

Environment, Development and Transport Committee

Item No.

Report title:	Recommendations of the Greater Norwich Development Partnership (GNDP) Board
Date of meeting:	14 October 2016
Responsible Chief Officer:	Tom McCabe, Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services
Strategic impact Working in partnership across Greater Norwich will help to deliver infrastructure and jobs	

Executive summary

At the 8 July 2016 meeting EDT Committee agreed to support the re-establishment of the Greater Norwich Development Partnership (GNDP) Board and appoint three Members to serve on it. The Board oversees the production of the Greater Norwich Local Plan (GNLP) for Broadland, Norwich and South Norfolk. The Board is not a decision making body and its recommendations are considered by each of the partners. While the plan making responsibility remains with the district councils, in the spirit of partnership, the County Council will endorse the recommendations of the Board as appropriate. This helps us discharge our responsibilities under the “duty to co-operate” and, demonstrates unity of purpose, supporting the delivery of economic growth and infrastructure.

The first meeting of the re-established GNDP Board took place on 5 September 2016.

The Board approved their terms of reference (agreed by EDT Committee report of 8 July) amended slightly to make it clearer that the Board meetings would be held in public.

The Board considered an introductory report on the GNLP (Appendix A). The Board noted progress made on the GNLP, agreed the next steps for plan preparation and provided early views on key issues and themes to be considered through the plan. At this early stage there are no specific recommendations from the Board that require endorsement although Members may also wish to comment on any of the key issues and themes..

Recommendations

Members agree to:

- **Note progress on the production of the Greater Norwich Local Plan.**

1. Proposal

- 1.1. At the 8 July 2016 meeting EDT Committee agreed to support the re-establishment of the Greater Norwich Development Partnership (GNDP) Board and appoint three Members to serve on it. The Board oversees the production of the Greater Norwich Local Plan (GNLP) for Broadland, Norwich and South Norfolk. The Board is not a decision making body and its recommendations are considered by each of the partners. While the plan making responsibility remains with the district councils, in the spirit of partnership, EDT Committee will endorse the

recommendations of the Board as appropriate. This helps us discharge our responsibilities under the “duty to co-operate” and, demonstrates unity of purpose, supporting the delivery of economic growth and infrastructure.

1.2. The first meeting of the re-established GNDP Board took place on 5 September 2016. The Board approved their terms of reference (agreed by EDT Committee report of 8 July) amended slightly to make it clearer that the Board meetings would be held in public.

1.3. The Board considered an introductory report on the GNLP (Appendix A) and noted progress made on the plan, agreed the next steps for plan preparation and provided early views on key issues and themes to be considered by the GNLP. The main issues raised were (note – this is not an official minute of the meeting):

- The importance of the communications strategy for the GNLP highlighting the benefits of the local plan in terms of facilitating new jobs, infrastructure and increased prosperity in the area, alongside providing new housing;
- The need to consider the merits, or otherwise, of retaining the Norwich Policy Area (NPA), of continuing to concentrate the majority of development in and around Norwich and of greater dispersal of development to market towns and villages;
- The potential western link between the A47 and the A1067
- The problems in a number of locations associated with the granting of significantly more planning permissions (largely on appeal) above JCS requirements due to the lack of a 5 year land supply;
- The merits or otherwise of establishing a Green Belt around Norwich.

1.4. At this early stage there are no specific recommendations from the Board that require endorsement. However, it is appropriate to keep Committee informed of progress on this key partnership activity and Members are asked to note progress on the production of the Greater Norwich Local Plan. Members may wish to comment on key issues and themes for the plan.

1.5. Further information on the GNDP Board, including the full set of Board papers, and the emerging Local Plan can be found at <http://www.greaternorwichgrowth.org.uk/planning/greater-norwich-local-plan/>

2. Financial Implications

- 2.1. There are no direct financial implications. Staff support is managed through existing resources.

3. Issues, risks and innovation

- 3.1. There are no other significant issues that arise from this decision. This kind of partnership remains innovative.

4. Background

- 4.1. The County Council has been working successfully in partnership across the Greater Norwich area for a number of years through the previous incarnation of the Greater Norwich Development Partnership and through the Greater Norwich Growth Board. Working in partnership has helped bring significant investment for infrastructure to the area.

Officer Contact

If you have any questions about matters contained in this paper or want to see copies of any assessments, eg equality impact assessment, please get in touch with:

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