

NOTES OF CASTLE POINT PLAN BOARD

7th February 2024

Present:

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

Officers in attendance: Ian Butt (Director of Place and Communities), Amanda Parrott (Assistant Director of Climate and Growth), Maria Hennessy (Senior Planning Policy Officer), Matt Amner (Planning Policy Officer), Gavin Ball (Principle Planning Officer), Neil Gale (Planning Policy Officer – Engagement), Dominic Chessum (Communications).

Apologies: Angela Hutchings (Chief Executive)

1. **Notes of the meeting on 3 January 2024** – Noted
2. **Agreement of Notes from workshops on 18th January and 25th January** - Noted
3. Transport Evidence Report
 - Systra have been commissioned to obtain the evidence who are also undertaking the transport evidence for Rochford's local plan.
 - Systra have started engagement with key stakeholders.
 - Members were keen for the report to explore ways to improve access to Canvey Island, including a third access having regard to the potential opportunities associated with the Freeport.
4. Strategic Flood Risk Assessment
 - AECOM have been commissioned.
 - Level one assessment due before May 2024.
 - Level two assessment commencing post Issues and Options consultation
 - Members discussed capacity of drainage infrastructure within the borough.
 - The National Underground Assets Register, which is in development, was identified as a tool for better understanding drainage infrastructure and its capacity in the long term, although the data included in this is from the infrastructure providers.
5. Issues and Options – Initial Structure
 - Members considered the initial structure of the issues and options work which included area-based sections followed by thematic sections.
 - Members considered the list of issues identified and did not highlight any new issues. However, if the structure is not fixed, and additional issues can be added if anything arises through the board.
6. Call for Sites

- Members received an update on the Call for Sites. It was noted that whilst some sites had been submitted, developers do typically submit information to consultations etc at the last minute. The call for sites is due to close on the 12th February and a more complete list of sites will be brought to the board at the beginning of March.
- Members were provided with a schedule of Council owned sites to be considered for inclusion in the Call for Sites, for consideration from a planning perspective. They agreed to hold a workshop to review these sites on the 22nd February.
- It was agreed that as the Call for Sites was covering sites for community uses, employment and biodiversity that other sites owned by the Council should be included such as the community facility at Thundersley Common. The Asset Review Board will separately review the list of sites from an asset/service perspective to ensure that sites are available for consideration.

7. AOB

As a consequence of the decision to review the Council owned sites on the 22nd February, the Assistant Director Climate and Growth will liaise with the Chair of the Board to find an alternative date to undertake a workshop on parking.