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| <b>Derry City &amp; Strabane District Council – Publication of Local Development Plan: Draft Plan Strategy.</b> | <b>18<sup>th</sup> December 2019</b> |
| <b>Planning Committee</b>   |                                      |

| <b>Linkage to Council Strategy (2015-19)</b> |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Strategic Theme</b>                       | <b>Outcome</b>   |
| Leader & Champion                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We will establish key relationships with Government agencies and potential strategic partners in NI and external to it which helps us to deliver our vision for this Council area.</li> </ul> |
| Protect the environment in which we live     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All environments in the area will benefit from pro-active decision making which protects the natural features, characteristics and integrity of the Borough;</li> </ul>                       |
| <b>Lead Officer</b>                          | Local Development Plan Manager   |
| <b>Cost:</b>                                 | N/A  |

## For Decision

### 1.0 Background

1.1 Derry City & Strabane District Council (DC&SDC) wrote to the Council on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2019 (see Appendix 1) to advise that it will publish its Local Development Plan: Draft Plan Strategy for public consultation on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019. DC&SDC is an ‘adjoining council’ for the purposes of formal consultation on its Local Development Plan (LDP). As such, it is important that the Council considers the draft policies and associated documents, and makes comment (if deemed necessary).

### 2.0 Details

2.1 Following the transfer of planning powers on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015, all 11 Northern Ireland Councils are now responsible for the preparation of a Local Development Plan (LDP) for their area. The Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 introduced a new type of Plan, different to those historically prepared by the former Department of the Environment (DOE).

2.2 New Plans must pass the tests of ‘soundness’, as detailed in guidance issued by the Department for Infrastructure (DFI) in its document ‘Development Plan Practice Note (DPPN) 06: Soundness’ (Version 2 May 2017) (see Appendix 2).

2.3 DC&SDC published their Draft Plan Strategy on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019. An eight week consultation will run from 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019 until Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

### **3.0 Financial Implications**

3.1 None

### **4.0 Other Implications**

4.1 Draft Policies contained within the Plan may have an impact on this Borough.

### **5.0 Recommendation**

5.1 **IT IS RECOMMENDED** that Members agree to the Head of Planning submitting a response on behalf of the Council.

### **Appendices**

**Appendix 1:** DC&SDC letter to Council

**Appendix 2:** Soundness Tests (extract from DfI's DPPN 06).

**Date:** 29<sup>th</sup> November 2019



Sharon Mulhern, Causeway Coast and Glens Council

Dear Sharon,

### **Local Development Plan (LDP 2032): Draft Plan Strategy - Statutory 'Consultation Body'**

I write to you, as / like a statutory 'consultation body, in accordance with Regulations 2 and 15(c) of the Planning (Local Development Plan) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 (the 'LDP Regulations') to advise you that this Council will publish its LDP draft Plan Strategy on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019.

This LDP draft Plan Strategy (dPS) is a consultation document, to which 'soundness'-related representations can be made during a formal consultation period from **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019 to Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2020**. *Representations received after this date will not be considered.*

This LDP dPS document will be available (from 3pm on 2<sup>nd</sup> December), together with the associated documents, at <http://www.derrystrabane.com/Subsites/LDP/Local-Development-Plan>. These documents are also available to view, during normal opening hours, at:

- Council Offices, 98 Strand Road, Derry, BT48 7NN
- Council Offices, 47 Derry Road, Strabane, BT82 8DY
- Public Libraries and Council Leisure Centres throughout the District (LDP dPS only)

Public Meetings will be held throughout the District during December 2019; see the Council's website and local press advertisements for details.

Representations can also be submitted during the consultation period regarding the associated appraisal documents, namely the draft Sustainability Appraisal (incorporating the Strategic Environmental Assessment, SEA), the draft Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA or AA), draft Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) and draft Rural Needs Impact Assessment (RNIA).

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 Derry City & Strabane District Council

 @dcsdcouncil

[www.derrycityandstrabanedistrict.com](http://www.derrycityandstrabanedistrict.com)

If you require a hard copy of this LDP draft Plan Strategy (dPS) or supporting documents, or in alternative formats; please submit your request and requirements to the above address (may be subject to reasonable charges).

Full details of Representations requirements can be found within the dPS document. Representations may be submitted by e-mail to: [LDP@DerryStrabane.com](mailto:LDP@DerryStrabane.com) preferably by using the online Representations Form at the above website. Alternatively, you can write to the *Planning LDP Team, 98 Strand Road, Derry BT48 7NN*. (Please note that, under Freedom of Information and the Council's policy of Transparency, all representations will normally be made publicly available. Any requests otherwise should be clearly stated and the request will be considered by the Council.)

As stated above, we are writing to you because you are considered to be like / a statutory 'consultation body'. However, if you do not wish to receive any further correspondence from the Council regarding this LDP, please write to us and your request will be noted and your details will be removed from our list. If this is the case, we apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Should you require further information or have any queries, please contact the LDP Team at the above addresses, or by telephone to 028 71 253 253, Ext 7014.

**Please confirm, by return, that you have received this e-mail and that you are the correct contact person or department / section in your organization to deal with this LDP consultation.** Please note that more than one letter may have been sent to your organization, so please co-ordinate with any of your other departments / sections that are considered relevant.

Yours sincerely

***Maura Fox***

Head of Planning

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### **Appendix 3**

Tests of soundness for development plan documents (from DfI Development Plan Practice Note (DPPN) 06: Soundness).

Soundness involves testing the principles, content and preparation process of the DPD against a list of key criteria. The following tests aim to provide a framework to assess the soundness of the DPD, whilst taking account of all relevant procedural, legislative and policy considerations.

#### **Procedural tests**

**P1** Has the DPD been prepared in accordance with the council's timetable and the Statement of Community Involvement?

**P2** Has the council prepared its Preferred Options Paper and taken into account any representations made?

**P3** Has the DPD been subject to sustainability appraisal including Strategic Environmental Assessment?

**P4** Did the council comply with the regulations on the form and content of its DPD and procedure for preparing the DPD?

#### **Consistency tests**

**C1** Did the council take account of the Regional Development Strategy?

**C2** Did the council take account of its Community Plan?

**C3** Did the council take account of policy and guidance issued by the Department?

**C4** Has the plan had regard to other relevant plans, policies and strategies relating to the council's district or to any adjoining council's district?

#### **Coherence and effectiveness tests**

**CE1** The DPD sets out a coherent strategy from which its policies and allocations logically flow and where cross boundary issues are relevant it is not in conflict with the DPDs of neighbouring councils;

**CE2** The strategy, policies and allocations are realistic and appropriate having considered the relevant alternatives and are founded on a robust evidence base;

**CE3** There are clear mechanisms for implementation and monitoring; and

**CE4** It is reasonably flexible to enable it to deal with changing circumstances.