

# Gloucester City Council

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Planning Policy Sub-Committee</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>4 September 2017</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>City Plan Consultation Response Report</b>		
<b>Report Of:</b>	<b>Anthony Wilson, Head of Planning</b>		
<b>Wards Affected:</b>	<b>All</b>		
<b>Key Decision:</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Budget/Policy Framework:</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Claire Haslam (Planning Officer)</b>		
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<b>Appendices:</b>	<b>1. Response Report</b>		

## FOR GENERAL RELEASE

### 1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To provide Members with a summary of comments received to the Draft City Plan consultation and the responses made to those comments.

### 2.1 Recommendations

- 2.1 Planning Policy Sub-Committee is asked to **SUPPORT** and **ENDORSE** the Response Report.

### 3.0 Background and Key Issues

- 3.1 Planning officers are in the process of preparing a new local development plan for Gloucester. A local development plan is a requirement of Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. Councils are duty bound to produce and keep under review the local development plan documents.
- 3.2 In Gloucester, the local development plan documents will consist of the Joint Core Strategy, The City Plan, and various Supplementary Planning Documents. The City Plan will provide the development framework to guide the planning and regeneration of Gloucester up to 2031.
- 3.2 The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations (2012) part 6 regulation 18, requires the local planning authority to notify specific bodies or persons of the preparation of the local plan and invite each of them to make representations. The local planning authority must then take into account any representations made to them. The attached Response Report serves as evidence of this process.
- 3.3 Eventually the Response Report will be submitted along with the Local Plan to the Secretary of State for independent examination under section 20 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

- 3.4 The Council have previously consulted on the City Plan Scope (2011), Part 1 Context and Key Development Principles (2012), Part 2 – Places Sites, City Centre Consultation (2013).
- 3.5 The Draft City Plan builds on these documents and sets out:
- A draft vision and key principles for development in Gloucester;
  - Draft planning policies that reflect and address the local issues and opportunities in the City that, once 'adopted' by the Council, will be used to inform planning proposals and assess planning applications; and
  - Proposed site allocations for different types of development.
- 3.5 The consultation for the Draft City Plan took place between 16 January and 27 February 2017 and in accordance with the Council's 'Statement of Community Involvement' adopted in 2015.
- 3.6 Prior to the consultation two events were held specifically for Members along with various workshops and meetings with the officers. The public consultation itself consisted of:
1. Publication to the Council website
  2. Email/hard copy letters to all members of the community, organisation and stakeholders on the planning consultation database.
  3. Press advert
  4. Press release
  5. City Life Magazine article
  6. Social media notifications
  7. Hard copies of all consultation documents, supporting information and response forms made available at all 'deposit locations' – the City Council offices (including a permanent exhibition), all local libraries, the Guildhall and Tourist Information Centre.
  8. Five public consultation events held at various locations across the city.
- 3.7 A total of 267 written comments were received and all comments have been summarised in the Response Report. Full versions of all comments are available to view on the Council's website [www.gloucester.gov.uk/cityplan](http://www.gloucester.gov.uk/cityplan)

#### **4.0 Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) Considerations**

- 4.1 The Draft City Plan consultation was wide reaching and open to participation from all members of the community.
- 4.2 The City Plan provides a future framework for the planning of sustainable communities. The policies contained within the City Plan will enable the protection of community facilities, the development of affordable homes, jobs, and the provision of accessible, safe and well designed buildings, streets and spaces.
- 4.3 All of the comments made by members of the community have been fully considered and where appropriate will be used to shape the next version of the City Plan.

## **5.0 Alternative Options Considered**

- 5.1 The consultation of development plan documents and the consideration of the responses received is a statutory responsibility for the local planning authority. As such there are no suitable alternative options.

## **6.0 Reasons for Recommendations**

- 6.1 To inform Members of the conclusions of the Draft City Plan consultation and officer's responses to the comments received. To endorse these comments enabling officer's to amend the Draft City Plan accordingly and continue working towards the next stage of the plan making process.

## **7.0 Future Work and Conclusions**

- 7.1 Once endorsed the responses will be actioned resulting in amendments to the Draft City Plan. Project planning and timetabling of the next phase of the City Plan is underway and will be presented to Members through an amended Local Development Scheme in due course.

## **8.0 Financial Implications**

- 8.1 None arising from this report.

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

## **9.0 Legal Implications**

- 9.1 Publication and endorsement of the Response Report enables the council to comply with The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations (2012). Failure to comply with the regulations may jeopardise the soundness of the Local Plan and the likelihood of its adoption.

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

## **10.0 Risk & Opportunity Management Implications**

- 10.1 There are no known risks associated with the publication and endorsement of the Response Report.
- 10.2 Endorsing the Response Report provides an opportunity to take on board relevant comments made by residents and key stakeholders. This will enable officers to progress the Draft City Plan towards the next stage of the plan making process which will be Pre-Submission.

## **11.0 People Impact Assessment (PIA):**

- 11.1 The consultation was open to all members of the community and interested parties. Documents were available digitally, and in hardcopy. Large scale print outs of key information were also taken to all of the public events. All requests for assistance in

understanding the information were immediately dealt with to meet the individual's needs. Events were organised in key locations in order to reach as many people as possible. This included events at supermarkets, in the City Centre and at the Extra Care Village. Events were held on both weekdays and weekends and at varying times throughout the day.

- 11.2 A Health Impact Assessment and Equalities Impact Assessment formed part of the Sustainability Appraisal which accompanied the City Plan. These screening assessments found that the City Plan is unlikely to have any negative effects on protected characteristics or persons identified under the Equality Act 2010.
- 11.2 The PIA Screening Stage was completed and did not identify any potential or actual negative impact, therefore a full PIA was not required.

## **12.0 Other Corporate Implications**

### Community Safety

- 12.1 The Police Architectural Liaison Officer was consulted and provided a number of comments that will be incorporated where appropriate. The draft City Plan also contains a policy specifically relating to Community Safety.

### Sustainability

- 12.2 The aim of the planning process is to create sustainable developments. This is therefore a strong focus of the City Plan. A Sustainability Appraisal was produced and submitted for consultation alongside the Draft City Plan consultation. A number of comments were received on the matters of climate change, the natural environment and the Sustainability Appraisal. Appropriate amendments to the Draft City Plan will be made.

### Staffing & Trade Union

- 12.3 None

### Press Release drafted/approved

- 12.4 Not applicable

**Background Documents:** None