

Norfolk County Council

Record of Individual Cabinet Member Decision

Responsible Cabinet Member: Councillor Martin Wilby (Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Transport)

Background and Purpose: The Greater Norwich Development Partnership (GNDP) Board oversees the production of the Greater Norwich Local Plan (GNLP) and makes recommendations for consideration by each of the partners. Meetings of the Board took place on 7 and 16 December 2020. The draft Local Plan contains strategic policies and site allocations. It builds on three previous consultations, each endorsed by the County Council. While the Plan has implications across most of our services it has a particular impact on economic development, transport and infrastructure provision.

Decision:

To endorse the recommendations of the Greater Norwich Development Partnership Board of 7 and 16 December and the subsequent decisions of Broadland, Norwich and South Norfolk councils to publish the draft GNLP under regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.

Is it a key decision?

Yes

**Is it subject to call in?
If Yes – Deadline for Call in**

Yes

Date: 4pm – Monday 15 February 2021

Impact of the Decision: As set out in the attached report

Evidence and reason for the decision: As set out in the attached report

Alternative options considered and rejected: As set out in the attached report

Financial, Resource or other implications considered: As set out in the attached report

Record of any conflict of interest: None

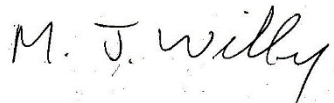
Background Documents:

The GNDP Board papers can be found on the partnership web site at <https://www.greaternorwichgrowth.org.uk/planning/greater-norwich-local-plan/gndp-board/>

The proposed Regulation 19 Strategy and Sites Documents, the Sustainability Appraisal and the Habitats Regulation Assessment are available at: <https://www.greaternorwichgrowth.org.uk/planning/greater-norwich-local-plan/regulation-19-cabinet-papers/>.

Date of Decision:**5 February 2021****Publication date of decision:****8 February 2021****Signed by Cabinet member:**

I confirm that I have made the decision set out above, for the reasons also set out

Signed:**Print name: Cllr Martin Wilby****Date: 05/02/2021****Accompanying Documents:**

- Individual Cabinet Member Decision report

Once you have completed your internal department clearance process and obtained agreement of the Cabinet Member, send your completed decision notice together with the report and green form to committees@norfolk.gov.uk

Individual Cabinet Member Decision Report

Decision making report title:	Recommendations of the Greater Norwich Development Partnership Board
Responsible Cabinet Member:	Cllr Martin Wilby (Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Transport)
Responsible Director:	Tom McCabe (Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services)
Is this a key decision?	Yes

Executive Summary

The County Council is a long-term supporter of joint planning across Broadland, Norwich and South Norfolk through the Greater Norwich Development Partnership. The development of the joint local plan has reached an important stage with the proposed publication of the draft plan.

The Greater Norwich Development Partnership (GNDP) Board oversees the production of the Greater Norwich Local Plan (GNLP) and makes recommendations for consideration by each of the partners. A meeting of the Board took place on 16 December 2020.

While the responsibility for plan making remains with the district councils, the County Council is a partner in the process, and considers the recommendations of the GNDP Board and endorses them as appropriate. The main report considered by the 16 December Board proposed a draft Greater Norwich Local Plan for consultation. The Board agreed to recommend the draft for consultation. Subsequently, the Cabinets of South Norfolk, Broadland and Norwich agreed the recommendation to publish on 13, 14 and 20 January 2021 respectively.

Recommendation

- 1. To endorse the recommendations of the Greater Norwich Development Partnership Board of 7 and 16 December and the subsequent decisions of Broadland, Norwich and South Norfolk councils to publish the draft GNLP under regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.**

1. Background and Purpose

- 1.1.** The Greater Norwich Development Partnership (GNDP) Board is made up of three Members from each of the partner councils plus one Member from the Broads Authority. The Board oversees the production of the Greater Norwich Local Plan and makes recommendations for consideration by each of the partners. The GNDP Board meetings of the 7 and 16 December 2020 considered a draft Greater Norwich Local Plan for publication under regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations

2012. Regulation 19 is part of the formal stage of plan making and allows stakeholders to submit representations on whether the plan is: 1) legally and procedurally compliant; 2) Sound; and 3) in compliance with the Duty to Cooperate. Representations made at Regulation 19 will be considered as part of any the independent examination into the GNLP.

The Board papers can be found on the partnership web site at

<https://www.greaternorwichgrowth.org.uk/planning/greater-norwich-local-plan/gndp-board/>

The proposed Regulation 19 Strategy and Sites Documents are available at:

<https://www.greaternorwichgrowth.org.uk/planning/greater-norwich-local-plan/regulation-19-cabinet-papers/>.

- 1.2. The Reg 19 draft Local Plan contains strategic policies and site allocations. It follows on from three earlier consultations, the most recent being on a draft plan in January to March 2020, each stage endorsed by the County Council. While the Plan has implications across most of our services it has a particular impact on economic development, transport and infrastructure provision. In addition to Member engagement through the GNDP Board, County Council staff have contributed to the development of the plan.

2. Proposals

- 2.1. The GNDP Board recommends publication of the draft Local Plan under Regulation 19 of the regulations governing Local Plan preparation. The consultation is due to run from the 1 February 2021 for 6 weeks. As the GNDP Board is a public meeting, it should be noted that the majority of the publication draft plan documentation has been in the public domain since before Christmas allowing a significant length of time for representations to be considered. At their January meetings, the Cabinets of Broadland, Norwich and South Norfolk councils have each agreed the recommendations of the GNDP to publish the Reg 19 plan.

3. Impact of the Proposal

- 3.1. Publication under Reg 19 enables the public and other interested parties to comment on the soundness and legal compliance of the plan and this will inform the decision of the partners whether to submit the plan for examination.

4. Evidence and Reasons for Decision

- 4.1. Working in partnership to support the Greater Norwich councils through the statutory Local Plan process is an effective way to discharge our “Duty to Cooperate”, raise the profile of the area to benefit investment and the economy, and help deliver sustainable development.

5. Alternative Options

- 5.1. Members could agree to not endorse the GNDP Board's recommendation to publish the Reg 19 plan but this would significantly undermine partnership working, and could be detrimental to the economy and quality of life in Greater Norwich.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. There are no financial implications

7. Resource Implications

7.1. Staff:

Staff contributions to the partnership are managed within existing resources.

7.2. Property:

N/A

7.3. IT:

N/A

8. Other Implications

8.1. Legal Implications

N/A

8.2. Human Rights implications :

N/A

8.3. Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)

An EqIA of the draft Local Plan has been completed to support the publication and is available at <https://www.greaternorwichgrowth.org.uk/planning/greater-norwich-local-plan/regulation-19-cabinet-papers/>. The draft Local Plan does not include any new allocations for Gypsy and Traveller sites as none were submitted through the consultation. The EqIA concludes "Although it is considered that (other than the absence of allocated Gypsies & Travellers' sites) the Greater Norwich Local Plan has little impact on the equality of protected groups, there may be opportunities to enhance the life opportunities of some protected groups at planning application stage. The GNLP offers a range of ways to address socio-economic inequality. No further Equalities Impact Assessment is considered necessary for this policy document".

8.4. Health and Safety implications

N/A

8.5. **Sustainability implications**

Sustainable development is intrinsic to the plan making process. The plan is supported by a Sustainability Appraisal (incorporating strategic environmental assessment) and a Habitats Regulation Assessment.

Recently updated economic evidence has also informed the plan.

These assessments are available at:

<https://www.greaternorwichgrowth.org.uk/planning/greater-norwich-local-plan/regulation-19-cabinet-papers/>

9. **Risk Implications/Assessment**

9.1. There are no risks to supporting the publication of the Reg 19 draft plan.

10. **Select Committee comments**

N/A

11. **Recommendation**

- 11.1.
 - **To endorse the recommendations of the Greater Norwich Development Partnership Board of 7 and 16 December and the subsequent decisions of Broadland, Norwich and South Norfolk councils to publish the draft GNLP under regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.**

12. **Background Papers**

12.1. The GNDP Board papers can be found on the partnership web site at <https://www.greaternorwichgrowth.org.uk/planning/greater-norwich-local-plan/gndp-board/>

The proposed Regulation 19 Strategy and Sites Documents, the Sustainability Appraisal and the Habitats Regulation Assessment are available at:

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Officer Contact

If you have any questions about matters contained in this paper, please get in touch with:

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If you need this report in large print, audio, braille, alternative format or in a different language please contact 0344 800 8020 or 0344 800 8011 (textphone) and we will do our best to help.