

**Bolsover District Council**

**Planning Committee**

**Date of meeting – 14<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

**Report on Local Plan Timetable**

**Report of the Interim Planning Policy Manager**

**Purpose of the Report**

- To consider the need to formally amend the current timetable (Local Development Scheme (LDS)) for the preparation of the Local Plan.

**1 Report Details**

**Background**

- 1.1. Members will recall that on the 8<sup>th</sup> February 2018 they received a report with the dual purpose of :
- Considering the need to formally amend the current timetable (Local Development Scheme (LDS)) for the preparation of the Local Plan.
  - To agree to a two weeks consultation before considering confirmation of the new LDS.
- 1.2. The previous report noted that
- The current timetable for the preparation of the Local Plan was agreed in October 2014.
  - This time table was kept to until the public consultation on a Draft Plan at the end of 2016.
  - Additional resources had been secured to facilitate this with an augmented staff structure achieved through the implementation of the shared service, including the appointment of an Interim Manager.
  - Progress had been achieved despite the significant changes in National Planning Policy, with yet more changes signalled through the Housing White Paper and the recent consultation on 'Planning for the right homes in the right places', all of which must be accommodated in the emerging Local Plan if it is to be found sound at examination.
  - Uncertainty has been added to by the recent suggestions of a new NPPF in the spring of 2018 together with a new approach to identifying ones housing requirement.
  - The next stage, The Publication Plan is critical as we should not be making any significant changes, post-publication. To do so could lead to even further delay with additional rounds of consultation being required.

- 1.3. It was therefore recognised to be of great importance to ensure that we publish a sound Plan based upon a complete and comprehensive evidence base and a thorough consideration of our strategy and approach. This has not been possible with the original timetable for the reasons set out above. Therefore a new LDS timetable was required,
- 1.4. The main impact of this work is the time it will take for our Sustainable Appraisal consultants to do a review of all of the policies of the Plan and the sites allocated in this final Publication Draft.
- 1.5. By timetabling in the issues that PINS had identified needed addressing a draft replacement LDS was formulated and presented to Members at the February meeting.
- 1.6. The new timetable now looks like this, with comparisons to the previous draft timetable provided as a comparison.

| Stage                         | Previous 2017 Draft dates     | New dates (2018)                  | Explanation   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| Publication Local Plan Agreed | 7 <sup>th</sup> February 2018 | End of April 2018                 | SA finished by end of March. Arrange special meetings for third week in May                           |
| Consultation Period           | Feb – April 2018              | May – June 2018                   | 6 Weeks required by law   |
| Submission *                  | June 2018                     | 3 <sup>rd</sup> week in July 2018 | By reducing time here we are only allowing 4 weeks to get to grips with all objections. This is tight |
| Hearings Commence*            | No previous date set          | November 2018                     | Based on Pins suggesting 12 week Minimum – Could be longer but this is in PINS's hands                |
| Inspectors Report*            | No previous date set          | July 2019                         | Based On Pins suggesting a year from submission   |
| Adoption                      | June 2018                     | September 2019                    | August and summer Hols to take account of and agreeing all with Members                               |

.\* Subject to Planning Inspectorate time tabling

- 1.7. We consulted on the proposed LDS between Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2018. We had one response which actually raised no issues about the LDS but sought to promote a site for development. A specific response about the site in question was sent in relation to that submission.
- 1.8. In view of no other comments being received it is recommended that the draft LDS be formally agreed and published on the Council's website.
- 1.9. A copy of the proposed Local Development Scheme is attached as appendix 1

## **2. Conclusions and Reasons for Recommendation**

- 2.1 The Draft LDS was considered as the best approach to bringing forward the Local Plan whilst balancing the issues of speed and risk. In the absence of any contrary comments it is still considered the Council's best approach.
- 2.2 It is therefore recommended that the February 2018 Local Development Scheme be formally agreed and published on the Council's website.

## **3 Implications**

### **Finance and Risk Implications**

- 3.1. None. This is part of the existing work plan and is budgeted for.

### **Legal Implications including Data Protection**

- 3.2 None.

### **Human Resources Implications**

- 3.3 None.

## **4 Recommendations**

- 4.1 That the Planning Committee agree :
- 4.2
- 1 To formally agree the Local Development Scheme and published it on the Council's website.

## **5 Document Information**

| <b>Appendix No</b>       | <b>Title</b>                   |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| None                     | Report on Local Plan Timetable |
| <b>Background Papers</b> |                                |
| None                     |                                |
| <b>Report Author</b>     | <b>Contact Number</b>          |
| Rob Routledge            | Ext 2299                       |

Report Reference –