

NOTES CASTLE POINT PLAN BOARD

1st November 2023

PRESENT:

Councillors: Gibson (Chairman), Blackwell, Fuller, Isaacs and Mountford, Palmer.

Officers in attendance: Ian Butt (Head of Place & Policy) Amanda Parrott (Planning Policy Manager), Neil Gale (Planning Policy Officer (Engagement), Maria Hennessy (Senior Planning Policy Officer), Matt Amner (Planning Policy Officer), Dominic Chessum (Communications).

Apologies: Hart, Mumford, S, Savage.

1. Agree notes of July, September and October meetings

- October – noted
- September and July notes were not previously agreed members will come back with any comments in the next week

2. Local Housing Needs Assessment

- The draft report was added to the folder today – Members to come back with any comments by 10th November.
- Consultants will be preparing slides and a script, that can be turned into an accessible video for the public to understand the main summary.
- The housing need figure determined through this evidence work is 255 dwellings per annum, compared to the previous 355 dwellings per annum based on the government's standard methodology.
- As part of the communications for this work it was agreed that people should be encouraged to look in depth into the report, because then people can fully appreciate and understand the work undertaken.
- Communications for this piece of work can be related to the urban capacity work.
- The publication of this document can be in mid-November. However, this is dependent on the number of comments back from Members.
- This is piece of work is only part of the process. The housing need is the first stage, the CPP will look to see if it can accommodate that need.
- There is a difference between housing needs, housing capacity and housing targets. This needs to be made clear in any communications.
- Residents also helped produce this work through the 501 telephone calls undertaken for research.

3. Urban Capacity Assessment

- The board were presented with a draft letter to send to landowners identified through the Urban Intelligence Placemaker tool. This is proactive engagement with landowners to understand availability of sites identified in the urban area that have the potential to be intensified. This is in addition to a wider call for sites scheduled for the beginning of 2024.

- Members suggested adding a frequently asked questions section to give landowners receiving the letter more information and a separate letter for private landowners and businesses.
- Member's asked officers to look at land that is unregistered, where someone is living there and ensure they do not receive a letter, where appropriate.
- A wider call for sites will be done in the new year, this has to be open to all landowners irrespective of location within the borough to ensure the Council has looked at all reasonable options when it comes to the examination. These sites will then be assessed using the same process through Placemaker.

4. ECC Consultation on Parking Standards

- Essex County Council (ECC) is consulting on an updated parking standards for the whole county. They have proposed parking standards based on high, moderate and low accessibility locations.
- Castle Point have an opportunity to have the outcomes of this consultation for the SS7 and SS8 postcodes, this will help inform the preparation of the CPP and see what the community's views are in the borough. The board were asked to promote this to our residents and encourage them to participate.
- Anyone can respond to the consultation.
- The board had no objections to promoting the consultation.
- Promoting the consultation does not constitute the Council's formal response to the ECC parking standards response. This needs to be clear in the communications for the promotion.

5. Engagement on Local Cycling and Walking Improvement Plan (LCWIP)

- An LCWIP was originally in the resource plan for the CPP.
- ECC had some funding and have commissioned this work.
- The LCWIP assesses the area for walking and cycling, it uses that information to produce desire lines or where people want to walk or cycle. The use of these lines looks at where there is potential to create more or better routes between these desire lines for walking and cycling.
- The board agreed to promote this work to see the public's views on this work.
- It was also agreed that we should feedback around the need for a link to the ports in Thurrock being identified.

6. Communications

- Discussed as part of each section.

5. Next Meeting

Workshop Meeting 16th November 2023 at 5pm.

Board Meeting 6th December 2023 at 5pm.