

Cabinet

20th February 2025

Report of the Chair of Infrastructure, Safety and Growth Scrutiny

Matters referred to Cabinet in accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules

Scrutiny Committee	Title of Matter referred	Date of Scrutiny meeting
Infrastructure Safety & Growth Scrutiny Committee	Revised local Development Scheme	29 th January 2025

Exempt Information

None.

Purpose

To notify Cabinet of the recommendations from the Revised Local Development Scheme report that was discussed at the meeting of Infrastructure Safety & Growth Scrutiny Committee on the 29th January 2025.

Recommendations:

Following consideration of the item the Committee agree to the following recommendations being made to Cabinet:

1. To Develop a Policy for Houses of Multiple Occupancy (HMO's)
(Moved by Councillor M Couchman and seconded by Councillor C Adams)

Background Information

On the 20th August 2024 the Revised Local Development Scheme was added to the Forward Plan, to be presented to Cabinet on the 20th February 2025 and to be considered by the Infrastructure, Safety and Growth Scrutiny Committee on the 29th January 2025.

The Committee were being asked to:

1. endorse the recommendation to be presented to Cabinet that the updated Local Development Scheme in Appendix A be approved for publication.
2. endorse the recommendation to be presented to Cabinet that authority is delegated to the Planning Policy and Delivery Team Leader to make any minor typographical amendments to the documents before or after publication

Executive Summary

At the meeting on the 29th January 2025 the Committee considered the report and asked questions around the National Planning Policy Framework; the county's contribution to the plan; the development of infrastructure and the staffing required in this area.

It was also highlighted that a number of documents sit alongside the plan but that there was nothing relating to houses of multiple occupancy (HMO's).

The Committee expressed concern about the number of HMO's, the majority of which appear to be in Spital, Castle and Wilnecote wards. There were concerns that there appear to be a number of small properties being converted and that this could change the character/feel of an area.

The Committee moved a recommendation to ask Cabinet to develop a policy in this area.

Options Considered

None.

Key considerations

1. Scrutiny committees have statutory powers to make recommendations to the Executive, and the Executive (Cabinet) has a statutory duty to respond. They may also make reports and recommendations to external decision making bodies.
2. The agenda for Executive meetings shall include a standing item entitled 'Matters Referred to the Cabinet In Accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules'. The reports of overview and scrutiny committees and sub-committees referred to the Executive shall be included at this point in the agenda (unless they have been considered in the context of the Executive's deliberations on a substantive item on the agenda) within one calendar month of the overview and scrutiny committee or sub-committee completing its report/recommendations.
3. Scrutiny recommendations are addressed to the Cabinet, as the main Executive decision making body of the council (or, where appropriate, an external agency).
4. Cabinet is being asked to note the scrutiny report / recommendations and that an Executive Response to the scrutiny recommendations be prepared for consideration by the Cabinet within two months from receiving the report or recommendations.
5. The minutes of the meeting of the scrutiny committee provide the record of the scrutiny committee's consideration of the issue and the scrutiny recommendations made during the meeting.

6. The scrutiny committee will be notified of the Executive Response made in respect to the scrutiny recommendations and may track the implementation of the Cabinet decisions and any actions agreed. This enables the scrutiny committee to track whether their recommendations have been agreed, what actually was agreed (if different) and review any outcomes arising

Report Author

Councillor M Couchman
Chair of Infrastructure Safety & Growth Scrutiny

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