

## Record of operational decision

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| <b>Decision title:</b>                   | Regulation 18 Draft Local Plan public consultation for the Herefordshire Local Plan 2021-2041   |
| <b>Date of decision:</b>                 | 15/02/2024  |
| <b>Decision maker:</b>                   | Service Director Economy and Growth   |
| <b>Authority for delegated decision:</b> | <p>Economy and Environment Scheme of Delegation</p> <p>Preparation of development plan documents (part 2 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004) Preparation of and consultation upon issues and options documents is delegated to Interim Service Director for Economy and Regulatory Services</p> <p>Budget for public consultation during preparation was agreed through the approval of the Local Plan Project Plan on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2021.<br/> <a href="https://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=7726">https://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=7726</a></p>   |
| <b>Ward:</b>                             | Countywide  |
| <b>Consultation:</b>                     | Local Plan Cabinet member group briefings, Corporate Leadership Team and Cabinet briefing.  |
| <b>Decision made:</b>                    | <p>To undertake a public consultation upon the Regulation 18 Draft Herefordshire Local Plan which runs from the 25<sup>th</sup> March to the 20<sup>th</sup> May, the consultation will run for 8 weeks.</p> <p>To make any necessary minor typographical or technical updates to the draft Plan prior to its publication to reflect the latest evidence or national planning policy position and to ensure consistency of terminology.</p>   |
| <b>Reasons for decision:</b>             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The current Local Plan, Herefordshire Local Plan - Core Strategy was adopted in 2015. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requires that local authorities should review their local plan every five years to determine if an update is required. Herefordshire Council resolved in November 2020 that an update of the Local Plan would be required.</li> <li>• Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended) requires that public consultation takes place at key stages during the preparation of a Local Plan.</li> <li>• The new Local Plan will help shape growth and development across the county over the period from 2021 to 2041. The Plan will seek to ensure that we deliver the required homes, jobs, infrastructure and services to support growth in a way that is appropriate for the rural and historic character of the County.</li> <li>• During 2022 a series of public consultation exercises were carried out and consisted of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ a range of potential options for the overall spatial strategy;</li> <li>○ key land use policy areas; and</li> <li>○ specific place based options for Hereford, each of the market towns and for rural areas.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The consultation responses, together with a range of evidence-based studies have been used to develop the Draft Local Plan. The Draft Plan as assembled effectively provides a preferred option at this stage of the plan making process but does not yet form Council policy.</li> </ul> |

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Draft Local Plan 2021-2041 was prepared by April 2023 for consultation by June 2023 and this has been subject to a pause and review in summer 2023. In September 2023 the council decided to progress with the Draft 2021-2041 Local Plan.</li> <li>• The Regulation 18 Draft Local Plan sets out: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A vision and set of objectives</li> <li>○ The Spatial Strategy</li> <li>○ A set of Strategic Policies</li> <li>○ Place based policies for Hereford, each of the market towns and the rural areas.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Some of figures that are included in the place shaping policies covering density, affordable housing and infrastructure requirements are provisional. These may be updated when the relevant new evidence is available. The detailed text to ensure consistency in wording and terminology and prepare a glossary to add to the plan.</li> <li>• Development Management policies will be covered by National Development Management Policies, which are expected to be released in spring 2024. For locally specific issues, this will be covered by Neighbourhood Plans.</li> <li>• It is proposed to undertake the public consultation from 25 March to 20 May 2024. During this time the Draft Plan and associated documents will be available to download from the Herefordshire website and view via an online consultation platform. Printed copies will be made available in libraries and information offices and on request. It is intended to send posters to every town and parish council to post on their noticeboards and local parish magazines.</li> <li>• Member seminars will be held before the consultation. These will run during a daytime session as well as an evening session.</li> <li>• Presentation for parish councils will take place during the consultation period. Email notifications will be sent to all consultees and individuals registered on the Local Plan consultation database.</li> <li>• On the first day of the consultation, a Launch event will be held in Hereford for members of the public, statutory consultees, agents and developers and these will be selected from our contacts database.</li> <li>• Information points, including Talk Community Hubs and Libraries will be used to distribute information about the consultation. In addition, a series of events will be held across the County to advertise the consultation and answer questions posed by local people. The dates for these public events will be advertised online.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:</b> | Sufficient funding is available in budget within the Local Plan budget to undertake the Local Plan consultation.   |
| <b>Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:</b>           | There is no alternative to undertaking consultation as this is part of the regulatory plan making process.   |
| <b>Details of any declarations of interest made:</b>                         | No officers or members involved or consulted in the decision-making have declared an interest.   |

Signed..... Date: