

Report to Transition Wilmslow Steering Group May 2107

Update on recent CEC activity

1. The Local Plan.

Following the resumed planning hearings in the autumn of 2016 the Planning Inspector provided feedback on the local plan strategy to CEC in December 2016.

Based on this feedback CEC carried out a further consultation on "Proposed Main Modifications to the Cheshire East Local Plan Strategy - Proposed Changes (March 2016 Version)" between 6th February and 20th March.

On the basis of the issues raised in the representations to the consultation CEC were of the view that no further changes were required to the Local Plan Strategy to make it legally compliant and sound. The Inspector is now considering the representations and the Council's responses.

TW did not make any comments.

2. Recent and current consultations by CEC

In order to take the Local plan forward CEC have been busy with a number of consultations to support future delivery of the Local Plan

i) Site Allocations and Policy Development Document(SADPD)

This document will allocate the remaining sites needed for future development and set out further detailed planning policies to be used when considering planning applications.

The first stage of consultation on an Issues Paper took place between 27 Feb and 10 April 2017 with Transition Wilmslow making a substantial number of comments on:

Sustainable Development; Apportionment of development across Local Service Centres/Other Settlements and Rural areas; Green Belt boundaries; Safeguarded land; Historic Environment; Housing; Recreation and Community Facilities; and Natural Environment, Climate Change and Resources.

In the latter we:

- i) reiterated our views on the role of green infrastructure in building resilience to climate change and in particular the loss of greenspace from developments on residential gardens/ brownfield sites;
- ii) stressed the importance of soil types with a call for a conservation policy on peat land soils to minimise carbon release to the atmosphere;
- iii) supported CEC views on the importance of energy efficiency and low carbon and renewable schemes. We also proposed that biodigestion/biogas schemes be added given

the potential for partnership between the livestock industry (farm waste) and collection of food waste in the urban area.

iv) welcomed reference to the Report of the Cheshire East Landscape Scale Partnership and its recognition and protection of “quality of place”. We requested that special priority should be given to locally distinctive landscapes such as River Valleys and Lindow Moss. (Both of which were referred to in the Report)

ii) Call for Sites

The Council invited local residents, landowners, developers and other parties to put forward sites (excluding sites for minerals and waste) they consider to be suitable and available for future development. This will enable the Council to update its land availability assessments (SHLAA), to inform and further land allocations to be made through the SADPD. It will also help inform the production of the Brownfield Sites Register.

TW did not respond.

iii) Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

CEC proposes to introduce a CIL Charging Schedule for new development. Consultation on a preliminary draft charging schedule, alongside evidence related to the viability of introducing a charge and a list of potential infrastructure projects to be funded.

Consultation was undertaken between 27th February and 10th April 2017. TW did not respond.

iv) Draft Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

The purpose of this report is make sure the social, environmental and economic issues previously identified are up to date and to identify the scope and methodology for the Sustainability Appraisals of the Site Allocations and Development Policies Document, and the Minerals and Waste Development Plan Document.

Consultation was undertaken between 27 February and 10 April 2017. TW did not respond.

iv) Minerals and Waste Development Plan

This Development Plan Document will set out policies for dealing with minerals and waste, and identify sites. Consultation on an Issues Paper will take place between 24th April and 5th June 2017, alongside a 'call for sites' for minerals and waste sites.

TW will be making comments on this document.

v) Playing Pitch and Indoor Built Facilities Strategy

CEC is currently seeking feedback on two key strategies, relating to Playing Pitch and Indoor Built Facilities across Cheshire East. The council wishes to ensure that every local

community has access to high-quality playing pitches and indoor sports facilities to meet current need and future expected growth in demand to 2030.

The documents take into account the expected 36,000 increase in the number of homes in Cheshire East by 2030, planned for in the Council's current draft Local Plan Strategy and will be used, where appropriate, in the determination of planning applications.

The consultation period is April 18th to Tuesday 30th May 2017. There are 4 key supporting documents and feedback is via an on line survey. To access

<http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/pdf/council-and-democracy/consultations/playing-pitch-strategy-13-04-2017/appendix-3-cheshire-east-indoor-built-facilities-assessment.pdf>

<http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/pdf/council-and-democracy/consultations/playing-pitch-strategy-13-04-2017/appendix-4-cheshire-east-indoor-built-facilities-strategy.pdf>

<http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/pdf/council-and-democracy/consultations/playing-pitch-strategy-13-04-2017/appendix-1-cheshire-east-pps-assessment-report.pdf>

<http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/pdf/council-and-democracy/consultations/playing-pitch-strategy-13-04-2017/appendix-2-cheshire-east-playing-pitch-strategy.pdf>

<http://surveys.cheshireeast.gov.uk/s/PPSIBFS/>

Jean Hill

Environment and Planning Group