

NOTES CASTLE POINT PLAN BOARD

4.1.2023

PRESENT:

Councillors: Gibson (Chairman), Blackwell, Cole, Fuller, Hart, Isaacs, Mountford, S. Mumford and Palmer.

Officers in attendance: Angela Hutchings, Chief Executive Ian Butt, Head of Place & Policy, Maria Hennessy, Planning Policy Officer, Dominic Chessum (communications) Ann Horgan Head of Civic Governance.

Apologies: Amanda Parrott, Planning Policy Manager consequently item 5 Housing Needs discussion was deferred.

1. Welcome and scope of the meeting

Reminded of the purpose of the Board.

2. Notes 14.12.2022 – Request was made to include officers in attendance. Consideration of notes deferred to workshop (rearranged to 19.1.2023)

3. Recap on Code of Conduct

Arrangements for approval of Comms message following the Board meetings was clarified. The draft release would be shared with the Chairman of the Board for sign off and three Group leaders.

4. Urban Capacity Assessment

A report had been circulated, the Board was requested to discuss and agree the specification for the Urban Capacity Assessment. This was one of the initial pieces of work to be undertaken.

The Urban Capacity Assessment tested the capacity of the urban areas (land outside the Green Belt) for new development. The outcome of the assessment would form the bedrock of the new plan and place making.

Discussion took place and the Board considered in particular the weighting to be applied for scoring for housing suitability and scoring of other uses.

Adjustments would be made to the specification and circulated.

The Board was advised that a windfall assessment would be undertaken. (These sites would be revealed in the assessment as vacant, underutilised on urban brownfield and urban greenfield that are suitable and viable for development but are not available.)

Consideration was given to arrangements for the review; the Board would be asked to consider the urban assessment and the housing needs requirement which was likely to be available on completion of the initial assessment.

The Board was advised that the Call for Sites would not be undertaken after the urban capacity study had been undertaken.

Decision

1. The Board agreed the specification for the Urban Capacity Assessment subject to adjustments identified at the meeting (which would be circulated).
2. That Officers commission and undertake the work and provide progress reports on the Urban Capacity Assessment to future board meetings.
3. That the Board receives the initial draft of the Urban Capacity Assessment and the potential sites for consideration.

5. Housing Needs – Deferred.

6. Decisions and Communication

Key message identified to the effect the Board had agreed the specification for the Urban Capacity Study, a bedrock to inform the Local Plan seeking to demonstrate development can be accommodated and Green Belt protected.

7. Next Meeting

- Workshop on engagement to be rearranged from 20.1.2023
- Board Meeting 1.2.2023 at 5pm
