

# Executive

## Local Plan 2012 update

4 March 2013

### Report of Head of Strategic Planning and the Economy

#### PURPOSE OF REPORT

To submit to members for their consideration an update report on the progress made to complete the Local Plan 2012.

This report is public

#### Recommendations

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The Executive is recommended:

- (1) To note the progress being made to complete the Cherwell Local Plan.
- (2) To approve the additional 'focused' consultation required.

#### Executive Summary

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##### Introduction

- 1.1 The Proposed Submission draft of the Cherwell Local Plan 2012:
  - Sets out clear ambitions for the District and the 2 towns in particular.
  - Provides certainty for communities and developers as to what will /can be developed and where.
  - Focuses growth at Bicester.
  - Proposes less growth at the villages than was envisaged in the Feb 2010 version of the plan.
  - Creates a major platform to help deliver economic development in a recession.
  - Strengthens the Town Centres at the heart of the District.
  - Identifies key additional infrastructure such as new road and rail investment.
  - Avoids coalescence with villages, by introducing new green buffers at the edge of development.
  - Takes permissions and what has been constructed into account.
  - Emphasises high environmental standards and design quality.
  - Protects the Oxford Canal
  - Promotes area renewal and regeneration in Banbury
  - Supports innovation such as Community Self build.

- Addresses planning reforms

## **Proposals**

- 2.1 Securing the adoption of a 'sound' up to date Local Plan for the District is a priority for Cherwell District Council as it will guide the growth of the District over the next 19 years.
- 2.2 This report provides an update on:
  - a) The Public Consultation held in the Autumn 2012 including the detailed responses.
  - b) The additional evidence received since December 2012.
  - c) An outline of proposed Plan changes.
  - d) An update on Sustainability Appraisal issues.
  - e) The need for additional consultation on a limited number of issues.
  - f) The latest timetable for completion of the plan and proceeding to examination.

## **Background Information**

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- 4.1 See Annex.

## **Key Issues for Consideration/Reasons for Decision and Options**

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- 3.1 The approval of the additional 'focused' consultation.

The following options have been identified. The approach in the recommendations is believed to be the best way forward

<b>Option One</b>	To approve the additional 'focused' consultation.
<b>Option Two</b>	To proceed to submission at this stage would be 'unsound'.

## **Consultations**

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<b>Cllr Michael Gibbard, Lead Member for Planning</b>	Regular Briefing
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## **Implications**

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<b>Financial:</b>	There are no significant direct financial implications A rising from this report.
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Comments checked by Karen Curtin. Head of Finance.  
0300-003-01606

**Legal:** The Council is required to have an up to date Local Plan.

Comments checked by Nigel Bell Team Leader –  
Planning and Litigation 01295 221687

**Risk Management:** Not having an up-to-date Local Plan is a major weakness for the consideration of planning applications and weakens the ability of the Council to shape and guide growth to the more sustainable locations.

Comments checked by Claire Taylor, Corporate  
Performance Manager 01295 221563

### **Wards Affected**

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All

### **Corporate Plan Themes**

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- Accessible, Value for Money Council
- District of Opportunity
- Safe and Healthy
- Cleaner Greener

### **Lead Member**

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**Councillor Michael Gibbard**  
**Lead Member for Planning**

### **Document Information**

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<b>Appendix No</b>	<b>Title</b>
Annex	Report on Submission draft Local Plan 2012
Appendix A	List of development policies which will apply to all development in Cherwell District.
Appendix B	List of proposed development sites.
Appendix C	Local Plan Evidence Base
Appendix D	Table of Representations received
Appendix E	Proposed revised maps for Banbury, Bicester and Kidlington
<b>Background Papers</b>	
None	
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