

# Place and External Relations Scrutiny Panel

## 9 January 2024

**Commenced:** 6.00pm

**Terminated:** 7.25pm

**Present:** Councillors Reid (Chair), Alam (Deputy), Ferguson, Glover, Gwynne, A Holland, McLaren, Robinson, Roderick

**Apologies:** Councillors Chadwick,

### 31. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest submitted by members of the Scrutiny Panel.

### 32. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Place and External Relations Scrutiny Panel held on 7 November 2023 were approved as a correct record.

### 33. LOCAL PLAN

The Panel welcomed Councillor Jan Jackson, Executive Member (Planning, Transport & Connectivity); Julian Jackson, Director of Place; and Graham Holland, Planning Policy Team Manager, to receive an update on developments and arrangements for Tameside.

Councillor Jackson introduced the item and provided an update on the Council's current position, requirements and the work ongoing at a local, regional and national level.

Members received background and context to plan making regarding the evidence base and legal requirements. A local development plan will focus on identifying and meeting the needs of the borough, consider the location for development and support the protection of existing assets. In order to deliver on key priorities and aspirations, the plan will give full consideration to:

- Employment and jobs
- Housing
- Affordable housing
- Town centres
- Design and delivery
- Green spaces

Reference was made to the Local Development Scheme and it was reported that going forward a proposed collection of plan documents will inform, support and establish a direction for the borough in updating and meeting all necessary requirements. This will include the following:

- Places for Everyone – joint development plan document for the region
- Home, Spaces, Places – Tameside's locality plan
- GM Joint Waste Development Plan
- GM Joint Minerals Plan

Background was provided on regional plan, Places for Everyone. The plan will be allocated between the combined authority and 9 districts, including Tameside, with adoption timetabled for early 2024. Members also received information on the development and scoping of Tameside's local development plan – Homes, Spaces Places. Scoping has included an integrated assessment, along with member and partner engagement.

It is important to establish clarity on ambitions set within the plan and what it aims to deliver and support as an overarching framework for people, places, homes, employment, travel and the environment. A plan-led system will therefore determine how the Council and partners deliver going forward, within an agreed structure to inform future development, regeneration and investment that best meets the needs of the borough as a whole.

Members received a timetable of proposed local development documents, including options appraisal, examination and adoption dates. Adoption of the local development plan document is set for autumn 2026.

Councillor Jackson and officers responded to a number of questions from the Panel on:

- Ambition and evidence based decision making.
- Challenges in relation to the supply of affordable housing and future priorities that reflect the needs of the local population.
- Developing for the future – inclusive, adaptable and accessible properties.
- Supported by improved infrastructure and networks.
- Effective and early engagement with residents and communities.
- Risks and opportunities associated with the locality plan going forward.

**Actions:** The points for action include:

- That the Scrutiny Panel is factored within future consultation activity and input to development and delivery stages of the local development plan.

#### **34. SCRUTINY MID-YEAR BUDGET LETTER**

The Chair presented response letter sent to the First Deputy (Finance, Resources & Transformation); and the Director of Resources, following the mid-year budget update received on 6 November 2023.

#### **35. CHAIR'S UPDATE**

The Chair updated members on:

- Scrutiny annual budget meetings arranged for 15 January 2024.
- Community Safety working group arranged for 18 January 2024.
- Plans for the next Scrutiny Panel meeting, with a focus on the delivery of major projects.

#### **36. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

To note that the next meeting of the Place and External Relations Scrutiny Panel will take place on Tuesday 5 March 2024.

#### **37. URGENT ITEMS**

The Chair reported that there were no urgent items for consideration at this meeting.

**CHAIR**