

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>CENTRAL LINCOLNSHIRE JOINT STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE/LOCAL PLAN ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22</b>
<b>DIRECTORATE:</b>	<b>COMMUNITIES AND ENVIRONMENT</b>
<b>REPORT AUTHOR:</b>	<b>TOBY FORBES TURNER, PLANNING POLICY MANAGER</b>

## 1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To provide members with an annual report detailing work undertaken by the Central Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee (CLJSPC) over the period April 1st 2021 through to 31st March 2022.

## 2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 The Joint Planning Committee reached its twelfth year over the course of 2020/21. This year has been framed by the ongoing uncertainty of the pandemic and high rates of inflation more recently, but from the Local Plan perspective it has seen significant progress made on the plan.
- 2.2 Substantial progress has been made with the development of the plan which has included the Local Plan and all supporting documents being prepared for submission to the Planning Inspectorate in readiness for the examination in public which is expected in November 2022.

## 3. Background

- 3.1 The Local Plan (adopted in April 2017) sets out the planning policies for Central Lincolnshire (including the City) and this involves allocating parcels of land for development as well as identifying land which should be protected from development. The Plan includes a set of 57 policies which guide decision makers i.e. planning committee on future planning applications for the City.

## 4. Summary of Progress

*Note: clicking on the dates below will take you to the relevant CLJSPC meeting minutes, or alternatively go to:*

<https://democracy.n-kesteven.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CId=729&Year=0>

- 4.1 The following progress occurred in 2021/22:
- 4.2 The AGM meeting took place in two parts, both on 21 June 2021 with Cllr Bierley (West Lindsey) being voted in as Chair for the year. This was the first meeting held in person since the start of the pandemic. At the meeting the following items were considered:
- the Local Plans Team Annual Report;
  - the Local Plan Budget Update; and

- the Local Plan Draft for Consultation
- 4.3 At this meeting the Committee approved the consultation draft of the Local Plan – this was the first time that the proposed new Local Plan was published for comments and this 8 week consultation took place shortly after the meeting.
- 4.4 The subsequent meeting took place on 18 October 2021. At this meeting the Committee considered an item on:
- The Regulation 18 Consultation Update
- 4.5 This update provided details of the number of respondents and responses received during the consultation and picked up on some of the key issues being raised. It also highlighted the next steps for progressing the plan.
- 4.6 The next meeting took place on 10 January 2022. At this meeting the Committee considered an item on:
- Update on Local Plan Progress
- 4.7 This report highlighted what had been done since the Regulation 18 Consultation Draft Local Plan Consultation and highlighted some of the key areas of change being proposed for the plan since it was last published.
- 4.8 The next and final meeting took place on 28 February 2022.. At this meeting, the Committee considered an item on:
- Proposed submission Local Plan
- 4.9 This item set out the next stages of the process for the Local Plan, including a statutory consultation and submission of the document for examination. It was accompanied by the Proposed Submission Local Plan for approval from the Committee.
- 4.10 **Forward Look**
- 4.11 In the coming year, it is anticipated that the local plan will enter the final stages before it is hopefully adopted. This will include:
- Submitting the Local Plan to the Secretary of State;
  - Examination in Public;
  - Potentially consulting on Main Modifications to the plan;
  - Receiving the Examiner’s Report; and
  - Adopting the plan.
- 4.12 The focus of activity for the Local Plans Team over the coming year will be to progress the Local Plan through its examination and hopefully to bring the plan to the Committee for adoption. Alongside this the team will continue other statutory functions and reporting, such as the Five Year Land Supply, reviewing any changes to national policy and responding to neighbouring council’s plans.

#### 4.13 **Budget Position**

4.14 Details of the Local Plan budget outturn for 2021/22 are summarised in Appendix 1. Overall, the Local Plans budget is in a healthy position, with the additional costs generated by the need to commission detailed viability assessments and reports to support the policy framework being met from the reserve.

4.15 This represents the final year of a three year budget approved by Members of the Joint Planning Committee on the 13th January 2020, and which is designed to ensure that the Joint Partnership is adequately supported to facilitate the Local Plan making process.

4.16 Based on the future work programme and resource requirements a new 3-year budget covering the period 2023/24 to 2025/26 has been profiled with the key features of the draft budget profile as follows:

- The budget takes a medium/long term view to the funding of the Partnership, as per previous approaches to budget setting.
- The budget retains the value of Partner contributions at their current level of £98,900.
- The budget seeks to reduce the overall level of reserve down to deficit position by 2028/29. The next budget review cycle in three years' time will then need consider the role of establishing and maintaining a reserve fund for future years.
- The budget contains provision to fund the commissioning of new (and updates of existing) evidence reports to support the plan making process, on a rolling basis

4.17 As part of the budget review process, a review of the future work programme of the Joint Committee and the structure of the Local Plans Team required to support it has also been undertaken.

4.18 Overall, since the creation of the Central Lincolnshire Partnership in 2010, the Partner Authorities have secured a 42% reduction in the budget costs associated with Local Plan making, as per the following summary of contribution costs:

- 2010: Partner Authority contribution: £171,400
- 2014: Partner Authority contribution: £146,000
- 2017: Partner Authority contribution: £98,900
- 2022: Partner Authority contribution: £98,900

### 5. **Strategic Priorities**

#### 5.1 Let's drive economic growth

The Local Plan continues to support sustainable levels of growth and regeneration for the City and Central Lincolnshire area and will provide a positive planning policy approach to help stimulate local economic growth.

## 5.2 Let's reduce inequality

The Local Plan sets a target for and supports the provision of affordable housing across Central Lincolnshire thereby helping reduce housing inequality across the City.

## 5.3 Let's deliver quality housing

The Local Plan sets ambitious but deliverable targets for the provision of new houses across the City through specific site allocations contained in Policy LP48 (Sustainable Urban Extensions) and Policy LP49 (Residential allocations in the Lincoln area). Policy LP11 in the Local Plan sets a target for and supports the provision of affordable housing across Central Lincolnshire.

## 5.4 Let's enhance our remarkable place

At the heart of the Local Plan sits the vision of 'a prosperous, stronger and sustainable Central Lincolnshire' and this vision and the policies contained within the plan will help to achieve enhancing the City through growth and regeneration.

# 6. **Organisational Impacts**

## 6.1 Finance (including whole life costs where applicable)

The Local Plan contains policies that will have longer term financial implications for the City and Council as a whole most notably housing growth including affordable housing, infrastructure provision, employment and regeneration. The financial implications will be incorporated into the Medium Term Financial Strategy as the Local Plan is applied.

The Council's MTFS provides for an annual contribution to the Joint Planning Committee of £98,900.

## 6.2 Legal Implications including Procurement Rules

None arising from this report

## 6.3 Equality, Diversity and Human Rights

The Public Sector Equality Duty means that the Council must consider all individuals when carrying out their day-to-day work, in shaping policy, delivering services and in relation to their own employees.

It requires that public bodies have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination
- Advance equality of opportunity
- Foster good relations between different people when carrying out their activities

The Local Plan is accompanied by an Integrated Impact Assessment that assesses the potential impact of proposals (strategies, policies, programmes, projects, plans

or other developments) on issues that previously may have been assessed separately, such as economic, environmental, sustainability, equal opportunities and health and wellbeing.

## **7. Risk Implications**

### **7.1 (i) Options Explored**

Not applicable.

### **7.2 (ii) Key Risks Associated with the Preferred Approach**

None.

## **8. Recommendation**

### **8.1 That this Annual Report be noted by members as a fair summary of activity of the CLJSPC during 2021/22**

**Is this a key decision?** No

**Do the exempt information categories apply?** No

**Does Rule 15 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules (call-in and urgency) apply?** No

**How many appendices does the report contain?** 1

**List of Background Papers:** None

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