



## Cabinet

12 March 2025

# REPORT OF PLACE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY SUB- COMMITTEE

**Subject Heading:**

Comments of Place Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee

**SLT Lead:**

Gavin Milnthorpe – Deputy Director of Legal Services

**Report Author and contact details:**

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**Policy context:**

The report deals with a statutory process.

**Financial summary:**

There is no significant financial impact from the statutory processes as these requirements are being met by existing budgets.

**The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives**

People - Supporting our residents to stay safe and well

Place - A great place to live, work and enjoy **X**

Resources - Enabling a resident-focused and resilient Council

## SUMMARY

Using its Constitutional powers under the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, the Place Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee has made recommendations to Cabinet. Cabinet is recommended to respond to these.

## REPORT DETAIL

At its special meeting on 6 March 2025, the Place OSSC had an opportunity to undertake pre-decision scrutiny on the Romford Master Plan Supplementary Planning Report, the Sub-Committee agreed to submit comments for the consideration and response by Cabinet, prior to its scheduled decision on the matter on 12 March.

## IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

**Financial implications and risks:** None of this report which purely seeks an initial response from Cabinet. Should Cabinet be minded to consider definite proposals in response to the sub-committee's recommendations, these may require a separate report with full implications.

**Legal implications and risks:** None of this report which purely seeks an initial response from Cabinet. Should Cabinet be minded to consider definite proposals in response to the sub-committee's recommendations, these may require a separate report with full implications.

**Human Resources implications and risks:** None of this report which purely seeks an initial response from Cabinet. Should Cabinet be minded to consider definite proposals in response to the sub-committee's recommendations, these may require a separate report with full implications.

**Equalities implications and risks:** None of this report which purely seeks an initial response from Cabinet. Should Cabinet be minded to consider definite proposals in response to the sub-committee's recommendations, these may require a separate report with full implications.

**Environmental and Climate Change implications and risks:** None of this report which purely seeks an initial response from Cabinet. Should Cabinet be minded to consider definite proposals in response to the sub-committee's recommendations, these may require a separate report with full implications.

## RECOMMENDATION

**That Cabinet considers and responds to the following recommendations made by the Place Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee:**

The Sub-Committee welcomed the Master Plan and commended the report to Cabinet for its approval.

Members provided the following comments & suggestions to support the delivery of the Master Plan Supplementary Report:

- The Sub-Committee (S/C) support the need for an Inward Investment in Romford Strategy, related launch events and would like to see further details when available.
- The S/C asked for all the referred to associated documents such as the IDP & Local Plan to be updated accordingly and advised when that has happened and to have sight of them.
- The S/C are interested in the growth of small retail businesses in Romford and are keen to encourage this.
- The S/C are interested in what the plan will encourage and deliver in regards to economic growth, and how the requisite skills and employment will be achieved.
- The S/C hope that the new jobs will increase residents' employability and household incomes.
- The S/C are interested in how the Master Plan will be funded and also the provision of more schools/school places in support of the Plan.
- The S/C are interested in Romford developing as a place of learning taking the Queens Hospital University as a key driver for this.
- The S/C are interested in the future demand on health facilities, in particular the adequacy of the development of additional medical hubs to support the Queens Hospital.
- The S/C asked if the plan or related plans could consider attracting wider further education facilities, e.g. a university, college or skills academy.

## BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.