

PLANNING AND INFRASTRUCTURE WORKING GROUP

Summary: To inform the Executive Committee of the current priorities and progress of the Planning and Infrastructure Working Group

Author: John Mills (Planning and Landscape Officer)

Recommendation: That the Executive Committee notes the current progress and priorities of the group.

MEMBERSHIP

- Liz Hodges – chairman
- Brendan Costelloe
- Matt Darby
- Mike Dean
- Graham Hopkins
- Cate Le Grice-Mack
- John Mills – lead officer
- Mandy Pressland – support officer

UPDATE

- The group had a meeting, via Zoom, on 13 May 2020. This was the group's first meeting since January 2020 and the first with the group's new members (Brendan, Cate and Graham, plus Mandy as support officer).
- The meeting primarily focussed on whether the group's Terms of Reference are still fit for purpose, taking into account new policy drivers that have come to the fore since the group was established in 2018.
- The key new policy drivers were identified as being 'the climate and nature emergency' and the Landscapes Review. It was also noted that, internally, there is now a stronger emphasis on the Board developing positive partnerships, developing great relationships with local authorities and demonstrating the 'added value' that the Board provides (including on planning-related issues).
- The Terms of Reference will be amended to take account of these policy drivers.
- The group endorsed the proposed approach, put forward by John Mills, for addressing the planning-related aspects of the Landscapes Review.
- The group also discussed how the group can be better engaged on planning-related issues. It was agreed that John would consult the group on all planning applications that match the Board's consultation criteria as soon as he is notified about them.