

Report to	Cabinet	Item 5
	11 September 2019	
Report of	Head of planning services	
Subject	Endorsement of Revised Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework	

Purpose

To consider the revised Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework (the Framework) and whether to agree it.

Recommendation

To agree to the revised Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework including the commitment to review and update objectives around climate change in the next iteration of the Framework.

Corporate and service priorities

The report helps to meet the corporate priority people living well and great neighbourhoods, housing and environment.

Financial implications

The city council's share of costs of undertaking the preparation and review of the NSPF will be from the Local Plan budget.

Ward/s: All Wards

Cabinet member: Councillor Stonard - Sustainable and inclusive growth

Contact officers

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Report

Introduction

1. When preparing Local Plans the authority is subject to a number of legal and regulatory requirements. Amongst these the council must discharge a legal duty to co-operate with neighbouring authorities in relation to strategically important land use issues which cross administrative boundaries. The result of such co-operation is expected to be better planning outcomes.
2. The Norfolk Authorities have a strong track record of working together with perhaps the best example being the preparation of a single local plan to cover Norwich, Broadland and South Norfolk planning authority areas. In 2015 a formal county wide Strategic Planning Member forum was established with terms of reference to ensure that the duty to co-operate was effectively discharged. These can be seen at <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/policy-performance-and-partnerships/partnerships/norfolk-strategic-planning-member-forum>.
3. All authorities in Norfolk including the county council participate in the forum which is supported via an officer team drawn for the councils. The forum sought and gained agreement from each of the partner authorities to prepare a framework document. The city council's cabinet resolved to agree to co-operate on strategic planning matters through the preparation of a shared non-statutory strategic framework in March 2015.
4. This process led to the agreement of the original Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework by Cabinet in February 2018. It was similarly agreed by all other Norfolk planning authorities.

Revisions to the Framework

5. In order to ensure that the Framework remains current there is a need to periodically review it and the joint Member Forum agreed to do this following the publication of the revised national planning policy framework in 2018 and update it so it accorded with the requirement to produce a Statement of Common Ground. Due to the relatively short period from endorsement of the original framework the scale of revisions needed to framework has been limited. The main changes proposed to the NSPF include:
 - (a) Updating the document in relation to the latest position regarding 5G and broadband
 - (b) Updating the health section in line with the updated Health Protocol following further improved engagement with the Norfolk Clinical Commissioning Groups and the Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP)
 - (c) Updates to the housing section to revise housing need figures following the finalisation of the national methodology for assessing housing need and updates to various input information;
 - (d) Updates to the utilities section following further improved engagement with UK Power Networks and Anglian Water
 - (e) Updates to the transport section in line with the new Norfolk Infrastructure Delivery Plan
 - (f) Review of tier one employment sites and updates to text to reflect progress

on the Economic Strategy and forthcoming Local Industrial Strategy; and
(g) The inclusion of a new minerals and waste section

6. Because of the rather limited and technical nature of the changes proposed to the document it was not considered that formal public consultation was needed on the revised Framework although there is considerable ongoing joint working with a wide range of partner organisations many of whom have indicated they remain prepared to formally endorse it.
7. A progress report on the Framework was considered at the Sustainable Development Panel meeting of 27th February. The panel were content to note the relatively limited nature of the review and progress being made with it but expressed a concern that its content needed to be significantly updated to more thoroughly address the threat of climate change, particularly as it fails to reflect or respond to the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) report of October 2018.
8. Following discussion the Panel resolved to ask the cabinet when endorsing the current emerging iteration of the NSPF to press for a full reconsideration of climate change minimisation and mitigation issues when the next iteration of the NSPF is produced. However, this is no longer considered necessary as Cllr Stonard raised the matter at the joint planning member forum meeting in July which agreed to recognise this issue within the Framework itself. As a result of this the following text has now been included within the framework to recognise that the existing vision and objectives (which have not been amended as part of the current review) need to be updated to address this issue in the next iteration of the Framework:

“The above vision and objectives were established to form part of the original Strategic Planning Framework and it is recognised that since they were originally agreed there has been considerable research in relation to climate change, including reports by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and there is emerging change to the Government policy on the matter, including the recent announcement of the intention to legislate to set a net zero climate change emission target by 2050 into law. A group has been set up to review evidence and develop updated objectives around climate change. The group will develop a framework of clear policies and guidance to support and enable the county’s development partners to deliver technically and commercially viable low carbon, climate resilient developments and infrastructure, and advise on appropriate revisions to our objectives to reflect this in the next version of this document.”

9. The full text of the proposed revised Framework can be found [here](#). The previously endorsed version can be found [here](#). The timetable for the next iteration of the Framework is due to be agreed by the joint member forum in the Autumn.

Integrated impact assessment



NORWICH
City Council

The IIA should assess **the impact of the recommendation** being made by the report

Detailed guidance to help with the completion of the assessment can be found [here](#). Delete this row after completion

Report author to complete

Committee:	Cabinet
Committee date:	
Director / Head of service	
Report subject:	
Date assessed:	

	Impact			
Economic (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Finance (value for money)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Other departments and services e.g. office facilities, customer contact	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ICT services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Economic development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Financial inclusion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Social (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Safeguarding children and adults	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<u>S17 crime and disorder act 1998</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Human Rights Act 1998	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Health and well being	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

	Impact			
Equality and diversity (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Relations between groups (cohesion)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Eliminating discrimination & harassment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Advancing equality of opportunity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Environmental (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Natural and built environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Waste minimisation & resource use	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Pollution	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sustainable procurement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Energy and climate change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
(Please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Risk management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Recommendations from impact assessment

Positive

Negative

Neutral

Issues