

<b>Title:</b>	Consultation on the City Plan
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<b>Purpose/Key Messages:</b>	To make the BHSP aware of the consultation on the City Plan, and to invite further comments from members
<b>Significance to BHSP</b>	The City Plan is the long term plan that provides the strategic framework for development in Brighton & Hove. The City Plan is sometimes referred to as the 'spatial expression ' of the sustainable community strategy, BHSP's key document
<b>What is BHSP being asked to do?</b>	To comment & contribute to the City Plan
<b>Next steps and report back mechanism</b>	Report back on consultation at a future BHSP meeting

## 1. What is the City Plan

The draft City Plan, Part 1 (formerly the Core Strategy) will provide the strategic framework for development to 2030. It will ensure there is the right balance of uses in the city; it will help regenerate underused sites and secure investment; and deliver priorities in other city strategies like the Sustainable Community Strategy.

## 2. Background

In autumn 2011 there was a six week options consultation on four policy areas being proposed for significant change:

- Housing targets and housing delivery
- Transport policy – Park and Ride
- Employment policy
- Student housing

Comments were made at three specially arranged events by 120 organisations and individuals and seventy-seven formal responses were received. The outcome of the consultation was reported to Cabinet on

the 10 May and the city council's responses to comments are set out in the Consultation Statement that accompanies the City Plan.

There was general support for the preferred options. The exception was the proposal to remove park and ride from the transport policy. The majority of respondents wanted to see park and ride retained as a future option.

### **3. City Plan Content**

In response to the above and to changes over time there have been a number of major changes to the City Plan, however approximately 70 per cent of the Plan/Core Strategy remains unchanged.

#### **3.1 Response to Consultation**

**Housing** – the preferred option was supported. The housing delivery policy target will be a minimum of 11,300 new homes provided by 2030 which, though below the identified demand, is a balanced and sustainable approach. The policy sets out how this will be achieved.

**Transport – Park and Ride** – it remains the case that park and ride is no longer deliverable in terms of the lack of sites and cost. In response to comments the policy sets out the alternative of making better use of existing car parks (linked to other uses like superstores, station car parks and the Community Stadium) on the periphery and outside the city by working with landowners, public transport providers and adjoining authorities. The policy has been amended to provide more detail on the measures that will help to deliver the strategy.

**Employment Policy** - the employment policy in the Plan is now in two parts. One addresses sustainable economic development and the second employment land. Other changes include:

- Central office area
- Supporting the city's growing sectors – New England Quarter a digital and media hub
- More sites in Plan
- Retaining secondary office and industrial sites

**Student Housing** – the option for a student housing policy was well supported and a policy (CP21 Student Housing and HMOs) has been added to the plan that address areas of over-concentration and purpose-built student accommodation.

#### **3.2 City Plan Structure**

The Plan contains a set of area policies:

**Eight Development Areas** – where the majority of development in the city will be directed. These are areas with good accessibility and/or with development potential, e.g. Lewes Road (DA3), Eastern Road/Edward Street (DA5) and New England Quarter and London Road (DA4).

Toads Hole Valley (DA7) is a new development area identified for mixed development that meets One Planet Living principles.

**Six Special Areas** – these are areas where there are a number of policies, strategies and priorities that benefit from a coordinated approach. The areas include the Seafront (SA1), Central Brighton (SA2) and Sustainable Neighbourhoods (SA6).

There are a set of **22 citywide policies** arranged under the four main themes of Strong and Prosperous City, Sustainable City, Attractive City and Healthy and Balanced Communities. These include policies on employment, housing, transport, design, public streets and places and open space.

**3.3** The **annexes** to the City Plan and the **Sustainability Appraisal** are also out for consultation.

The annexes are:

- **Implementation and Monitoring Table** – sets out how the successful implementation of policies will be measured.
- **Infrastructure Delivery Plan** – sets out the environmental, social and physical infrastructure to be delivered in the city by 2030.
- **Housing Implementation Strategy** – required by the government, this sets out the council's approach to managing the delivery of housing over the life of the Plan.

#### **4. The Steps Ahead**

Consultation on the City Plan will run for eight weeks from 28 May to 20 July. This is a genuine consultation stage and will be the last opportunity to suggest changes to the Plan. Consultation for the Plan includes the following:

Consultation on the Plan will include:

- **Publicity** – website, press releases, leaflets and summary documents;
- **Stakeholder Events** arranged – Launch Event (29 May), Community Groups Stakeholder Workshops (26 June) and the Sustainability Partnership Working Group (14 June). **Partnerships** -

Briefings at the B&H Strategic Partnership, Partnership Meetings and the Public Service Board; and a special meeting of the Transport Partnership is to be arranged.

- **Business Sector Events** –special meetings with the Economic Partnership, the Chamber of Commerce and a Question Time Event about Regeneration and the City Plan.
- **Community and Voluntary Sector Forum** – there have be discussions on measures to best reach wider groups to discussed with the CVSF.
- **Local Action Team Meetings** – attending meetings in the five wards affected by high concentrations of student housing and Houses in Multiple Occupation.

Following the end of the consultation period (20 July) the responses will be analysed and the Plan amended. The final version of the City Plan is due to go to full Council in December 2012 to seek authority for submission to the Secretary of State. Following a publication consultation stage, an examination will be held by an independent Inspector into the soundness of the Plan (Sept 2013). Once the Inspector's Report is received the City Plan can be taken forward to Council for adoption.

**Part 2 of the City Plan** will allocate sites and have a set of detailed development management policies.