

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF PLANNING, ECONOMY AND REGENERATION.

**GREATER EXETER STRATEGIC PLAN (GESP) FOR CONSIDERATION BY
PLANNING POLICY ADVISORY GROUP, CABINET AND THE COUNCIL**

Cabinet Member: Cllr Richard Chesterton
Responsible Officer: Mrs Jenny Clifford, Head of Planning and Regeneration

Reason for Report: To clarify the decision making route within this authority for the stages of preparation for the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan; providing further detail and clarity pertinent to the Scheme of Delegation within the Council's Constitution.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. That Cabinet approve the decision making route for the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan as set out in the table at Appendix I**

Relationship to Corporate Plan: To ensure planning policy reflects the corporate plan objectives. The Greater Exeter Strategic Plan (GESP) will set out a shared vision, strategic policies and proposals for development and conservation in the local planning authority areas of East Devon, Exeter, Mid Devon and Teignbridge up to 2040. The GESP will help meet the Corporate Plan priorities: 'Economy', 'Homes', 'Community' and 'Environment'.

Financial Implications: None.

Legal Implications: None - The Greater Exeter Strategic Plan will still require adoption by Full Council.

Risk Assessment: Identification of the decision-making route for the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan, as set out in the table in Appendix I, removes any misunderstanding or misinterpretation and reduces the chances for errors or omissions.

Equality Impact Assessment: The Greater Exeter Strategic Plan will be subject to stages of public engagement and consultation where there will be an opportunity to comment on the draft plan's policies and proposals. The plan will also require an Equality Impact Assessment. The decision making pathway for Mid Devon District Council's approval of the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan will not in itself lead to any impacts on the equality strands protected under the Equality Act 2010 (the 'protected characteristics').

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1** The Cabinet last agreed amendments to the table setting out which planning policy documents require approval by the Planning Policy Advisory Group (PPAG), Cabinet and Council at its meeting on 9th June 2016. At this time the Council's involvement in the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan (GESP) was at an

early stage, and the table did not include reference to this strategic plan. This report specifically identifies the necessary decision-making route for the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan, which aligns with the route for Local Plans previously approved by the Cabinet at its meeting on the 9th June 2016. Local Plans which include strategic allocations require separate Cabinet meetings in Tiverton, Cullompton and Cridton: the same approach is proposed for the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan.

2 JUSTIFICATION

- 2.1 Agreement is needed in relation to the consideration of the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan by Planning Policy Advisory Group (PPAG), Cabinet and Council, to ensure that there is a clear decision-making pathway to progress the strategic plan through the various stages required by legislation. The Greater Exeter Strategic Plan will be subject to decision-making pathways for each of the other three local authorities that are also responsible for preparing this strategic plan with Mid Devon District Council. This report only addresses the decision making in connection with this Council.
- 2.2 The decision-making procedure for Mid Devon District Council, in relation to the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan, is set out in the table in Appendix I.
- 2.3 No changes are proposed to the decision-making procedures for other planning policy documents set out in the table that was approved by the Cabinet at its meeting on the 9th June 2016.
- 2.4 A revised timetable for the preparation of the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan is the subject of a separate report to this Cabinet meeting that recommends approval be given to an updated Local Development Scheme (November 2018).

3 GROUPS CONSULTED

- 3.1 The decision-making procedure for the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan was reported to and considered by the Planning Policy Advisory Group (PPAG) at its meeting on 31st August 2018.

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Circulation of the Report: Cabinet Member for Planning & Regeneration;
Management Team

List of Background Papers:

The previous Cabinet Report for the 9th June 2016 regarding the decision-making route for planning policy documents (item no. 22) is available at:

<https://democracy.middevon.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=133&MId=626&Ver=4>

APPENDIX I

Type of Policy Document	Planning Policy Advisory Group	Cabinet	Council for approval of submission document or adoption	Requires separate meeting of Cabinet in each of the main towns
Greater Exeter Strategic Plan	Yes	Yes	Yes	No (unless it includes reference to strategic site allocations in that specific town)