

CABINET

DATE OF MEETING: 7 JUNE 2018

TITLE OF REPORT: LOCAL PLAN SUBMISSION - UPDATE

Report of: Joint Chief Executive

Cabinet member: Councillor Graham Cockarill, Planning

I PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Cabinet of the anticipated date that the Hart Local Plan Strategy and Sites 2016-2032 Submission Version (the Submission Plan) will be submitted to the Secretary of State for examination and to confirm the weight to be attributed to the Submission Plan from that date for development management purposes in the determination of planning applications.

2 OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That upon submission to the Secretary State the Hart Local Plan Strategy and Sites 2016-2032 Submission Version should be considered a material consideration in the determination of planning applications and that development that accords with its policies will not be seen as representing departures that require referral to Full Council for determination.

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 It is anticipated that the Hart Local Plan Strategy and Sites 2016-2032 Submission Version (the Submission Plan) will be submitted to the Secretary of State in the week commencing 18 June 2018. Once submitted the Submission Plan does not supersede the Hart Local Plan 1996 - 2006 (Saved Policies). The saved policies will still comprise the Development Plan for Hart.
- 3.2 However, the Submission Plan gains some weight in decision-making. Paragraph 216 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states that decision-takers may also give weight (unless material considerations indicate otherwise) to relevant policies in emerging plans according to:
- the stage of preparation of the emerging plan (the more advanced the preparation, the greater the weight that may be given);
 - the extent to which there are unresolved objections to relevant policies (the less significant the unresolved objections, the greater the weight that may be given); and
 - the degree of consistency of the relevant policies in the emerging plan to the policies in NPPF (the closer the policies in the emerging plan to the policies in the Framework, the greater the weight that may be given).

4 COMMENTARY

- 4.1 The Submission Plan is at an advanced stage of preparation. Therefore, it should be given weight in the decision-making process and so upon submission to the Secretary of State it should be used in the determination of planning applications. Furthermore, as it reflects approved Council policy, applications that are determined in accordance with the Submission Plan should not be considered as representing “departures” where approval would otherwise require referral to Council for determination.

5 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no financial or resource implications associated with the actions as set out in this report.

6 ACTION

- 6.1 Upon submission of the Hart Local Plan Strategy and Sites 2016-2032 Submission Version (the Submission Plan) to the Secretary of State the Submission Plan will be used as a material consideration in the determination of planning applications

Contact: Daryl Phillips, Joint Chief Executive, x 4143, daryl.phillips@hart.gov.uk