



Sustainable development panel

09:30 to 11:30

30 November 2016

Present: Councillors Bremner (chair), Herries (vice chair), Brociek-Coulton, Davis (substitute for Councillor Maguire), Grahame, Jackson, and Thomas (Va)

Apologies Councillors Lubbock and Maguire

1. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2. Minutes

RESOLVED to agree the accuracy of the minutes of the meetings held on 19 October 2016 and 7 November 2016.

3. Greater Norwich Local Plan Update

The head of planning services presented the report and together with the Greater Norwich Local Plan (GNLP) manager, answered members' questions. The purpose of the report was to note progress on the Greater Norwich Local Plan and to comment as appropriate for consideration by the council's Greater Norwich Development Partnership (GNDP) representatives, Councillors Bremner, Waters and Stonard. Councillor Grahame had attended and observed the GNDP meeting on 14 November 2016. Members noted that following the city council's request, members of the public could ask questions at the GNDP meetings.

During discussion members commented that they would find it useful if the papers included a glossary of terms and acronyms. Members also asked if a timeline for the delivery of the plan could be included in the papers. The panel noted that a copy of the programme for the delivery of the GNLP had been presented at its September meeting.

The head of planning services explained the status of the western link road to the Northern Distributor Road (NDR) and said that it was a separate process to the GNLP. He pointed out that neither process should prejudice the outcome of the other.

The panel then considered the objectives for the GNLP noting that the emerging plan would replace the Joint Core Strategy (JCS). The GNDP had not agreed the objectives at its meeting on 14 November 2016 and there would be further discussion at the next meeting. The panel confirmed that it agreed with the order of

the objectives and discussed the detailed wording of the objectives. Members noted that there had been a question at council (29 November 2016) about the first objective “To minimise the contributors to climate change and address its impact” and the Leader’s response. In reply to a member’s comment it was suggested that safeguarding air and water quality was intrinsic to this objective but sat within the proposed GNLP objective 8 and the text could be included there. Members also discussed GNLP objective 4 and suggested that the text be amended by deleting the second reference to “growth” and inserting “work”.

The panel then considered site allocation and the practicalities of engagement with landowners. Members were keen to ensure that brownfield sites were developed before greenfield sites and noted that the community infrastructure levy (CIL) would be used to provide infrastructure to assist development where appropriate. The Housing White Paper 2016 was expected to set out the government’s approach to The Community Land Trust. It was noted that the Norwich Area Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) would need to be updated. The call for sites was for all uses including sustainable energy.

The head of planning services explained that the GNDP would be revisiting the site hierarchy once it had reviewed the objectives, and together with the project officer, explained the scoring of settlements to meet the needs of the urban area and with access to Norwich.

Members confirmed their support for Norwich to remain within the Norwich Policy Area. There would be a report to the GNDP in January on this.

The project officer advised members that a report on the sustainable appraisal would be reported to the next meeting of the panel. The appraisal was not adopted but formed an important part of the evidence for the plan and was required by law.

RESOLVED to note:

- (1) the report;
- (2) that members of the panel:
 - (a) support the order of the GNLP objectives, and suggest the following:
 - (i) that “safeguarding air and water quality” is included in the wording for GNLP Objective 8;
 - (ii) that GNLP Objective 4 is amended to read as follows:

“To promote economic growth and diversity, provide a wide range of jobs to support sustainable patterns of work and promote a higher value economy.”
- (3) that the panel supports the definition of the Norwich Policy Area, which includes the city council area, and parts of Broadland District Council and South Norfolk Council.

4. Community Engagement Norwich Pumpkin Rescue

The environment strategy manager and the environmental communications co-ordinator gave a presentation on the One Planet Norwich - Pumpkin Rescue event held on 31 October and recycling points from 2 to 9 November 2016, and reported the outcomes and benefits of the scheme.

During discussion members praised the officers for the organisation of the event and its outcomes. The panel considered that the event was important to the wider community as it encouraged the use of recycling and composting. Members suggested that they could contribute to the publicising of events by using social media (Twitter and Facebook) to forward information to residents and schools.

Members suggested that there should be pumpkin recycling centres on allotment sites. The panel commented on potential sponsorship of the event. Members praised the quality of the soups available outside The Forum and suggested that this event could be run in conjunction with cookery sessions in community centres facilitated by the county council's Joy of Food initiative.

The environmental strategy manager said that the Pumpkin festival had cost around £500 and reached around 20,000 people with 1,500 either participating in the event or recycling pumpkins.

RESOLVED to note the information set out in the presentation.

CHAIR