

**Decision Maker:** DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

**Date:** Thursday 10 December 2015

**Decision Type:** Non-Urgent                      Non-Executive                      Non-Key

**Title:** LOCAL PLAN DRAFT ALLOCATIONS, FURTHER POLICIES  
AND DESIGNATIONS CONSULTATION  
SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2015 INITIAL REPORT

**Contact Officer:** Mary Manuel, Head of Planning Strategy and Projects  
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**Chief Officer:** Chief Planner

**Ward:** (All Wards);

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1. Reason for report

This reports sets out a summary of the consultation undertaken in September/October 2015 in respect of the Local Plan 'Draft Allocations, Further Policies and Designations' document. It also outlines the scale of response.. The scale of response has been substantial, with over 1100 individual responses, many covering a number of sites/policies and designations. Analysis of the responses is underway, and a further report to DCC and the Executive will follow.

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2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

**That Development Control Committee:**

**a) notes the consultation process undertaken with regard to the Local Plan 'Draft Allocations, Further Policies and Designations' document, and**

**b) notes the scale of the response as set out in paragraph 3.4 and that a further report will be brought to DCC and the Executive analysing the responses and their implications for the Local Plan.**

### Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Not Applicable:
  2. BBB Priority: Children and Young People Excellent Council Quality Environment Safer Bromley Supporting Independence Vibrant, Thriving Town Centres Not Applicable: Further Details
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### Financial

1. Cost of proposal Not Applicable:
  2. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable:
  3. Budget head/performance centre: Planning and Renewal
  4. Total current budget for this head: 2.174m
  5. Source of funding Existing Controllable revenue budget 2015/16
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### Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional):69Ftes
  2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours:
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### Legal

1. Legal Requirement: The Local Plan is a statutory document.
  2. Call-in: Not Applicable:
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### Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected):Borough-wide
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### Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? Ward Councillors are involved throughout the Local Plan process.
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: N/A

### 3. COMMENTARY

3.1 In July 2015, the Council's Development Control Committee and the Executive agreed consultation on the proposed Local Plan 'Draft Sites, Further Policies and Designations' document subject to minor alterations in consultation with the Director of Regeneration and Transformation and the Executive's Chairman. Consultation took place between September 17<sup>th</sup> and October 31<sup>st</sup> 2015. The July reports set out the proposed consultation process in line with the previous stages of the Local Plan preparation and the 2006 Statement of Community Involvement.

3.2 This included *'as previously [the consultation] will be web based to minimise the costs to the Council and facilitate the analysis of responses. However, to maximise the awareness of the opportunity to respond it will include:*

- *Emails/ letters to around 1500 contacts on the planning database advising of the consultation details. This includes statutory consultees, adjoining boroughs and other partner agencies, residents associations and individuals, businesses and developers who have registered their interest in being consulted.*
- *A dedicated webpage and link from the Council's home page.*
- *Press releases and articles in the local papers and community newsletters.*
- *Poster and flyers placed in Council offices (including the Civic Centre, Mottingham and Cotmandene Outreach Centres and libraries).*
- *Article and link to the webpage in Community Links Bromley e-bulletin to over 500 voluntary and community organisations.*
- *Article and link to the webpage in the Council's business bulletin sent to over 2500 businesses.*
- *A display promoting the consultation within the Civic Centre*
- *Inclusion in 'Update' circulated to all residents associations.*
- *copies of the consultation document will be made available for inspection at the Civic Centre, Mottingham and Cotmandene Outreach Centres and Bromley Community Links.*

3.3 In addition to the consultation outlined above, given the nature of the document with proposed draft site allocations, for housing and mixed uses, education and gypsy and traveller sites further consultation activity was undertaken including:

- individual letters addressed to the occupier of the properties (identified from Ordnance Survey maps) within approximately 100 metres of the each site were sent advising of the consultation and where to view the details. In total over 3,000 letters were distributed on this basis,
- Individual letters sent to Head Teachers of schools with a proposed allocation, designation, or re-designation of the site,
- posters displayed at the Civic Centre and adjoining car parks and several other council poster sites,
- presentations to the Bromley Federation of Resident's Association (17<sup>th</sup> September) and Bromley Youth Council (15<sup>th</sup> October),
- displays at the Bromley 'Bank on Bromley Business Expo' 16<sup>th</sup> September and the Civic Centre reception,
- adjoining Local Planning Authorities invited to Duty to Co-operate meetings with officers, individual meetings with Greenwich, Croydon, Bexley, Lambeth, Tonbridge, Sevenoaks and Dartford,
- between 17 September and 31<sup>st</sup> October there were 3,997 visits to the Local Plan page of the Council's website which compares with 5,656 visits for the previous 12 months. The page had 446 referrals from Facebook, and the tweet sent by the Council's communication team was re-tweeted six times; and
- articles appeared in the New Shopper, Bromley Times & the Bromley Borough News.

## Overview of the response

- 3.4 The September/October 2015 consultation has generated responses from over 1100 individuals and organisations, many making several comments on the draft document and some commenting on several dozen points. A significant number of respondents have made very detailed comments and also sent in supporting documents. It also appears that a number of comments are not in direct response to reading the consultation document but to either emails or social media response to the consultation and to not refer to specific points in the consultation document but are more generalised.
- 3.5 By comparison, previous consultation stages in the preparation of the Local Plan have received in the region of 100 responses including statutory bodies and stakeholders. The most responses the Bromley Town Centre Area Action Plan received to any single consultation was 115.
- 3.6 The responses will be published in the New Year on the planning pages of the Bromley website including the names of the organisation /individual but with private individuals' addresses redacted. The preparation of responses is currently taking place. A hard copy of the responses will be available for inspection at the Civic Centre and a set of responses placed in the Members' Room.
- 3.7 The intention is to group the responses for ease of reference for residents, stakeholder and Members by site, or groups of sites dependent on the number of responses, and in sections for instance, 'Getting Around', and 'Valued Environments' Full analysis of the responses and assessment taking into account other factors such as the evidence base, the 2015 London Plan and changes in Government legislation and policy will be undertaken. Officers will then report with to DCC and the Executive with regard to taking forward the different elements of the plan, including site allocations, policies and designations to the Draft Local Plan.

## 4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Bromley 2020 as the Sustainable Community Strategy for the Borough was the starting point for developing the Core Strategy Issues Document in 2011 and for the Vision and Objectives in the Options and Preferred Strategy stage of the Local Plan preparation. The Local Plan will extend this vision until 2031 and contributes to all the priorities within Building a Better Bromley. The Local Plan together with the London Plan will form the development plan for the Borough. The Local Plan, once adopted will replace the saved policies of the UDP.
- 4.2 The Local Plan has to be in general conformity with the London plan (March 2015) and with the National Planning Policy Framework published in March 2012. Importantly the Local Plan sets out the vision and objectives, and the policies against which planning applications will be determined (together with the London Plan) and the priorities against which the plan will be monitored and reviewed.

## 5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

<b>Non-Applicable Sections:</b>	Personnel, Legal
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	2015 Draft Allocations, Further Policies and Designations Document September 2015 Report DRR15/ 070 Bromley's Local Plan –'Potential Site Allocations Draft Policy and Designations Alternations' for consultation