

## Place Scrutiny

Meeting date: 14.7.16

<b>Heading: Joint Spatial Plan and Joint Transport Study - Update</b>	
<b>Ward: All Bristol wards</b>	
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<b>Officer presenting report: Sarah O'Driscoll / Adam Crowther</b>	

**Purpose of briefing, summary of issue / proposal and key background information:**

**To provide an update on progress of the West of England Joint Spatial Plan (WoE JSP) and Joint Transport Study and the response to the autumn 2015 consultation on Issues and Options paper and Joint Transport Study consultation**

**Recommendation(s) / steer sought:**

**To note progress with the preparation of the Joint Spatial Plan and Joint Transport Study and the next steps. Briefing paper supports a powerpoint presentation on the day**

### Background and Current Position

1. The 4 West of England (WoE) authorities, Bath and North East Somerset, Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire, have agreed to prepare a Joint Spatial Plan to ensure the delivery of balanced and sustainable communities into the future. The Joint Spatial Plan (JSP) will identify the spatial strategy for growth and the strategic locations for development to support a competitive and growing economy and will set out the requirement for new homes, employment land and essential strategic infrastructure in the sub-region for the period up to 2036. The JSP will be a statutory plan and will inform the refresh of the Local Plan for each Unitary Authority from existing timeframe of 2011 - 2026 to 2016 – 2036. The Local Development Scheme for each UA reflects the preparation of the Joint Spatial Plan and the consequential refresh of the Local Plans.
2. The four WoE Authorities signed a Memorandum of Understanding which confirmed the preparation of the JSP in March 2014. Updates on progress have been provided to the West of England Planning, Housing and Communities Board (PHCB) through-out and PHCB agreed the publication of an Issues and Options document for consultation between November 2015 and January 2016. The WoE Joint Scrutiny has also been briefed during this process.
3. Preparation of the JSP is supported by the a Joint Transport Study which is being undertaken in parallel to ensure strategic transport implications are understood and considered throughout the process and the implications for delivery of transport major schemes is taken into account.

## **JSP Issues and Options paper - summary**

4. The Issues and Options document was published on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2015 for comment by 29<sup>th</sup> January 2016. It presented a Vision, Objectives and 5 spatial scenarios for the delivery of development across the sub-region. The document can be seen via the following link. [https://www.jointplanningwofe.org.uk/gf2.ti/-/636546/17666597.1/PDF/-/WoE\\_Issues\\_options\\_Final.pdf](https://www.jointplanningwofe.org.uk/gf2.ti/-/636546/17666597.1/PDF/-/WoE_Issues_options_Final.pdf)
5. The spatial scenarios can be summarised as:
  - Protecting the Green belt
  - Concentration at Bristol urban area
  - Transport focussed
  - A more even spread of development across the sub-region, other towns and expanded settlements
  - New settlement

A brief summary of the Issues and Options Paper will be presented at the meeting.

## **Joint Transport Study - summary**

6. The Joint Transport Study is looking at both historic transport issues and the effects of new housing proposals emerging from the JSP. An initial consultation was carried out in parallel with the JSP Issues and Options consultation and the general themes will be presented at the meeting. Modelling of the reference case and JSP housing scenario is currently ongoing with results likely in late summer for consultation in the Autumn and a finalised plan in December/January although these timescales may alter to align more closely with the JSP.

## **JSP and Joint Transport Study consultation response**

7. A detailed consultation report has been prepared and presented to the Planning Housing and Communities Board and to WoE Joint Scrutiny. The 174 page report is within the Agenda papers for PHCB on 29<sup>th</sup> June and can be accessed via the following link: <http://www.westofenglandlep.co.uk/meetings/planning-housing-and-communities-board>.
8. Response to the consultation was made by a wide range of stakeholders – from local residents, community groups and parishes to developers and statutory consultees including Heritage England, Natural England and the utilities companies. There were 6 local consultation events in Bristol and a Stakeholder workshop focussed on Business stakeholders.
9. Over 1000 individuals engaged in the range of consultation events, JSP consultation received 899 responses, JTS consultation received 644 responses.
10. Key issues arising from the JSP consultation were:
  - General support for the vision and objectives
  - Mixed response to the housing numbers suggested for the Wider Bristol Housing Market area – about right from many, not enough from the development industry, too much from some town and parish councils

- Recognition of the significant need for affordable housing – with alternative solutions from the development industry and local residents
- Support for a focus on delivery of new development on brownfield land and from within the urban area
- Support for significance of role of transport infrastructure
- Most respondents supported a mixed spatial scenario for the delivery of new development; however, the `Transport Focussed' scenario was chosen most frequently; and protection of Green Belt was the second most frequently picked,

11. The JTS consultation presented `issues', study objectives and s possible `concepts' for new transport investment, across a range of modes. These were largely supported with the most important study objective seen to be improving Quality of Life, followed by reducing carbon emissions.

12. Respondents gave particular support to strengthening and enhancing public transport corridors, walking and cycling `superhighways', and extending the MetroWest local rail services with further suggestions for specific schemes was also provided which will be assessed as part of the current study phase prior to the preparation of transport proposals.

13. The comments received are being used to inform and shape the development of the Preferred Option Joint Spatial Plan for publication in the Autumn 2016. This will be followed by further consultation on a revised JSP in early 2017; submission of the JSP to the Secretary of State Summer / Autumn 2017; and inclusion of the recommendations from the JTS in an updated Joint Local Transport Plan by end 2017.

**Timescale / deadline:**

10. The next key step in the preparation of the Joint Spatial Plan is publication of a Preferred Option document for consultation in November 2016.

**Checklist / tracker :**

<p><b>Which directorates / executive portfolios are affected by the proposal / issue ?</b>  Place  Neighbourhoods  People  Business Change</p>
<p><b>Will this require a key decision to be taken by the Mayor at a Cabinet meeting?</b>  The Preferred Option document will be presented to Cabinet for endorsement for consultation (Formal approval prior to consultation is not a statutory requirement at this stage).   In due course, formal approval will be sought at FULL COUNCIL of Joint Spatial Plan for Submission as required by the regulations relating to the preparation of a Development Plan Document.</p>
<p><b>Comments from relevant Service Directors:</b>  N/A</p>
<p><b>Comments from relevant Strategic Directors:</b>  N/A</p>

**Financial implications / issues:**

Costs of preparation to BCC have been included in the budget plan for 2016/17.

**Has the Finance Business Partner been consulted?**

Yes, reserves sought and agreed for 2016/17.

**Legal issues:**

Process for approval of Submission JPS document and for formal amendment of LDS as described have been discussed and agreed with Lynne Harvey, Solicitor (Planning)

**Comments / steer from relevant DLT:**

Place Leadership Team Meeting 10.6.15 supported the report and advised the proposed pathway should be discussed with SLT

**Comments / steer from SLT:**

SLT considered associated papers on 16.6.15 and supported the approach advising discussion with the Executive Board.

**Comments from Mayor's or Assistant Mayor's briefing:**

Insert comments / steer on the proposal arising from a briefing.

**Comments from Cabinet / SLT Executive Board:**

Insert comments / steer on the proposal arising from the Executive Board's consideration of this matter.

**Appendices:**

None