

**WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:**  
**THURSDAY 7 MARCH 2019**

**CONSULTATION ON THE OXFORDSHIRE PLAN 2050**  
**REPORT OF THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**

(Contact: Keith Butler, Tel: (01993) 861521)

**1. PURPOSE**

To consider submitting a response to the consultation on the Oxfordshire Plan 2050.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

That the Committee agrees a response to the above consultation.

**3. BACKGROUND**

3.1. The Oxfordshire Plan 2050 is the name for the Joint Statutory Spatial Plan which is required to be prepared as part of the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal. The Committee has previously considered the consultation on the Statement of Community Involvement required to be produced as part of the processes.

3.2. The following text is reproduced from the Oxfordshire Plan website, and is helpful background comment:

*“The Oxfordshire Plan 2050 is one of the commitments made by the six Oxfordshire authorities as part of the £215m Housing & Growth Deal, which will help deliver greatly needed new homes, including affordable and social housing, and infrastructure to the county.*

*The Plan will ask residents about what is important to them for the future. It will then examine the different levels of aspiration in order to achieve some, lots or all of these things, and the housing and infrastructure needed for each scenario.*

*By having all six authorities involved, the Plan will be able to collectively consider the needs of the county and align its strategies so that future housing and infrastructure is more joined up.*

*This is important as many people live and work across the county – their everyday life is not restricted to district administrative boundaries and so neither should planning for future growth. Issues such as the Green Belt, biodiversity and transport will also benefit from consideration at a higher level with a consistent approach across all the authorities.*

*Each Oxfordshire district is committed through the Oxfordshire Housing & Growth Deal to submitting a Local Plan for examination by April 2019. The districts are at different stages of this, however each authority is well on the way to producing a Local Plan covering the period up to between 2031 and 2036.*

*The Oxfordshire Plan builds on the foundations set by the current and emerging Local Plans and look beyond them, at the strategic planning issues for the period up to 2050. It will give districts a framework for future planning policies and help determine planning applications where appropriate.*

*The Plan will not allocate sites for housing or employment. Instead, it will identify key areas for sustainable growth with associated housing / employment numbers. Districts will then use this to*

*produce future Local Plans which will provide a detailed view of how housing and infrastructure will be delivered.”*

- 3.3. The Oxfordshire authorities have recently all approved the document “Introducing the Oxfordshire Plan” for consultation, with the consultation period running from 11 February to 25 March 2019 – the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held 30 January refer. The consultation document is included as an Appendix to this report, and further information about consultation events and other background material is available at <https://oxfordshireplan.org/about/#documents>.
- 3.4. The Committee is invited to consider the attached consultation document and to agree a response.

#### **4. NEXT STEPS**

The Committee’s considerations will be forwarded to the Oxfordshire Plan team, and taken into account along with other consultation responses, in developing the Oxfordshire Plan. The next stage of the project after the current consultation responses have been considered will be a further consultation investigating the quantum of future housing required, the scale of future economic growth, and the strategic options that are available to deliver this.

#### **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

This report has no financial implications.

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Date: 21 February 2019

Background Papers:

None