

Economic Growth Overview & Scrutiny Committee / Cabinet

Dorset County Council



Date of Meeting	Economic Growth Overview & Scrutiny: 16 October 2017 Cabinet: 18 October 2017
Cabinet Member(s) Daryl Turner - Cabinet Member for Natural and Built Environment Local Member(s) All Lead Director(s) Matthew Piles – Service Director - Economy	
Subject of Report	To agree the publication, consultation and submission to the Secretary of State of the Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Mineral Sites Plan and Waste Plan with associated amendment of the Minerals and Waste Development Scheme Milestones.
Executive Summary	<p>Dorset County Council is responsible for producing minerals and waste plans for its administrative area and, via Service Level Agreements, for the unitary authority areas of Bournemouth and Poole who are minerals and waste planning authorities in their own right. Key stages in plan preparation need to be agreed by the three authorities and this report seeks agreement from Cabinet to proceed in accordance with the recommendations set out in this report. Bournemouth and Poole will consider this at their equivalent committees in the next few weeks.</p> <p>The Waste Plan will establish the vision, objectives and spatial strategy for the development of waste management facilities in Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole up to 2033. It also includes policies and allocations to guide development proposals during the plan period. Once adopted, it will replace the 'saved' policies of the 2006 Waste Local Plan.</p>

The Mineral Sites Plan will identify specific sites and areas for mineral development needed to deliver the Minerals Strategy which was adopted in May 2014. It includes proposals for sand and gravel (both sites and an area of search), ball clay, as well as a range of building stones including Portland Stone and Purbeck Stone. Once adopted, it will replace any remaining 'saved' policies in the 1999 Minerals and Waste Local Plan.

Both plans have been through various consultation stages during their preparation and, in accordance with the Local Plan Regulations, need to be published for a formal (pre-submission) consultation before they can be submitted to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government to begin an examination into their soundness. The examination will be led by an independent inspector.

The plans have been progressed in accordance with the **Minerals and Waste Development Scheme** (the local development scheme, or LDS) which sets out key stages of plan preparation so that stakeholders are aware of when these are likely to occur. The milestones need to be updated if the programme changes for any reason. The current LDS milestones state that the plans will be published for consultation in October, followed by submission in December. Due to committee timetables across the three authorities, the final meeting is not scheduled to take place until 15 November and so it is proposed to amend the milestones to allow sufficient time for this and the necessary arrangements for publication.

This report seeks agreement from Cabinet to publish both the Waste Plan and Mineral Sites Plan for public consultation purposes. The publication is the last opportunity to consult the public and other stakeholders before the plan is submitted to the Secretary of State. At this stage, comments are only invited on a Plan's soundness and legal compliance.

Subject to agreement of Cabinet and the relevant committees for Bournemouth and Poole, it is anticipated that consultation will begin during early December for a minimum of eight weeks. This is longer than the normal 6-week consultation requirement set out in the Regulations to allow for the fact that it will include the Christmas period. This report outlines the consultation arrangements.

Agreement is also being sought to submit both plans to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government after the consultation has finished, together with all duly made representations that are received. These will be submitted alongside supporting technical evidence (submission documents) so that an independently appointed inspector can determine the key issues to be considered at a public examination. It is anticipated that the examination will take place in May/June 2018 and our expectation is that a single inspector will consider both

	<p>plans concurrently, with the examination hearings for each plan most likely immediately following on from one another. It is common for the inspectorate to consider minerals and waste planning issues as part of a single plan so there should be appropriate expertise to cover both subject matters. Ultimately, however, this will be a matter for the Planning Inspectorate to confirm once the plans are submitted.</p> <p>In the event that the inspector finds the plans to be sound after the examination has been held, they will be brought back to the three Councils to adopt them, subject to the inclusion of any modifications that the inspector has recommended.</p> <p>This report also provides a summary of the issues raised in responses to the most recent Waste Plan consultation on waste site options in Blandford and Purbeck that took place in spring 2017.</p> <p>This report also seeks Cabinet’s endorsement of a key evidence document ‘Residual Waste Management in the South West’. This is a report that has been prepared jointly by the South West Technical Advisory Board (SWTAB) Authorities which all Waste Planning Authorities across the South West are invited to endorse. DCC is a member of the SWTAB and its work is crucial in supporting Waste Planning authorities in their ability to demonstrate they have complied with the duty to co-operate.</p> <p>Copies of the draft versions of the Mineral Sites Plan and Waste Plan are available in the Members’ Room. Members can also access the documents on the Councillors Portal on SharePoint. The documents will be made publicly available on Dorsetforyou in advance of the start of the planned consultation period.</p>
Impact Assessment:	<p>Equalities Impact Assessment:</p> <p>The Minerals and Waste Development Framework is the subject of on-going Equalities Impact Assessment. Issues identified will be taken into consideration during the preparation of the Waste Plan, through sustainability appraisal.</p> <hr/> <p>Use of Evidence:</p> <p>The Minerals and Waste Plans have had full regard to national planning legislation, policy and guidance. Both plans are the subject of on-going evidence gathering from a variety of sources, and this is set out in a series of supporting background papers. The outcomes of public consultations have also influenced the recommendations as explained in this report and supporting documents.</p>

Budget:

The preparation of local plans is carried out by Dorset County Council on behalf of Bournemouth and Poole under the provisions of a service level agreement. Within this, fixed costs are agreed in advance over a three year period. Outside of the fixed cost element there are potentially significant costs associated with plan examinations (inspector's fees, venue hire, programme officer), document production, consultation and commissioning of specialist evidence. Whilst every effort is made to keep these costs to a minimum, they are difficult to accurately predict and so require regular monitoring.

The cost of the examination will be largely dependent upon the Inspectorate's costs. This will not be known until the plan is submitted early next year and we are provided with an examination programme.

Should preparation of the Waste Plan be discontinued, determination of planning applications would have to rely on the increasingly outdated 'saved' policies in the 2006 Waste Local Plan. In the case of minerals, discontinuation of the Mineral Sites Plan would undermine the adopted Minerals Strategy which relies on the sites plan to provide comprehensive up-to-date policy coverage and in turn weaken the ability to guide development to appropriate sites. Potentially unacceptable minerals and waste applications could therefore be permitted.

Risk Assessment:

Having considered the risks associated with this decision using the County Council's approved risk management methodology, the level of risk has been identified as:

Current Risk: HIGH

If the plans are not progressed this would present a risk to strategic priorities and opportunities on the basis that DCC would be failing to maintain an up-to-date policy framework for minerals and waste in accordance with statutory requirements. This would undermine our ability to meet environmental and community priorities as there would be an increased risk of inappropriate development taking place. It would also introduce a reputational risk from a diminished ability to secure sustainable development with a greater chance of proposals being granted on appeal against the wishes of the planning authority. This could lead to unfavourable media coverage and complaints from residents.

Residual Risk: LOW

By progressing the plans to publication and submission they will become material considerations which can be used in considering planning applications and will maintain an up-to-date policy framework. The costs associated with progressing the plan will present a low risk in accordance with the risk management methodology.

	<p>Other Implications:</p> <p>Sustainable development is a core planning principle and both Plans have been subject to a sustainability appraisal throughout their preparation. The sustainability appraisal for each plan forms part of the evidence base and will be published alongside the plans.</p>
<p>Recommendation</p>	<p>That the Cabinet:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. agrees to the publication of the Waste Plan and Mineral Sites Plan, subject to any amendments arising from the three Authorities, as the most up-to-date expressions of policy on behalf of the Minerals and Waste Planning Authorities, to be followed by an eight week consultation, anticipated to begin in early December 2017; 2. notes and acknowledges the comments made to the additional consultation on waste site options in Blandford and Purbeck (2017) and officer responses/ recommendations (refer to Appendix A); 3. agrees that the published version of the plans can be submitted to the Secretary of State, alongside any representations that are received on the plans, following the consultation, to begin the examination process; 4. authorises officers to make minor amendments, factual updates and editorial changes to both plans prior to submission and during the examination; 5. delegates authority to the Service Director for Economy, after consultation with the lead Cabinet Member for the Natural and Built Environment, to agree any main (non-minor) modifications arising during the plan's examination and to consult upon these in accordance with the Local Plan Regulations; 6. delegates authority to the Strategy Director for Economy, after consultation with the lead Cabinet Member for the Natural and Built Environment, to confirm the Local Development Scheme milestones to take account of any changes needed to reflect programming arrangements; 7. endorses the SWTAB's 'Residual Waste Management in the South West' as a useful evidence base that supports the duty to co-operate.
<p>Reason for Recommendation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To progress the preparation of local plans in the Minerals and Waste Development Scheme; • To support the Corporate Plan focus of enabling economic growth, in particular: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • work together with our partners to plan for business growth and maximise funding and investment • work in partnership to ensure the good management of our natural and historic environment • promote waste reduction, increase recycling rates and manage residual waste effectively

Appendices	Appendix A: Report on comments to the Waste Site Options in Blandford and Purbeck
Background Papers	<p>Pre-submission consultation plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Waste Plan (pre-submission draft) • Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Mineral Sites Plan (pre-submission draft) <i>(available in the Member's Room and accessible to Councillors on Sharepoint – click on this link)</i> <p>Evidence in support of Waste Plan (duty to co-operate):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residual Waste Management in the South West July 2017 <i>(available in the Member's Room and accessible to Councillors on Sharepoint – click on this link)</i> <p>Background documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Draft Waste Plan Update 2016 – Additional and Emerging Waste Site Allocations May 2016 • Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Draft Waste Plan – Waste Site Options in Blandford and Purbeck February 2017 • Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Mineral Strategy (adopted 2014)
Officer Contact	Name: Mike Garrity Tel: 01305 221826 Email: m.garrity@dorsetcc.gov.uk

1. Background

- 1.1 Current local minerals and waste policy for Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole is provided by the following:
- The Minerals Strategy (adopted in May 2014) which sets out the overall strategy for minerals supply across the plan area;
 - 'Saved' mineral policies from the 1999 Minerals and Waste Local Plan; and
 - 'Saved' policies from the 2006 Waste Local Plan.
- 1.2 The adoption of the Minerals Strategy provides a strategic framework for considering minerals proposals, including overall mineral needs during the plan period, mineral safeguarding, restoration and generic development management policies. However, there is a need to identify specific site allocations - in effect 'Part 2' of the Mineral Strategy - to complete the plan.
- 1.3 The emerging Waste Plan and Mineral Sites Plan, once adopted, will provide a comprehensive and up-to-date policy framework for considering minerals and waste development proposals across Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole. The publication and subsequent submission of both plans are therefore key stages towards this objective.

Duty to co-operate

- 1.4 The duty to co-operate was created in the Localism Act 2011, and amends the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. It places a legal duty on planning authorities to engage constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis for strategic cross-boundary matters when preparing local plans.
- 1.5 Local planning authorities should make every effort to secure the necessary co-operation on strategic cross boundary matters before they submit their Local Plans for examination. They must demonstrate how they have complied with the duty at the independent examination of their Local Plans. If a local planning authority cannot demonstrate that it has complied with the duty then the Local Plan will not be able to proceed further in examination.

2. Waste Plan

- 2.1 The 'saved' policies of the Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Waste Local Plan were originally adopted in 2006. Although much of the policy content remains relevant there have been significant changes in the management of waste both nationally and locally since its original adoption. The National Planning Policy Framework places substantial emphasis upon the need to have up-to-date local plans and so it is important to prepare and adopt a replacement Waste Plan, containing both strategy and site allocations.
- 2.2 The Waste Plan has been prepared in conformity with national policy, principally the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The NPPF does not contain specific waste policies, leaving waste matters to separate guidance which responds to the revised EU Waste Framework Directive. The Waste Management Plan for England (Defra, 2013) is a high-level strategy, providing an analysis of the current waste management situation in England, and evaluates how it will support implementation of the objectives and provisions of the revised Waste Framework Directive.
- 2.3 National Planning Policy for Waste (NPPW) was published in October 2014 by the Department for Communities and Local Government and is accompanied by Waste Planning Practice Guidance. The NPPW provides the national planning framework

for waste plans. Local plans that are up to date and in conformity with both the NPPF and NPPW are the principal means of establishing local policies and identifying suitable sites and areas for new or enhanced waste management facilities to meet the waste management needs of their areas.

Waste Local Plan review – work to date

- 2.4 Work on the review of the Waste Plan started in late 2012 under the provisions of Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations (plan preparation stage). This involved evidence-gathering and discussions with a range of stakeholders including the three waste management authorities for the plan area (Bournemouth Borough Council, Borough of Poole and Dorset Waste Partnership), the waste industry, and district and borough councils. Focused surveys were also undertaken to review existing waste management facilities and capacity both within and outside of Dorset.
- 2.5 In 2013 a newsletter was published identifying potential key issues for waste planning. It invited responses on what the Waste Plan ought to contain. In the light of this work consultation started on the Waste Plan Issues Paper in December 2013. The issues paper identified potential waste management needs, initial high level options and broad areas where sites were likely to be needed.
- 2.6 The initial draft Waste Plan that followed the issues paper (in July 2015) was prepared having regard to previous consultation findings, emerging evidence and site assessment work. It included a series of core policies covering the guiding principles of sustainable waste management and the main waste management methods of recycling, recovery and disposal. It proposed a series of detailed development management policies covering a range of issues incorporating transport and access, quality of life, landscape and biodiversity. It also included site options to address the identified waste management needs for Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole.
- 2.7 Further consultation took place in May 2016 on additional site options and a series of sites that were emerging as preferred sites for allocation. Issues raised at this stage have informed the proposed publication draft plan.
- 2.8 Additional focused consultation was undertaken in March/April 2017 on three additional sites in Blandford and Purbeck that had emerged as potential options since the 2016 Waste Plan consultation. This consultation allowed the public and other stakeholders to consider these options and to comment accordingly.
- 2.9 A total of 74 individuals/organisations commented on the options during the most recent consultation. A summary of the issues raised for each site option has been prepared and is attached at Appendix A. Members are asked to note and acknowledge the comments made and officer responses to the additional consultation on sites in Blandford and Purbeck.

Waste Plan evidence base

- 2.10 An up-to-date evidence base for the Waste Plan is crucial to achieving a sound plan. The Waste Plan is supported by a range of evidence reports including Conservation Regulations Assessment, Sustainability Appraisal, Flood Risk Assessment, Waste Arisings, projections and forecasting and the Consultation Statement (submission documents). These documents will need to be made available on our website when the Waste Plan is published for consultation.

- 2.11 In response to the duty to co-operate, the Waste Planning Authority has engaged with other such authorities in the South West via the South West Waste Technical Advisory Body (SWWTAB). A joint report has been prepared to recognise the wider than local strategic context of residual waste management. This is in recognition of the need for a joined-up approach across the area to ensure that the matter of residual waste management is planned for in a coordinated, comprehensive manner.
- 2.12 That joint report considers how residual waste management across the South West is likely to evolve over forthcoming years and the implications this will have for policy makers. The SWWTAB also took this opportunity to liaise with waste management operators in the region.
- 2.13 The key message that emerged from the work is that landfill is no longer an economic waste management solution at a local scale. A growth in levels of recycling and energy recovery has led to a significant reduction in the amount of waste being landfilled and this is expected to continue. This trend will inevitably lead to the need for fewer landfill sites and those that remain are likely to operate at a more regional level. In relation to energy recovery, there is consensus that the existing level of operational capacity will not be sufficient to meet future needs and that there will be a need for further facilities within the region, operating across local authority boundaries. These changing market factors are reflected in National Planning Policy for Waste.
- 2.14 Waste planning authorities across the South West are invited to consider the findings of that joint report (councillors can view a hard copy in the members' room and an electronic version on [Sharepoint](#)) and acknowledge its role as a useful evidence base as part of the duty to co-operate. Given the intention to publish the Waste Plan, it is timely that DCC take this opportunity to do so. A separate Duty to Co-operate Statement has also been prepared and will be submitted with the final Plan.
- 2.15 Since preparing the 2016 Draft Waste Plan new advice has come to light with regards to the methodology used to generate baseline values for Commercial and Industrial Waste and Construction, Demolition and Excavation Waste. As a result, the Waste Planning Authority has appointed BPP consulting to update the baseline values based on the Environment Agencies Waste Data Interrogator datasets within the national 'Reconcile' methodology. This will be adapted to reflect local circumstances.
- 2.16 At the time of writing this report, the results of this work were being finalised. Officers are confident that the revised mythology will not affect the overall strategy set out in the Pre-Submission Waste Plan. The work will ensure a sound and robust evidence base to support the strategy, policies and site allocations. If the work does result in any change to the identified waste management needs these will be reported orally to Members.

3. Mineral Sites Plan

- 3.1 Local mineral planning policy in Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole is provided by the 2014 Minerals Strategy along with five 'saved' policies from the 1999 Minerals and Waste Local Plan. The Minerals Strategy does not include specific site locations for future minerals development.
- 3.2 The Mineral Sites Plan will complement the Minerals Strategy by providing the necessary spatial and site specific information required for its delivery and facilitating the necessary supply of minerals. As with the Waste Plan, the Mineral Sites Plan has

been prepared in conformity with national policy, principally the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), in order to achieve a 'sound' plan.

Mineral Sites Plan – work to date

- 3.3 Work on the preparation of the Mineral Sites Plan, then known as the Minerals Site Allocations Document (MSAD), started in 2007. The work was intended to complement work already in hand on the preparation of a Minerals Core Strategy and primarily focussed on a 'call for sites', inviting nominations for potential future mineral development sites. Site nominations received were assessed and the first consultation on thirty-seven sites (including sand and gravel, Purbeck Stone, Portland Stone, Ball Clay and other building stone sites) under the provisions of Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) (Amendment) Regulations was undertaken between October and December 2008.
- 3.4 Following this consultation, and under advice from the then Government Office, a decision was taken to set aside work on the site identification process and concentrate on the preparation of the Minerals Strategy.
- 3.5 The Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Minerals Strategy was adopted in May 2014. In advance of this, work re-commenced on the MSAD, now re-named the Mineral Sites Plan, in 2013. Although progress in site identification and assessment had already been made, given the long break needed to complete the Minerals Strategy it was felt that a 're-start' was necessary. A new 'Call for Sites' was issued in 2012, and a combination of further nominations together with the remaining MSAD sites gave a current total of 44 site nominations. Consultation on these site nominations took place between December 2013 and February 2014.
- 3.6 Following site assessment and further development of the evidence base, a Draft Mineral Sites Plan was prepared based on previous consultation findings, emerging evidence and site assessment work and was consulted on from July to September 2015. It set out the Mineral Planning Authority's draft policies for site allocation, as well as proposals for an Aggregates Area of Search, the Puddletown Road Policy Area and mineral site safeguarding, all intended to facilitate the supply of minerals.
- 3.7 A further consultation on the Draft Mineral Sites Plan Update took place between May and July 2016. This was not a full consultation, but an updating opportunity including a fresh analysis of aggregate demand and supply based on more recent data. It also included proposed changes to the boundaries of the Puddletown Road Policy Area boundary and the Aggregates Area of Search and provided updates on site options, including new sites and discounted sites.

Mineral Sites Plan evidence base

- 3.8 As with the Waste Plan, an up-to-date evidence base is necessary in order to achieve a sound plan. The Mineral Sites Plan is similarly supported by a range of evidence reports including Conservation Regulations Assessment, Sustainability Appraisal, Flood Risk Assessment, Duty to Cooperate Statement, Site Identification and Assessment Statement, Heritage Assessment, Consultation Statement and other relevant background documents (submission documents). These documents will also be made available on our website when the Mineral Sites Plan is published for consultation.
- 3.9 The Mineral Planning Authority addresses the Duty to Cooperate in various ways, including membership of the South-West Aggregates Working Party (AWP), a regular

meeting of Mineral Planning Authorities in the south-west to share information and review aggregate supply issues and constraints.

4. Proposed Consultation on the Waste Plan and Mineral Sites Plan

- 4.1 The plans have seen various iterations following previous consultation stages. In addition, further assessment and evidence has been gathered to support the policy approach and to ensure there is reasonable certainty that site allocations are deliverable.
- 4.2 Following the Economic Growth Overview & Scrutiny Committee meeting, the plans will need to be agreed by the three partner Minerals and Waste Planning Authorities during October and November. Subject to the decisions and recommendations of the committees, it is proposed that the plans will be published for consultation. This consultation needs to allow for a minimum of six weeks but can be longer. Under the provisions of Regulation 19 of the Local Plan Regulations 2012 (plan publication) representations should only consider whether the plans are sound (positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy) or legally compliant (whether they have followed the correct procedural steps).
- 4.3 Allowing for printing and publicity, it is anticipated that consultation will begin during early December. Due to the fact that this is the Christmas holiday period, the committee is asked to agree to an 8 week consultation period, ending towards the end of January.
- 4.4 In accordance with statutory requirements and the Statement of Community Involvement of all three authorities, consultation will include letters and/or emails to consultees and notification of residents near to allocated sites, as well as site notices. Documents will be made available at council offices (Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole) and electronic (web-based) publication of all documents on www.Dorsetforyou.com with links from the websites of Bournemouth and Poole. Background technical documents and evidence that are to be submitted with the plan will also need to be published and made available during the consultation. These mainly comprise:
- The sustainability appraisal report;
 - A statement setting out the consultation process and findings;
 - A conservation regulations assessment;
 - A statement setting out how the preparation of the plan has complied with the duty to co-operate;
 - Any other supporting documents relevant to the development plan's production.

Submission of the plans

- 4.5 Subject to agreement of the three authorities, the plans will be submitted to the Secretary of State following the pre-submission consultation. It is anticipated that submission of both plans will take place in February/March. This should allow for the examination to be run concurrently by a single inspector, with public hearings being held in May/June. This is at the discretion of the Inspectorate and will not be confirmed until after the plans have been submitted to the Secretary of State. .
- 4.6 The examination is not concerned with addressing each and every individual representation. Instead it considers the main and substantive issues which challenge the soundness of the plan. For this reason, the Planning Authority is not required to respond to representations received at the Publication stage. These representations

will be submitted to the inspector so that he/she can identify the key issues to consider at the examination.

- 4.7 It is good practice for the Planning Authority to review the representations received to the Publication plan. This will be undertaken following the end of the consultation. It is possible that some representations will be capable of being addressed through non-material amendments (additional modifications) or other relatively minor changes. These are likely to be capable of resolution in advance of the examination. This report seeks agreement from Cabinet for officers to identify minor amendments that could achieve resolution and to present these to the inspector.
- 4.8 The examination process may also reveal the need for more significant (non-minor) amendments. Such amendments would require public consultation before they could be included in the relevant plan. In the interests of the smooth running of the examination (and on the advice of the Planning Inspectorate), it is important that authority is delegated to officers to propose such amendments and consult on them, on the understanding that the final plan would need to come back to Members for final adoption. Accordingly this report recommends that authority to propose and consult on non-minor amendments be delegated to the Service Director - Economy in consultation with the Cabinet Member.

5. Minerals and Waste Development Scheme

- 5.1 The County Council is required under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) to prepare a Minerals and Waste Development Scheme (the local development scheme, or LDS). This sets out the programme for the preparation of development plan documents for which Dorset County Council is responsible.
- 5.2 The LDS needs to be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure its milestones take account of changes in the programme. The LDS is used by the public, landowners, developers and other interested parties to anticipate key stages in the preparation of local plans. It is also used by the Planning Inspectorate to forecast demands upon its inspectors for local plan examinations.
- 5.3 The current LDS anticipates publication of the pre-submission plans will take place in October. However, the requirement to update some of the supporting evidence before the plans could be finalised in draft has meant that the committee sequence across the three authorities will not be complete until mid-November. Allowing sufficient time to finalise all publication documents and publicity arrangements means that, realistically, consultation will not begin until early December. Allowing for a longer consultation period, submission of the plans will then take place in February/March 2018, with the examination hearings beginning in May/June 2018 (subject to the Planning Inspectorate). Cabinet is asked to agree to the necessary amendments to the LDS milestones to allow for this. It is also requested that authority be delegated to the Service Director - Economy, in consultation with the Cabinet Member, to make further adjustments to the milestones to take account of the availability of a planning inspector and any subsequent changes that might arise as a result of the examination.

Matthew Piles
Service Director - Economy
October 2017