

<b>Local Plan Panel Meeting</b>	
<b>Meeting Date</b>	08 September 2021
<b>Report Title</b>	Summaries of main issues raised in respect of the Swale Borough Local Plan Review (Regulation 19) Pre-submission Consultation.
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Cllr Mike Baldock, Cabinet Member for Planning
<b>SMT Lead</b>	Emma Wiggins
<b>Head of Service</b>	James Freeman
<b>Lead Officer</b>	Jill Peet
<b>Key Decision</b>	No
<b>Classification</b>	Open
<b>Recommendations</b>	It is recommended that Members note the summaries of main issues raised in respect of the Swale Borough Local Plan Review (Regulation 19) Pre-submission Consultation.

## **1 Purpose of Report and Executive Summary**

1.1 Following the Regulation 19 Pre-submission Consultation carried out in Winter/Spring 2021, summaries of the main issues raised by the contributors have been prepared. At Appendix I, the summaries outline the headline issues made by all contributors set out by chapter, policy, or piece of evidence. At Appendix II, representations made by statutory consultees and neighbouring authorities have been summarised in more detail.

## **2 Background**

2.1 The pre-submission version of the Local Plan Review, including its supporting evidence, was published for consultation in February 2021, as required by Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. The consultation took place between 08 February and 30 April 2021, following an extension to the originally planned end date of 23 March 2021.

2.2 Members of the public, town and parish councils, statutory consultees and other interested parties were invited to comment on the “soundness” of the document in relation to the tests set out in the National Planning Policy Framework. In total, 568 separate contributors made 2550 representations.

2.3 These representations have been read and summaries of the main issues raised have been prepared. It is noted that the term ‘main issues’ is not defined within the Regulations, and that contributors will, on the whole, consider their representations to be ‘main’. Nevertheless, the tables at Appendices I and II aim to draw out the more ‘headline’ issues raised.

2.4 The summaries represent Officers' best efforts to identify these 'headline' issues accurately and clearly. However, they are intended to act as guides only, and the full and comprehensive set of all duly made representations can be accessed via the Council's consultation portal. They will all be considered accordingly in any re-drafting and modification.

### 3 Proposals

3.1 The proposal is that Members note the content of the summaries of main issues raised in respect of the Swale Borough Local Plan Review (Regulation 19) Pre-submission Consultation.

### 4 Alternative Options

4.1 None – this is an information item only.

### 5 Consultation Undertaken or Proposed

5.1 The consultation took place for 12 weeks between 08 February and 30 April 2021, following an extension to the originally planned 6 weeks. This was to take account of the impact of Covid-19. Furthermore, virtual meetings were held with a number of parish and town councils in which presentations were given, and question and answer sessions held. A video explaining what the consultation was for and how to respond was also published on the Council's website.

5.2 The proposed amendment to the Local Development Scheme, also being considered by this Panel in a separate report, sets out the timeline for any further consultation.

### 6 Implications

Issue	Implications
Corporate Plan	<p>The Local Plan Review has been prepared with the aim of delivering the spatial aims and objectives of the Corporate Plan. In particular, it supports:</p> <p>Priority 1: Building the right homes in the right places and supporting quality jobs for all.</p> <p>Priority 2: Investing in our environment and responding positively to global challenges.</p> <p>Priority 3: Tackling deprivation and creating equal opportunities for everyone.</p>
Financial, Resource and Property	<p>The preparation of the local plan is a statutory function of local planning authorities and the Local Plan Review has been prepared within budget.</p>
Legal, Statutory and Procurement	<p>The preparation of the local plan is a statutory requirement and is to be prepared within a legal, regulatory and national policy framework.</p>

	All work procured has been undertaken within the Council's own procurement framework.
Crime and Disorder	The Local Plan Review includes policies relating to design that aim to reduce crime and disorder.
Environment and Climate/Ecological Emergency	The Local Plan Review seeks to deliver sustainable development and has been subject to a Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulations Assessment.
Health and Wellbeing	The Local Plan Review includes policies and proposals that seek to improve the health and wellbeing of Swale's communities. This includes a strategic policy on health and wellbeing as well as policies on related matters such as increasing and improving open space.
Risk Management and Health and Safety	Risk management of the Local Plan Review process has been undertaken as part of the Council's wider risk register and risk management policies, procedures and practices.
Equality and Diversity	An Equalities Impact Assessment will be undertaken and presented as part of the suite of supporting documents when the plan is submitted to the Secretary of State. The need to address equality and diversity in the Local Plan Review has been a main consideration throughout its development.
Privacy and Data Protection	The preparation of the Local Plan Review (including associated evidence) has complied with privacy and data protection laws and regulations as required.

## 7 Appendices

- 7.1 The following documents are to be published with this report and form part of it:
- Appendix I: Summary of main issues raised in respect of the Swale Borough Local Plan Review (Regulation 19) Pre-submission Consultation.
  - Appendix II: Summary of the main issues raised in respect of the Swale Borough Local Plan Review (Regulation 19) Pre-submission Consultation: statutory consultees and neighbouring authorities.

## 8 Background Papers

- 8.1 The Swale Borough Local Plan Review (Regulation 19) Pre-submission document:

[https://services.swale.gov.uk/assets/Planning%20Policy%202019/FINAL%20Reg%2019%20\(RGB\)%20119MB.pdf](https://services.swale.gov.uk/assets/Planning%20Policy%202019/FINAL%20Reg%2019%20(RGB)%20119MB.pdf).