

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE REGENERATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SCRUTINY PANEL HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 1ST FEBRUARY, 2023

MEMBERS: Councillors Mohammad Islam, Josh Abey, Mahmut Aksanoglu, Thomas Fawns, Ayten Guzel, Joanne Laban, David Skelton and Edward Smith

Officers: Sarah Cary(Executive Director – Place), Brett Leahy (Director – Planning and Growth), May Hope (Plan Making Manager), Robyn McIntock (Governance Officer)

Apologies: Councillor Nesil Caliskan.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies for lateness were received from Cllr Ayten Guzel.

Apologies received from the Leader, if anyone has any questions they will be answered via email following the meeting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none given.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

4. STRATEGIC INDUSTRIAL SITES AND ENFIELD LOCAL PLAN

May Hope, Plan Making Manager, presented this item highlighting the key points from the report.

Following questions from Members, Officers confirmed that the Reg 18 consultation is currently being analysed and will be published around summer 2023.

Members raised the question that due to our borough being restricted through Strategic Industrial Land (SIL) and greenbelt have Officers responded to DLUC consultation regarding special circumstances. Officers explained that the consultation is currently live and a response is being prepared. There is a timelines for the implementation of the changes which will impact how Enfield will proceed.

ACTION: Officers to provide report on what response is submitted.

Officers explained policies change and evolve over time. The key document which informs our future Local Plan will be the London Plan.

Members raised concerns on the tension between housing needs and finding suitable sites. Officers explained that they use the housing needs assessment along with the employment needs. The Local Plan tries to address many needs, officers acknowledge it is a challenge.

Members raised questions on how the Local Plan would be affected if housing numbers became guidelines and not targets. Officers explained that the numbers are advisory, and the Government inspector will look at what evidence Enfield puts forward to determine the numbers and the sites allocated in the plan. There is a standard method, which is the current one, this remains unchanged. Enfield has to work with London Plan housing requirement until the plan ends.

In response to Members queries on building on green belt within London Plan guidelines and how do the proposed changes impact us, it was advised that if the plans come into place the timeline will not impact the current Local Plan. The Local Plan that is being developed will be under the current regime of planning.

Officers clarified that they have identified land in the west of the borough suitable for industrial use, which is aside from Junction 24 of the M25.

Officers confirmed the response from the consultation statement will be published on the website around summer time before Reg-19 is published..

ACTION: May Hope to send link from website which identifies sites within the borough (HELAA).

Officers confirmed the Local Plan is looking for at least 25sqm of industrial/logistics space. The Environment Land Review is being updated and will be published alongside the next version of the plan. Officers noted that the employment need figure may change once the results from the review are in.

ACTION: Officers to respond to members query what intensification of industrial sites mean and what is the on the plan to promote intensification.

Officers clarified the timelines for the plans explaining that current Local Plan was compromising the Core Strategy and Development Management Document adopted in 2010 and 2014. The London Plan was adopted in 2021 with a period going up to 2029. The Government suggests Local Plans cover 10-15 years.

The Chair thanked everyone for their time.

5. WORK PROGRAMME

NOTED the work programme.

6. DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

NOTED the dates of future meeting as follows:

Wednesday 26 April 2023.

The meeting ended at 7.50 pm.