

Report Title:	<b>Infrastructure Delivery Plan</b>
Contains Confidential or Exempt Information?	No - Part I
Meeting and Date:	Infrastructure O&S
Responsible Officer(s):	Chris Joyce, Head of Infrastructure, Sustainability and Economic Growth
Wards affected:	All

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## REPORT SUMMARY

1. The Infrastructure Delivery Plan sets out the key infrastructure required to support housing and employment growth in the borough. It is a key part of the evidence base for the Borough Local Plan and will support the planning and delivery of infrastructure in the borough over the life of the plan.
2. Infrastructure planning is an iterative process and the document should be reviewed and updated regularly to ensure it remains fit for purpose and represents the infrastructure priorities of the borough.

## 1. DETAILS OF RECOMMENDATION(S)

**RECOMMENDATION: That Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Panel:**

- i) ***Notes the report and the current infrastructure planning process and evidences base.***

## 2. REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATION(S) AND OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 This report is for information to assist the O&S panel in understanding the infrastructure planning process and the current Infrastructure Delivery Plan document and evidence base that supports it.

## 3. Background

- 3.1 The Infrastructure Delivery Plan sets out the key infrastructure requirements to support housing and employment growth in the Borough. It is a living document that should be updated regularly. It is a key part of the evidence base for the Borough Local Plan (BLP) and should support infrastructure planning and delivery over the life of the BLP.
- 3.2 It covers a broad range of infrastructure, including transport, education, health, green and blue infrastructure, utilities and community infrastructure. The approach and methodology for determining the requirements is different for each type of infrastructure. The details of the assessment are generally set out within the IDP and then the requirements are presented within the document and held in a series of schedules that are included as a series of appendices to the document.

- 3.3 The document includes infrastructure that is not designed and delivered by the Local Authority and therefore requires work across the council services and with other partners such as the NHS, local utility companies and national organisations such as Highways England, Network Rail.
- 3.4 The IDP has been developed and refined through the BLP process. A full version of the IDP was undertaken and published January 2018 to support the BLP. A detailed analysis of the requirements for four different infrastructure types (transport, green, social and utilities) was undertaken. The report set out the detailed methodology and engagement with key partners to ensure that a full set of requirements was provided and agreed with key stakeholders.
- 3.5 As part of the consultation for the 'Proposed Changes Version' of the BLP, a review of the IDP was undertaken. The purpose of the review was to assess whether the changes to the local plan had any significant impact on the IDP and to seek to provide consistency with the updated BLP, including site proformas.
- 3.6 The review concluded that the changes to the BLP had a limited impact on the IDP and therefore a short update report was prepared setting out the changes to the schedule of the projects in each infrastructure areas, which were also split out into more granular categories (transport, green, education, health, sport and leisure, community and utilities).
- 3.7 As part of the examination of the BLP, we have undertaken a further review of the IDP prioritisation to ensure it is clear. This has been based on the following categories:
- **High Priority:** needed to deliver planned growth within the Plan period.
  - **Medium Priority:** required to mitigate against the impacts from new development, with the precise timing of delivery not critical.
  - **Low Priority:** desirable infrastructure to encourage sustainable development and highest quality of development.
- 3.8 The prioritisation process will allow the council to focus on the delivery of the most important infrastructure first. This will ensure that the development and delivery of critical infrastructure required to support the plan is in place ahead of or alongside delivery of additional housing and employment space.
- 3.9 The council is committed to delivering all the infrastructure within the IDP and will utilise the full range of external and internal funding sources to ensure that. This will include external Government and Local Enterprise Partnership funding as well as CIL, S106 and council capital funding.

## **4. Next steps**

- 4.1 There is uncertainty in any long-term planning process, particularly in light of the current Covid-19 pandemic and its long-term effects on the economy and society. The council will regularly review its IDP to ensure it continues to be fit for purpose and is delivering against the requirements of the BLP and wider council objectives.
- 4.2 As part of any future updates we will seek to work closely with local communities to ensure their priorities are considered within the infrastructure planning process. There are also opportunities to present the document in a more accessible way to help communities understand the plans for infrastructure in their area.

## **5. Appendices**

- 5.1 This report is supported by three appendices:
  - Infrastructure Delivery Plan (January 2018)
  - Proposed Changes to BLP IDP Update (October 2019)
  - Updated Schedule for Local Plan Examination (October 2020)