

PROGRESS MADE IN IMPLEMENTING THE ACTION PLAN AGREED BY THE COUNCIL IN RESPONSE TO THE REPORT OF THE PLANNING PEER REVIEW TEAM

Purpose of the Report

To provide a progress report on the progress made in implementing the agreed Action Plan.

Recommendation

That should the Planning Committee wish to make any comments to Cabinet on the report and the proposals that it contains that it does so now, so that they can be taken into account by Cabinet when it considers the progress report at its meeting on the 22nd July

Reasons

To provide the Planning Committee with the same report on progress made in implementing the agreed Actions as is being submitted to Cabinet on the 22nd July

The Council commissioned in 2014 the national Planning Advisory Service to review its Planning Service with the aim of addressing perceived concerns about facets of the service to ensure that this important service is both effective and efficient.

The review process was undertaken in accordance with a nationally-agreed approach. This involved an assessment around a number of key themes.

The review team spent three days on site during which they interviewed a wide range of Members, officers and other stakeholders.

The Council in mid-August 2014 received a final report/letter from the Peer Review Team (PRT), a copy of which was subsequently circulated to all Members. Two workshops were held for members of the Planning Committee to provide input into an Action Plan

At its meeting on the 12th November 2014 Cabinet

- a) Agreed to the Action Plan which officers had drawn up in conjunction with Members and stakeholders;
- b) Agreed to receive in 6 months' time a report back on progress made in implementing the agreed Actions; and
- c) Agreed that the Planning Committee similarly receives the same report

A report for Cabinet has now been prepared and is due to be considered by Cabinet at its meeting on the 22nd July. A copy of this Cabinet report and its 3 appendices are attached.