
**MEMBER BRIEFING: FIRST CARDIFF LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN
ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT**

Reason for the Report

1. To provide a short briefing to Members on the content of a Cabinet report titled 'First Cardiff Local Development Plan Annual Monitoring Report' that was presented to Cabinet at its meeting on Thursday 21st September 2017. Members are asked to note the content of this item and discuss any future actions relating to this report.
2. A copy of the Cabinet paper titled 'First Cardiff Local Development Plan Annual Monitoring Report' and the 'Cardiff Local Development Plan 2006 to 2026 – 1st Annual Monitoring Report – October 2017' are attached to this report respectively as **Appendices 1 & 2**.

Background

3. The Cardiff Local Development Plan 2006 to 2026 (LDP) was formally adopted by the Council on 28th January 2016. As part of the statutory development plan process the Council is required to prepare an Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) and submit to Welsh Government by the 31st October each year after Plan adoption.
4. This is the first AMR to be prepared since the adoption of the plan and is based on the period 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017. The AMR consists of the following sections:
 - Executive Summary;
 - Introduction;

- Contextual Information – changes to policy framework at a national or local level;
 - LDP Monitoring Process – explains the monitoring process undertaken;
 - LDP Monitoring Indicators – reporting on the 107 LDP monitoring indicators which were agreed during the LDP examination process and set out in the Inspectors Report;
 - Sustainability Appraisal Monitoring – reporting on the 28 sustainability monitoring indicators;
 - Conclusions and recommendations – setting out an overall overview of all indicators and Plan performance in the first year following adoption.
5. This is the first year the LDP has been operative and this is the first AMR to be prepared. Therefore, this year's AMR provides a short term position statement and baseline data for future comparative analysis in successive AMRs.
6. Future monitoring over a longer period will enable trends to be identified and firmer conclusions drawn. It will help inform the extent to which the LDP strategy, objectives and policies are being achieved. It also allows the Council to assess the impact of the LDP on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the city and identify any significant contextual changes.
7. The findings of this work over coming years will directly help to inform the LDP review process as the Council is required to undertake a major review of the LDP 4 years after adoption.

The AMR Report

8. It is important to note that this is the first AMR to be prepared and this year's AMR provides a short term 1 year position statement and baseline data for future comparative analysis in successive AMRs.
9. Overall the findings of the first AMR for year 1 are generally positive with the majority of the indicators shown as green indicating that the majority of LDP policies are being implemented effectively. For example, the report identifies that:

- Significant progress in meeting the 50:50 modal shift for all journey purposes by 2026 over the monitoring period has been made and the targets set out in the AMR have been exceeded for all journey purposes.
- Employment land take up over the monitoring period has been strong and targets set out in the AMR have been achieved.
- Significant progress that has been made in producing a programme of new Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) to support the policies in the adopted Plan and the Cardiff Infrastructure Plan has been updated. Work on this SPG programme will continue through the next twelve months and will be evidenced in the next AMR.

10. There are a few indicators not shown as green and these represent areas where further work is being undertaken to fully understand and address relevant issues. For example, housing completions from Strategic Sites allocated in the LDP have not been coming forward at the rates originally set out by Developers. Reasons for this vary from site to site, but it has become evident that there is a lag between LDP adoption and new houses being completed – in part reflective of land ownership/legal technicalities between Developers and landowners and also the complexity of securing planning consents and accompanying Section 106 Agreements which fully deliver the Council’s aspirations as set out in the LDP.

11. The report also explains that significant work has already been undertaken to address this issue in order to stimulate an enhanced trajectory of provision. It explains that proactive dialogue has already taken place with all relevant Developers with the aim of enabling and bringing forward new homes within the master-planning and infrastructure planning framework set out in the LDP. It is considered that a proactive approach will, over-time, secure enhanced delivery rates in future years and the matter will remain an on-going priority. Future AMR’s will provide formal regular annual updates.

Conclusions

12. Section 7 of the AMR provides the conclusions and recommendations of this first AMR which sets out short term position statement for year 1 and baseline data for

future comparative analysis in successive AMRs. The key conclusion is that while it is difficult to determine definitive trends in policy performance in the first year of reporting, good progress is being made in delivering the identified targets and monitoring outcomes. Importantly, ongoing work demonstrates a positive response to areas where further attention is required. There is no evidence to suggest the need for a full or partial review of the LDP at this early stage of plan implementation.

13. The report recommends that this AMR is submitted to the Welsh Government in accord with statutory requirements. Continued monitoring in future AMRs will help to identify any definitive trends in the performance of the Plan's strategy and policy framework.

Next Steps

14. The second AMR in respect of the Cardiff LDP will be presented to Cabinet at the same time next year, with the broad structure of the AMR remaining the same from year to year in order to provide ease of analysis between successive reports. The AMR reports will be used to help inform the review of the LDP which the Council is required to undertake four years after Plan adoption.

Way Forward

15. This item is a Member briefing and so the content of the report is for noting. Members are welcome to suggest future actions in relation to the scrutiny of this item.

Legal Implications

16. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct legal implications. However, legal implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any legal implications arising from those recommendations. All decisions taken by or on behalf of the Council must (a) be within the legal powers of the Council; (b) comply with any procedural requirement

imposed by law; (c) be within the powers of the body or person exercising powers on behalf of the Council; (d) be undertaken in accordance with the procedural requirements imposed by the Council e.g. Scrutiny Procedure Rules; (e) be fully and properly informed; (f) be properly motivated; (g) be taken having regard to the Council's fiduciary duty to its taxpayers; and (h) be reasonable and proper in all the circumstances.

Financial Implications

17. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct financial implications at this stage in relation to any of the work programme. However, financial implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any financial implications arising from those recommendations.

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee is recommended to:

- i. Note the contents of the report and attached Appendices;
- ii. To consider future actions in relation to future scrutiny of this item.

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