

CRAVEN SPATIAL PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE

22nd August 2017

Present – The Chairman (Councillor Dawson) and Councillors Brockbank, Shuttleworth (substitute for Barrett), Staveley and Sutcliffe. Also in attendance Councillors Brown, Foster, Hull, Mason and Thompson.

Officers – Strategic Manager for Planning and Regeneration, Spatial Planning Manager, Planning Consultant and Committee Officer.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Barrett and Solloway.

Start: 6.30pm

Finish: 7.18pm

Minutes for Report

CSP.149

PRE-PUBLICATION DRAFT LOCAL PLAN – RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION

Further to Minute CSP.147/17-18, the Strategic Manager for Planning and Regeneration submitted a report summarising the level of the response to the recent public consultation exercise in respect of the pre-publication draft Craven Local Plan, and presenting an overview of the key challenges arising therefrom.

The consultation exercise had generated approximately 830 comments made by 227 individual respondents, most of which had been received in the final few days of the consultation period. North Yorkshire County Council would be submitting a combined written response from all relevant County Council services, but had requested an extension to the closing date for receipt of comments to enable the response to be agreed by the relevant portfolio holders; its response was expected before the end of August 2017. Analysis of the issues raised by respondents was ongoing, however the key challenges to emerge could be summarised as follows

- a. Challenges had been made to the robustness of the Council's evidence base which supported the spatial strategy and policies of the Local Plan, in particular:-
 - The evidence base on Demographic Forecasting, the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) and the Employment Land Review(ELR) which underpinned the preferred housing growth option for the Local Plan under Policy SP1: Meeting Housing Need, and
 - The evidence base on Whole Plan Viability which underpinned the 40% affordable housing target in Policy H2: Affordable Housing.

- b. A challenge had also been made to the soundness of the methodology used for the selection of Local Green Space sites under Policy ENV10: Local Green Space.

Members were reminded that for the Council to progress the Local Plan to the formal publication stage, it was required to publish what it believed to be a 'sound' plan. The challenges highlighted above represented significant challenges to the soundness of the plan, and as such responses were being sought from the consultants commissioned to prepare the relevant evidence base studies. On receipt of that input the barrister advising the Council on the preparation of the Local Plan would advise on how best to proceed. In commenting on the challenge to the soundness of the methodology used for the selection of local green space sites, the Spatial Planning Manager pointed out that the methodology used was derived from the national Planning Policy Framework and had followed national guidance, this had been augmented by local input and other evidence,

Craven District Council

including that provided by the Ecological Data Centre in York and the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England.

During the course of the ensuing discussion, and in accordance with Procedure Rule 23.7, the Chairman invited input from all Members in attendance. On conclusion of the debate it was moved, and

Resolved – That the key challenges emerging from the consultation exercise in respect of the pre-publication draft Craven Local Plan conducted in June / July 2017 are noted.

CSP.150

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To be held, at 6.30pm on Wednesday, 4th October, 2017 unless advised otherwise by the Barrister advising the Council on the preparation of the Local Plan. (Minute CSP.149 refers)

Chairman.