

Growth Board 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018  
Agenda item – Joint Statutory Spatial Plan  
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## **Oxfordshire Joint Statutory Spatial Plan**

### **1.0 Purpose of report**

- 1.1 To update the Growth Board with progress on preparatory work for the Joint Statutory Spatial Plan (JSSP) work stream.
- 1.2 This report provides details on the progress made which includes the preparation of draft project and programme documents for the JSSP.

### **2.0 Recommendation**

- 2.1 The Growth Board is recommended to note the Draft Local Development Scheme (LDS), Draft Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), and the Draft JSSP Scoping Document.

### **3.0 Background**

- 3.1 The Board will be aware of the key commitment in the Deal to develop an Oxfordshire Joint Statutory Spatial Plan (JSSP). The JSSP will build on the existing and emerging set of Local Plans to set the strategic direction for planning in Oxfordshire and address linkages to wider planning considerations, for example the Oxford-Cambridge Growth Corridor. Oxfordshire is committed to a positive plan led approach to ensure the protection and enhancement of its built and natural environment and resources, to define and steer the nature and location of future development and secure essential infrastructure.
- 3.2 The JSSP will be a statutory plan for Oxfordshire. On adoption it will carry full weight in the planning process and provide the higher level strategic planning policy framework under which decisions will be taken and the planning policies of partner authorities will be developed. The JSSP will be subject to formal consideration and approval by the individual Oxfordshire Planning Authorities at key stages of its development.
- 3.3 Initial preparatory work is underway for the JSSP. The focus to date has been on scoping the future work programme, identifying resource requirements, and preparing draft project documents.

### **4.0 Draft Project and Programme Documents for the JSSP**

- 4.1 Preparatory work on the JSSP to date has focussed on defining the scope of the plan and project planning. Three key project documents have been drafted and these are attached to this report for the Growth Board's information. As key plan documents, these will be submitted for formal approval by the individual Planning Authorities in autumn.
- 4.2 **Draft Local Development Scheme (LDS)**  
The LDS sets out the timetable for production of the JSSP. It is important that stakeholders are engaged in the preparation of the JSSP; the LDS explains how the

plan will be produced and when, so that it is clear when people will be able to get involved. It outlines the programme for completion and adoption of the Plan over the period to March 2021.

- 4.3 The LDS is a requirement of the plan making regulations. Each of the Local Planning Authorities has an approved LDS for their Local Plan documents; the LDS for the JSSP will supplement those. This LDS will need to be approved by all the District Councils, and this is programmed for the relevant council meetings in September.
- 4.4 **Draft Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)**  
The SCI sets out how we intend to inform, involve and consult stakeholders on the preparation of the JSSP and when they will be engaged in the process. The SCI will ensure that the JSSP will be shaped by early, proportionate and meaningful engagement between plan makers and communities, local organisations, businesses, infrastructure providers and statutory consultees.
- 4.5 The SCI is also a requirement of the plan making regulations. The Local Planning Authorities have their own individual SCIs concerned with the production of their Local Plans. This SCI is specific to the production of the JSSP. This Draft SCI will need to be approved for public consultation by each of the District Councils, this is programmed for September. Following the consultation period, amendments will be made where appropriate, and the Final SCI will need to be approved by the District Councils at a subsequent round of council meetings (November/December: TBC).
- 4.6 **Draft JSSP Scoping Document**  
The JSSP Scoping Document is an informal document, not required by regulations. It is however a helpful project planning tool which seeks to set out the understanding between the various parties on the objectives of the JSSP and the processes that will be followed. This will form an agreed framework for the project and it will be used to inform the work programme for the plan. The Scoping Document will be reported to the District Councils for approval in September.
- 4.7 The JSSP will provide an overall strategy for the scale and distribution of development up to 2050. It will be a strategic document which will identify future growth areas, and it is not intended that it will allocate specific sites itself. It will not contain detailed policies, as these will be covered by future Local Plan reviews as necessary. The JSSP will address the strategic and cumulative implications of growth and set out a long term framework covering the whole of Oxfordshire. A common evidence base will be developed to underpin the JSSP and future Local Plan reviews. This will include work on environmental quality and natural capital, as well as on strategic transport and other infrastructure requirements. The JSSP will take into account the commitments made in emerging and adopted Local Plans.