

AGENDA ITEM 3

EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF FULL COUNCIL

27TH JULY 2016

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF REGULATORY SERVICES

CONSIDERATION OF CONSULTATION RESPONSES ON MELTON LOCAL PLAN (EMERGING OPTIONS)

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is to convey to the Council the results of consultation carried out between 11th January and 4th April 2016 in respect of the Melton Local Plan (Emerging Options), and to make recommendations as to how the representations received can be taken into account and carried forward into the next stage of the Local Plan, the 'submission version'.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That the Council :

- (i) Notes the representations received.
- (ii) Agrees to the responses provided in each of the appendices (A1 – A10) to this report.
- (iii) Agrees that the Local Plan (Submission version) is prepared on the basis indicated in each of the appendices, subject to the impact of additional evidence to be received.
- (iv) Notes that further assessment is taking place in respect of settlement roles and site allocation, which be the subject of a future report to Council.

3.0 KEY ISSUES

3.1 Consultation on the Melton Local Plan (Emerging Options) took place between the 11th January and the 4th April 2016. The consultation documents were held at the Council Offices, along with various other locations across the borough, including libraries, Parish Council Offices, local Cafes, Deli's and newsagents and at community consultation events and online.

3.2 The community consultation on the Preferred Options of the Local Plan was launched on the 11th and 12th January 2016, both online and at the Melton Borough Council Offices with reference groups, Councillors, Council staff, Parish Councils, and Neighbourhood Development Plan Groups being involved. Following the initial launch a number of community consultation events were arranged to engage with local communities and organisations.

3.3 Within Melton Mowbray town, a number of community consultation events were held at locations including Tesco, the Council Offices at Parkside and on 2 separate occasions in the Market during January and February. Further consultation events were held at the Council Offices, including Reference Groups and a combined Parish Council and Neighbourhood Development Plan group workshop.

3.4 Local community consultation events were also held at Asfordby and Long Clawson in January and in Waltham on the Wolds, Stathern, Bottesford, Somerby and

Asfordby throughout February. A community consultation event was also carried out in Frisby in March.

- 3.5 The consultation process was advertised online and in the Local Paper as well as Parish Councils, stakeholders and consultees being contacted directly. In addition to written comments being accepted, Citizenspace, the online consultation programme was utilised to ensure that providing comments on the Plan was easily accessible online.
- 3.6 Representations were received from 456 individual respondents, who made more than 10,000 qualitative comments about the policies and proposals. All comments have been collated and analysed and where comments are considered to be appropriate an action has been outlined as to whether the Plan needs to be amended, how and what impact that will have.
- 3.7 The following reports consider the representations on a chapter by chapter basis. Each comment made has been compiled into a table on a policy by policy basis. These tables include the officer response and where applicable the recommended action arising. Where nothing is included in the final column headed Proposed Amendment no amendment is proposed. Members are asked to note that additional evidence continues to be collated and there is the potential for this to influence the position further. Such evidence will be reported to future meetings alongside consideration of its impact.

4.0 POLICY AND CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Melton Local Plan Emerging Options provided the vehicle to engage with people on the preferred approach to addressing the issues and challenges which need to be dealt with through the Local Plan. The responses received will inform the selection of sites for allocation and in changes to the spatial and distribution strategy and to the content and wording of policies.

5.0 FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no significant unknown financial or resource implications arising from this report. The Local Plan will be an intensive exercise, which will have a significant resource implication. However this will be met through the existing budget provisions.

6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS/POWERS

- 6.1 Preparing a Local Plan in accordance with a Local Development Scheme and a Statement of Community Involvement are requirements of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (as amended) 2004 and the Town and Country Planning Regulations 2012. Regulation 18 of the regulations requires the Council to invite comments about the Local Plan proposals and to take into account any representation made in response to the consultation when preparing the Local Plan. The Emerging Options Draft Local Plan consultation, together with this report of responses fulfils the requirements of Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning Regulations 2012.
- 6.2 The detailed review and consideration of representations about the Emerging Options should also help demonstrate to a Planning Inspector how the Council has

sought to engage the community in the development of the plan and may reduce the risk of the plan being challenged at a later date.

7.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY

7.1 There are no direct community safety implications as a direct result of this report.

8.0 EQUALITIES

8.1 The Emerging Options Draft Local Plan was a consultation document and not a strategy or policy. For these reasons, as a standalone document it will have little impact upon Equalities. The Submission version that will be influenced by the consultation will however require an Equalities Assessment.

9.0 RISKS

9.1

L I K E L I H O O D	A	Very High				
	B	High				
	C	Significant		1,2		
	D	Low				
	E	Very Low				
	F	Almost Impossible				
			Negligible 1	Marginal 2	Critical 3	Catastrophic 4

IMPACT

Risk No	Risk Description
1	People submitting representations are not satisfied with the response provided and will repeat their points at Submission Plan stage
2	The resultant changes result in new issues on some subjects, attracting a fresh body of representation

10.0 CLIMATE CHANGE

10.1 There are no direct climate change issues arising from this report.

11.0 CONSULTATION

11.1 The Submission Version of the Local plan will be subject to a statutory 6 week consultation in accordance with the Town and Country Planning Regulations 2012.

12.0 WARDS AFFECTED

12.1 All Wards are affected

Contact Officer J Worley, Head of Regulatory Services

Date: 19 July 2016

Appendices : Appendix A :
 A1 – Chapters 1 and 2
 A2 – Chapter 3
 A3 – Chapter 4
 A4 – Chapter 5
 A5 – Chapter 6
 A6 – Chapter 7
 A7 – Chapter 8
 A8 – Chapter 9
 A9 – Appendix 3 Monitoring Framework
 A10 – Policies Map

Background Papers: MELTON LOCAL PLAN (EMERGING OPTIONS)