

Meeting:	Planning Policy Sub-Committee	Date:	16 March 2017
Subject:	Cheltenham Plan (Part 1) Preferred Options Consultation		
Report Of:	Cabinet Member for Housing and Planning		
Wards Affected:	None		
Key Decision:	No	Budget/Policy Framework:	No
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Appendices:	1. Draft letter of response		

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To provide Members with an update on progress with regard to the Cheltenham Plan and agree the Council's response to the most recent public consultation on the Part 1 'preferred options'.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 Planning Policy Sub-Committee is asked to **RESOLVE** that the draft response to the Cheltenham Plan (Part 1) preferred options as provided at Appendix 1 be agreed and submitted to Cheltenham Borough Council.

3.0 Background and Key Issues

- 3.1 Cheltenham Borough Council is in the process of preparing the Cheltenham Plan (CP). This will sit underneath the Joint Core Strategy (JCS), providing locally specific site allocations and development management policies that reflect and address the local issues and opportunities in the Town.
- 3.2 The CP is being prepared in two parts. Part 1 concentrates on Cheltenham's economy, Local Green Spaces and sites for housing. Part 2 will concentrate on the remaining local planning policies such as heritage, the natural environment and the town centre.
- 3.3 This consultation focusses on the 'preferred options' for Part 1, which has been informed by an earlier 'issues and options' consultation in 2015. As a partner as part of the JCS, it is important that the City Council reviews and responds to this consultation in the spirit of joint working and cooperation.

The Council's response

- 3.4 Officers have reviewed the content of the consultation document and the full draft response is provided as Appendix 1 to this report, and summarised below:

- General support expressed for making further progress in taking forward the Cheltenham Plan, which is consistent with the approach being taken by the City Council in their Gloucester City Plan.
- Concerns expressed regarding the approach of splitting and examining the Plan into two parts; it is considered important that the entire Plan is examined at the same time so that all inter-connected issues can be appropriately considered. It is therefore recommended that Cheltenham Borough Council progress rapidly with Part 2 of the Plan and consults on both parts together before publishing the Pre-Submission consultation.
- A request to better understand the additional evidence base Cheltenham Borough Council intends to commission/undertake to inform the next stages of Plan preparation.

4.0 Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) Considerations

4.1 Not application to the content of this report.

5.0 Alternative Options Considered

5.1 Not applicable to the content of this report.

6.0 Reasons for Recommendations

6.1 Officers have reviewed the content of the consultation documents and of the option that the response at Appendix 1 forms the most appropriate response to the consultation at this stage of the process.

7.0 Future Work and Conclusions

7.1 The Cheltenham Plan is in the early stage of preparation and there will be further consultations in the future. It will be necessary to respond to these consultations

8.0 Financial Implications

8.1 None.

(Financial Services have been consulted in the preparation this report.)

9.0 Legal Implications

9.1 None.

(One Legal have been consulted in the preparation this report.)

10.0 Risk & Opportunity Management Implications

10.1 None.

11.0 People Impact Assessment (PIA):

11.1 Not applicable for Gloucester City Council.

12.0 Other Corporate Implications

Community Safety

12.1 Not applicable for Gloucester City Council.

Sustainability

12.2 Not applicable for Gloucester City Council.

Staffing & Trade Union

12.3 Not applicable for Gloucester City Council.

Background Documents: None