

Request to hold a Special Planning Committee Meeting in April 2018.	28th February 2018
Planning Committee	

Linkage to Council Strategy (2015-19)	
Strategic Theme	Outcome
Leader & Champion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.
Protect the environment in which we live	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All environments in the area will benefit from pro-active decision making which protects the natural features, characteristics and integrity of the Borough.
Lead Officer	Principal Planning Officer/Local Development Plan Manager
Cost:	N/A

For Decision

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Members will be aware of the very detailed work being carried out by the Council's Planning Department in relation to the preparation of its Local Development Plan (LDP).
- 1.2 Members have been presented with a total of 14 discussion papers covering a range of LDP topics. Numerous member workshops, LDP Steering Group and LDP Project Management Group meetings have also taken place. We are currently finalising our consultations and evidence base. This included an initial Section 75 consultation exercise. We are identifying the main issues affecting the Borough and the alternative options for dealing with such issues.
- 1.3 We are pulling all of this information together and will be progressing towards the publication of the Preferred Options Paper (POP) and its associated documents in June of this year. This includes;
- Sustainability Appraisal (SA) incl. Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA); Impact Assessments and Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) through our consultants Shared Environmental Services (SES). This will include both the SA Scoping Report and the SA Interim Report; and
 - Equality Impact Assessment Screening (EQIA).

- 1.4 Under the current Scheme of Delegation the Planning Committee has the powers to approve the contents of the Preferred Options Paper and associated documents, prior to its publication in June.
- 1.5 Members will be issued with a large volume of information. There would not be sufficient time to discuss if the POP were to be presented in line with the normal agenda at the monthly Planning Committee meeting. It is therefore considered necessary to hold a separate, Special Planning Committee meeting, to allow for proper and detailed discussion. This will include a presentation.
- 1.6 Two possible dates are as follows:
 - Monday 16th April at 7.00pm; or
 - Friday 20th April at 2.00pm.

2.0 Recommendation

IT IS RECOMMENDED that members agree to hold a Special Planning Committee Meeting on one of the dates detailed above to agree the contents and publication of the Council's Local Development Plan: Preferred Options Paper (POP) and associated documents.