

1. **Comment on Breckland Local Plan Pre-Submission Publication** (Pages 2
- 4)

1. **Comment on Breckland Local Plan Pre-Submission Publication** (Pages 1
- 3)

CABINET MEMBERS DELEGATED DECISION

Open/Exempt		Would any decisions proposed :		
Any especially affected Wards	Mandatory/	Be entirely within Cabinet's powers to decide	YES/NO	
	Discretionary/	Need to be recommendations to Council	YES/NO	
	Operational	Is it a Key Decision	YES/NO	
Lead Member: Cllr R Blunt E-mail: cllr.richard.Blunt@west-norfolk.gov.uk		Other Cabinet Members consulted: None		
		Other Members consulted: None		
Lead Officer: Felix Beck E-mail: felix.beck@west-norfolk.gov.uk Direct Dial: 01553 616816		Other Officers consulted: Alan Gomm		
Financial Implications YES/NO	Policy/Personnel Implications YES/NO	Statutory Implications YES/NO	Equal Impact Assessment YES/NO If YES: Pre-screening/ Full Assessment	Risk Management Implications YES/NO
Date meeting advertised: 26 th September 2017		Date of meeting decision to be taken: 3 rd October 2017		
Deadline for Call-In: 10 th October 2017				

COMMENT ON BRECKLAND LOCAL PLAN PRE-SUBMISSION PUBLICATION

Summary

Breckland District Council published a pre-submission version of their Local Plan for the plan period to 2036. In regards to this publication, Breckland District Council asked the Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk, as neighbouring local planning authority for comments on their Local Plan.

Recommendation

That the proposed comment is submitted to Breckland District Council

Reason for Decision

To meet our legal requirement regarding the duty to cooperate.

Background

We are required by the duty to cooperate to cooperate with other local planning authorities.

Breckland District Council published a pre-submission version of their reviewed Local Plan for the plan period to 2036. Breckland District Council has asked for comments on this pre/submission document. Regarding the duty to cooperate we would like to submit the following comments:

Overall this response is generally focusing on the strategic vision and objectives of the Local Plan, as these relate more to the "duty to cooperate" issues between the Borough and Breckland. There are some comments on

specific policies, but generally we do not comment on how Breckland District Council chose, in detail, to address certain issues.

- In general we note and support cross border factors addressed within the Local Plan. E.g. issues such as policies relating to stone curlew and other protected species are comparable to King's Lynn & West Norfolk's policies. This is of particular importance since the SPA stone curlew 1500 m buffer also affects areas within King's Lynn & West Norfolk.
- We also note a broad consistency with our own policies and settlement hierarchy. Though, it seems noteworthy to mention that King's Lynn & West Norfolk is currently considering reinventing development boundaries for smaller villages & hamlets within our Local Plan review, which would present a slightly different approach than Breckland District Council.
- The employment land provision for the plan period to 2036, is in a comparable range of current employment land provision within King's Lynn & West Norfolk's Local Plan.
- Most of Breckland's settlements adjacent to the border with King's Lynn & West Norfolk are in the lower categories of Breckland's settlement hierarchy, e.g. Narborough, Rougham, Weeting, etc., with policies in place for these settlements, therefore any effects on King's Lynn & West Norfolk seem to be low.

In conclusion, Breckland Local Plan, its policies and the relevant evidence base is consistent and it can be pointed out, that within the Local Plan relevant objectives and strategies have been addressed in a sufficient way and is compatible to the Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk's approach.

Options Considered

None – it is a statutory requirement.

Policy Implications

None

Financial Implications

None

Personnel Implications

None

Statutory Considerations

The duty to cooperate is a legal test that requires cooperation between local planning authorities and other public bodies to maximise the effectiveness of policies for strategic matters in Local Plans. This is statutorily required.

Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

None

Risk Management Implications

None

Declarations of Interest / Dispensations Granted

None.

Signed:..... Cabinet Member for Development

Date:.....