Plan.

The preparation of the Direction of Travel is not a statutory requirement and has been prepared to inform stakeholders and assist in the process of preparing a new Plan. Responses received to the Direction of Travel Document will be collated and reported to Cabinet alongside the Pre-Submission version of the Local Plan in due course.

3. Next Steps

Officers have prepared a draft of the Pre-Submission Local Plan which will be discussed at a series of briefings with Cabinet Members throughout January 2017. This will be followed by engagement with non-administration Members.

Publication of the Pre Submission version of the Local Plan will be subject to Cabinet and Council approval.

The indicative timetable for the progression of the Local Plan is:

- Consultation (under Regulation 19) on the Pre-Submission version to commence in early 2017

- Submission - Spring 2017
- Examination - Summer/Autumn 2017 (subject to the availability of the Planning Inspectorate)
- Adoption - Winter 2017/18

IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

Financial implications and risks:

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Legal implications and risks:

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Human Resources implications and risks:

There are no HR implications arising directly as a result of this report.

Equalities implications and risks:

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS