

Committee Update

Committee POLICY & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FOR NEIGHBOURHOODS AND

REGENERATION

Date 5 OCTOBER 2023

Title DRAFT ISLAND PLANNING STRATEGY UPDATE

BACKGROUND

- 1. The last update regarding the draft Island Planning Strategy (IPS) was given in May 2023, when the Leader of the Council updated Full Council of the Cabinet's decision to await the expected publication of new legislation, policy and guidance by the Government in the 'spring' of 2023 before progressing the draft IPS.
- 2. The publication by the Government of the revised national planning policy framework (NPPF) that incorporates changes set out in the 2022 consultation has been delayed this revised NPPF was originally promised in Spring 2023, however DLUHC are now saying an 'update' will come in the Autumn of 2023 which will be focused on a response to the tens of thousands of comments received to the consultation.
- 3. The Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill (LURB) has now passed through the House of Lords and is now in its final stages, with Royal Assent expected before the Kings Speech on 7 November 2023.
- 4. Further public consultation is then likely to take place on revisions to the NPPF and accompanying planning practice guidance that incorporate the legislative provisions for the planning system set out in the LURB.
- 5. Due to the above timescales and following the Full Council meeting on 20 September 2023 where a commitment was made by the Leader to ensure cross-chamber discussion on a wide range of issues, the Alliance Group wish to undertake that cross-chamber discussion on the draft IPS prior to moving the document forward through Scrutiny and then onto Cabinet and Full Council.
- 6. The Cabinet and the Alliance Group continue to recognise the benefits of a new local plan and how the adoption of a new plan can make a significant contribution towards addressing key issues on the island, such as the delivery of affordable housing. The Cabinet and the Alliance Group remains keen to see the draft IPS progress through the formal stages in a timely manner.

7. It remains the commitment that this committee will review the draft IPS before it goes to Cabinet and Full Council to seek approval to publish and then submit to the Secretary of State for public examination.

APPROACH

- 8. As the next Policy & Scrutiny Committee for Neighbourhoods and Regeneration meeting is not scheduled until 4 January 2024, the committee is to consider what format / forum they wish to use to review the draft IPS once it is made available.
- 9. The Chair to discuss and agree the approach with the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Coastal Protection and Flooding to ensure that the committee can appropriately report their findings to Corporate Scrutiny Committee ahead of the draft IPS being reported to Cabinet and Full Council.

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