

## **Report of the Cabinet Member for Place Shaping and Planning (Councillor Richard Beddoe)**

### **Westminster City Plan Submission to the Secretary of State**

- (a) The Cabinet Member for Place Shaping and Planning has considered a report which is Appendix 2 to the agenda.
- (b) The council's corporate strategy, City for All, sets an ambition for Westminster to be a place where people are born into a supportive and safe environment, grow and learn throughout their lives, build fantastic careers in world-leading industries, have access to high quality, affordable homes and retire into the community with dignity and pride.
- (c) The City Plan is the spatial interpretation of this strategy, providing a framework for all future development in the city. To provide a robust and up to date policy framework for the taking of planning decisions across the city, the council has undertaken a full revision to the City Plan pursuant to Regulation 22 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.
- (d) The procedures set out in the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 have been carried out and the council is satisfied that all legal requirements have been met.
- (e) Section 26 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires that revisions to development plan documents (DPDs) go through the same statutory procedures as new DPDs. These consultation requirements have been carried out. It is considered that the draft City Plan appended to this report meets the 'soundness' tests as set out in paragraph 35 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).
- (f) Following completion of the Regulation 19 consultation, the revised draft of the City Plan was considered by counsel who advised, amongst other things, as to the compliance of the draft with the NPPF soundness test. Counsel's advice has been taken into account in finalising the draft City Plan and supporting documents.
- (g) A formal Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) which included a Health and Wellbeing and Crime Safety Assessments was published alongside the Publication Draft City Plan. The IIA assessed in detail the impact on these and the environment and sustainability. The IIA shows that overall the draft policies will be beneficial for environmental quality and health and wellbeing in Westminster.
- (h) Under the Equalities Act 2010 the council has a "public sector equality duty". This means that in taking decisions and carrying out its functions it must have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by the 2010 Act.

- (i) The equalities implications of the policies in the draft City Plan have been assessed as part of the IIA. This shows that none of the proposed policies are expected to have a negative impact on any of the groups with protected characteristics under the 2010 Act and the Public Sector Equalities Duty has been met.
- (j) I have considered the public responses to the Regulation 19 consultation on the Draft City Plan and endorse the officers' comments shown in the consultation statement and the resulting minor modifications.

**The Council is recommended:**

- (i) Pursuant to Regulation 22 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 approve the Draft City Plan and the supporting documents appended to this report for submission to the Secretary of State for approval by way of examination.

Richard Beddoe, Cabinet Member for Place Shaping and Planning

---

**Local Government Act 1972 – Background Papers**

Report considered by the Cabinet Member for Place Shaping and Planning