

Growth and Regeneration Scrutiny Commission

14th September 2020



Report of: Stephen Peacock, Executive Director, Growth and Regeneration

Title: Government consultation on planning:

- The Future of Planning White Paper and
- Changes to the current planning system

Ward: All

Officer Presenting Report: Sarah O'Driscoll Strategic City Planning Service Manager

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Recommendation:

To note and comment

The significant issues in the report are:

Government is consulting on two key documents published on 6th August 2020:

- Planning for the Future White Paper deadline for comment by 29th October
- Changes to the current planning system for comment by 1st October 2020

Key issues are highlighted in the attached powerpoint presentation in Appendix 1 and will be presented at Scrutiny for Member information.



1. Summary

The headline proposals of the White Paper address:

- the preparation of Local Plans – timing, content and process
- Planning applications and decisions
- Development contributions and delivery

The headline proposals of the Changes to the current planning system address:

- The ‘standard method’ for calculation of the housing need number for Bristol
- The delivery and form of affordable homes
- The use of the ‘Permission in Principle’

2. Public Sector Equality Duties

- 2a) Before making a decision, section 149 Equality Act 2010 requires that each decision-maker considers the need to promote equality for persons with the following “protected characteristics”: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation. Each decision-maker must, therefore, have due regard to the need to:
- i) Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Equality Act 2010.
 - ii) Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it. This involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to --
 - remove or minimise disadvantage suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic;
 - take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of people who do not share it (in relation to disabled people, this includes, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities);
 - encourage persons who share a protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.
 - iii) Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it. This involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to –
 - tackle prejudice; and
 - promote understanding.

Appendices:

Appendix 1 Government consultations on Planning Powerpoint presentation

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985