Meeting: JOINT COMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC PLANNING AND TRANSPORT

Date: 7 September 2018

From: Joint Officer Steering Group Agenda Item: 8

#### GREATER NOTTINGHAM JOINT PLANNING ADVISORY BOARD

### 1 SUMMARY

1.1 The Greater Nottingham Joint Planning Advisory Board (JPAB) oversees the preparation of aligned Local Plans across Greater Nottingham, and the implementation of projects funded through the partnership. This report updates the Joint Committee on the work of JPAB, and other strategic planning matters within the remit of the Committee.

### 2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The meeting of JPAB programed for 14<sup>th</sup> June 2018 was cancelled due to the number of apologies received, so the last meeting of JPAB was held on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2018.
- 2.2 Due to its cancellation, the minutes of the 8<sup>th</sup> March meeting have not been agreed by the Board, and will be reported to the next Joint Committee. The minutes of the previous meeting which took place on 14 December 2017 have previously been reported to this Committee, but a summary of issues discussed at the 8 March meeting is provided below (updated as appropriate).

## JPAB meeting held 8 March 2017

- 2.3 JPAB received a report on progress with Local Plan preparation of partner Councils, which included confirmation of a successful bid for Planning Delivery Fund grant from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG). It was also noted that MHCLG would be publishing a draft revised National Planning Policy Framework for consultation, and that the closing date for consultation responses would be before the next JPAB meeting. Accordingly, the JPAB delegated that a response be prepared on its behalf by the Executive Steering Group.
- 2.4 The revised NPPF was subsequently published in July 2018, and key elements likely to be of interest to this Committee include:-
  - New tests of soundness, in particular that Local Plans are prepared based on a strategy informed by agreements over the wider area, and based on; (a) effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic priorities, evidenced in a Statement of Common Ground and (b) loosening of the "Justified" test to allow for an "appropriate strategy" (rather than "the most appropriate strategy").
  - a more flexible approach to plan-making i.e. there will be no requirement to prepare a single local plan covering a local planning authority, instead it

will be possible for a strategic high level plan to be supported by targeted Local Plans focussing on areas of growth, particular corridors where significant change is expected, etc.

- Plans should be reviewed on a five year cycle.
- There is a new wider definition of 'Affordable Housing' which includes low cost routes to home ownership. There is a requirement that 10% of homes on large sites should be for low cost home ownership.
- Local Planning Authorities will be required to give a housing provision figure to Neighbourhood Forums for inclusion in Neighbourhood Plans.
- Tightening up of requirements when demonstrating a five year housing land supply.
- New Delivery Test for Local Plans, where penalties will apply if housing is not completed at the levels envisaged in the Local Plan.
- 10% of housing requirement to be on small or medium sites of less than 1 hectare, as identified in Local Plans and through Brownfield Registers.
- Requirement for Local Plans to set minimum densities, for City and Town centres, and for accessible locations, combined with strong emphasis on the efficient use of land.
- Further guidance on the approach to the "exceptional circumstances" whereby Green Belt boundaries can be reviewed in Local Plans, and the approach to brownfield development in the Green Belt relaxed.
- 2.5 The new NPPF is a material consideration for decision making, and comes into effect immediately. Local Plans submitted before the end of 2018 will be examined under the old NPPF.
- 2.6 A possible timetable for the review of the Core Strategies of partner Councils was presented, as follows:

2018 (summer) Establish housing need
 2018 (autumn/winter) Evidence gathering/testing

2018 (autumn/winter) Councillor workshop2019 (spring) Consider options

• 2019 (spring/summer) Retail and employment studies

/Habitats Regulations Assessment etc

• 2019 (summer) Councillor workshop

• 2019 (autumn) Growth Options consultation

2019 (winter) Transport modelling2020 (spring) Draft Publication

• 2020 (autumn) Publication

• 2021 (spring) Submission/Examination

• 2021 (autumn) Inspector's report

• 2021/22 (winter) Adoption

- 2.7 In addition, items on the proposed Greater Nottingham Planning Protocol, JPAB budget, and implementation of the HCA Capacity Funding Bid schemes were also presented.
- 2.8 The next meeting of the JPAB is on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2018.

# 3 RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Joint Committee note the contents of this report.
- 4 BACKGROUND PAPERS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT
- 4.1 JPAB Papers, 8 March 2018.
- 4.2 National Planning Policy Framework, July 2018.

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