

## BOROUGH OF KETTERING

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<b>Report Originator</b>	Head of Development Services	Fwd Plan Ref No:	
<b>Wards Affected</b>	All	19 April 2018	
<b>Title</b>	<b>SITE SPECIFIC PART 2 LOCAL PLAN: BACKGROUND PAPERS</b>		

### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek Members approval of a series of background papers to support the preparation of the Site Specific Part 2 Local Plan (SSP2): Draft Plan for consultation.

### 2. INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Site Specific Part 2 Local Plan (SSP2) will form part of the statutory North Northamptonshire Development Plan. The Development Plan, as it relates to Kettering Borough, will consist of the North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy (Part 1 Local Plan) adopted July 2016; the Kettering Borough Site Specific Part 2 Local Plan; the Kettering Town Centre Area Action Plan (July 2011); the Northamptonshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan Update (July 2017); the Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations policy; and any made Neighbourhood Plans.
- 2.2 The Joint Core Strategy (JCS) provides a set of strategic planning policies for Corby, Kettering and Wellingborough Borough Councils, and East Northamptonshire District Council. Whereas, the Site Specific Part 2 Local Plan (SSP2) will provide local planning policies to cover Kettering Borough, and will include the identification of sites for housing, employment, recreation and other land uses.
- 2.3 There are a number of Background Papers which have been prepared as an evidence base to inform the emerging SSP2. A number of these have already been considered by Planning Policy Committee. These include papers on Settlement Boundaries; Historically and Visually Important Local Green Space; Rural Masterplanning; Facilities Audit; Town Centre Health Checks; and the Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan.
- 2.4 The aim of this report is to provide Members with an update on the background papers which have been prepared to support the SSP2, in some cases pulling together agreed evidence gathered over a period of time into topic based papers. This report will provide an update on the background papers prepared to date and will seek Members endorsement of a number of these background papers prior to the preparation of the draft SSP2.

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2.5 These background papers are not consultation or allocation documents in themselves but will provide the evidence base which supports the creation of the draft SSP2, which will be subject to public consultation. The draft SSP2 will be presented to Members at the Planning Policy Committee meeting in June along with a couple of outstanding background documents still in preparation. Members will be asked to endorse the draft SSP2 for consultation. The background papers are listed below.

### **Town Centres and Town Centre Uses Background Paper Update (April 2018)**

2.6 The Town Centre and Town Centre Uses Background Paper has been prepared to update the previous version dated February 2012 and the Background Paper: Defining town centre boundaries for Burton Latimer, Desborough and Rothwell (February 2012). A copy of the Town Centre and Town Centre Uses Background Paper Update (April 2018) is provided at Appendix 1.

2.7 Members may recall that at the 21<sup>st</sup> July 2016 Planning Policy Committee meeting, Members agreed the proposed town centre boundaries for Burton Latimer, Desborough and Rothwell and endorsed these for consultation as part of the Draft Plan. These boundaries and the work supporting their identification have now been incorporated in to Section B of the Town Centre and Town Centre Uses Background Paper Update (April 2018).

2.8 At the 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2017 Planning Policy Committee a report was presented which updated Members on retail and town centre issues and sought to agree a way forward in the emerging Site Specific Part 2 Local Plan. It was agreed that the recommendations be endorsed. The recommendations agreed through this committee report have been used to prepare the Town Centre and Town Centre Uses Background Paper (April 2018).

2.9 Members are asked to note the Town Centres and Town Centre Uses Background Paper Update (April 2018) as a basis for preparing the SSP2.

### **Market Town Centres Health Check Update Background Paper (March 2016)**

2.10 The Town Centre Health Checks for Burton Latimer, Desborough and Rothwell were reported to Planning Policy Committee on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2016. These have now been incorporated into a single Health Check report which has been used to inform the Town Centre and Town Centre Uses Background Paper Update (April 2018). A copy of the Market Town Centres Health Check Update Background Paper (March 2016) is attached at Appendix 2.

2.11 Members are asked to note the content of this background paper.

### **Settlement Boundaries**

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2.12 At the 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2015 Planning Policy Committee, Members endorsed the Settlement Boundary (Update) Background Paper (September 2015) to progress for public consultation.

2.13 Since this report was presented there have been a number of changes which have been made to the settlement boundaries. Therefore an updated background paper is attached at appendix 3. The main changes are:

- The inclusion of draft housing allocations within the settlement boundary.
- The inclusion of strategic sites allocated in the Joint Core Strategy within the settlement boundary.
- New planning permissions granted since the last update.
- The inclusion of a settlement boundary for Little Oakley
- Minor changes, a summary will be provided and explained in more detail at the Committee meeting

2.14 Members are asked to endorse this background paper as a basis for preparing the draft SSP2.

### **Historically and Visually Important Local Green Space**

2.15 At the 8<sup>th</sup> June 2016 Planning Policy Committee Members endorsed the Historically and Visually Important Local Green Space Background Paper and agreed a list of sites to be identified as Historically and Visually Important Local Green Space.

2.16 At this meeting, it was agreed that a minor amendment to site HVI056 be discussed with RNRP and subsequently agreed with the Chair of Planning Policy Committee. This minor amendment was agreed and the Background Paper will be updated to reflect this.

2.17 This background paper will inform the preparation of policies and allocations in relation to Local Green Space.

### **Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan**

2.18 The Green Infrastructure Plan was endorsed by Members at the 27<sup>th</sup> March 2018 Planning Policy Committee to be used to prepare the SSP2.

### **Housing Allocations**

2.19 Members will recall that housing allocations for the following areas were considered at Planning Policy Committees on the dates identified below:

- Rural Area (Braybrooke, Broughton, Cranford, Geddington, Great Cransley, Mawsley, Newton, Pytchley, Stoke Albany, Weston by Welland) – 19<sup>th</sup> April 2017
- Kettering/ Barton Seagrave and Burton Latimer – 5<sup>th</sup> September 2017

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- Rural Area (Broughton, Cranford, Geddington, Newton and Stoke Albany) – 4<sup>th</sup> October 2017
- Desborough and Rothwell – 27<sup>th</sup> March 2018

2.20 Following these committees a Housing Allocations Background Paper (2018) is being prepared. This will update the Housing Allocations: Background Paper (February 2012) and the Housing Allocations – Assessment of Additional Sites and Update (October 2013). This Background Paper will be reported to the next meeting of the Planning Policy Committee on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

### **Employment Land Study**

2.21 To inform the preparation of employment policies and allocations in the SSP2, officers will be reviewing existing and emerging employment land.

2.22 Consultants have been appointed to undertake a Property Market Review and Assessment of Employment Sites covering Kettering Borough and East Northamptonshire District. This work is being completed in partnership with East Northamptonshire Council. The consultants will carry out a review of the market for employment provision within the two local authority areas, and will assess the suitability and achievability of employment sites from a market and business perspective.

2.23 This work will not be available prior to the consultation on the draft Plan but will inform the preparation of the Pre-Submission Plan.

### **Open Space, Sports and Recreation Needs and Opportunities Assessment (comprising an Open Space Strategy, Sports Facilities Strategy and Playing Pitch Strategy)**

2.24 To inform the preparation of policies and allocation in relation to open space, sports and recreation facilities, an Open Space, Sports and Recreation Needs and Opportunities Assessment will be prepared. Officers are in the process of appointing consultants to undertake this detailed study. This work will update the existing Open Space Needs Assessment (2007) and any outstanding elements of the update to the Sports Facilities Strategy and Action Plan 2011-2021, and will align with policies in the JCS and also accord with Sport England's guidance and other nationally recognised guidance, audit existing open space, sports and recreation facilities. The study will also establish those facilities which require protection, identify existing and future needs and opportunities for new provision, and establish communication links with national governing bodies, local sports clubs/ organisations operating within the Borough, as well as other service areas within the Council.

2.25 This work will not be available prior to the consultation on the draft Plan but will inform the preparation of the Pre-Submission Plan.

### **Transport Analysis of Potential Housing Sites in Desborough and Rothwell**

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2.26 A transport assessment has been completed which considers the cumulative impact on options for growth in Rothwell and Desborough on the highway network. This work has been completed by Northamptonshire County Council Highways. This work has been used to inform the assessment of options to meet the housing requirement in Rothwell and Desborough which was presented to Planning Policy Committee on the 27<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

### **Rural Masterplanning Report**

2.27 The Rural Masterplanning Report (February 2012) has been, and will continue to be used to inform policies and proposals in the rural area.

2.28 The Rural Masterplanning Report took a holistic look at each of the Borough's village's needs, aspirations, opportunities for improvement and their capacity for future development and, crucially, to ensure that any new development in villages respects and enhances the qualities of that village which makes it special.

2.29 The project explored and drew out relevant issues to inform a clearer spatial understanding of rural areas and the roles, functions, relationships, needs, aspirations, qualities of the built and natural environment, and special character of settlements in order to develop a strategy for ensuring their sustainable future. A focus of the work was identifying qualities of the built and natural environment and on capturing the sense of place, to ensure locally distinctive character is identified, preserved and enhanced.

2.30 This document was endorsed by Members at the Planning Policy Committee on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2011, and published in February 2012 following modifications.

### **Rural Settlement Facilities Background Paper (Update)**

2.31 The Rural Settlement Facilities Background Paper (April 2018) provides an update to the Rural Masterplanning Report in terms of the facilities available in each settlement.

2.32 The Rural Settlement Facilities Background Paper (Update) is attached at appendix 4. Members are asked to note the content of this background paper.

## **3. CONSULTATION AND CUSTOMER IMPACT**

3.1 Consultation on the draft Site Specific Part 2 Local Plan will take place in June/ July 2018. The background papers will be made available alongside the draft Plan as part of the evidence base for the Plan.

## **4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

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4.1 The SSP2 will for part of the North Northamptonshire Development Plan and will guide the provision of sustainable growth in Kettering Borough.

### 5. USE OF RESOURCES

5.1 The cost of preparing the SSP2 will be met within the existing Development Services Planning Policy budget.

### 6. RECOMMENDATION

That Members note the update provided on the Site Specific Part 2 Local Plan Background Papers and:

- Endorse the Town Centres and Town Centre Uses Background Paper (April 2018);
- Note the Market Town Centres Health Check Update Background Paper (March 2016);
- Endorse the Settlement Boundaries Background Paper (April 2018); and
- Note the Rural Settlements Facilities Background Paper (April 2018)

#### Previous Reports/Minutes:

None

Contact Officer: Julia Baish – Development Team Leader (Planning Policy) or Mark Coleman – Development Officer