

Item for Information

Local Plan Consultation Update

Summary: This report provides a short update on the recent public consultation on the Draft North Norfolk Local Plan and associated documents.

Recommendation: The item is for information only.

Cabinet Member(s)	Ward(s) affected
Cllr Karen Ward	All
Contact Officer, telephone number and email: Mark Ashwell, mark.ashwell@north-norfolk.gov.uk , 01263 516325	

1. Background

1.1 The Draft North Norfolk Local Plan, the Options considered during its preparation, Sustainability Appraisal, Habitat Regulations Assessment, Landscape Character and Sensitivity Assessments, and the North Norfolk Design Guide were all published for a six-week period of public consultation commencing on the 7th of May and ending on the 19th of June. The advertised period was extended for a short period to allow for 'late' submissions.

1.2 During the consultation period the Council held twelve local drop in exhibitions supported by Officers from the Planning Policy Team and the wider planning department. These were held in each of the proposed 'Selected Settlements' where growth is being suggested in the Draft Plan. Overall, they were attended by approximately 1,000 people who had the opportunity to see displays of the proposals and ask questions of Officers about the proposals and how to get involve in the consultation. On request Officers from the team also attended a number of Town and Parish Council meetings and will continue to do so over the coming months as Plan preparation proceeds.

2. Representations

2.1 At the time of drafting this report the following representations had been received:

Table of Representations

Document	no of representations	no of consultees	additional letters / emails	late responses after 28 th June
Draft Plan	701 (+ 96) = 797	251 (+96) = 347	(96)	7
Alternatives Considered	82	36		

SA	4	4		
SA scope	1	1		
HRA	3	3		
Consultation statement	8	8		
LCA	3	3		
LSS	2	2		
Design Guide	TBC	TBC		
			included in total	
TOTAL	900	404	(96)	(7)

* Figures in brackets relate to those representations made outside of using the Consultation Portal.

2.2 Many representations cover **multiple policy areas and also reference other documents**. These will be split out into a consolidated schedule of representations over the coming weeks / month so that they are organised by policy area. The final total number of individual representations will therefore be significantly higher.

3. What happens Next?

3.1 Over the next few weeks Officers will sort all of the representations so that they are recorded against the specific Policies and Proposals included in the Draft Plan. This will then allow the Working Party to work through the Plan and consider where changes are desirable. This process is likely to take several months and in more complex areas may involve the preparation of further evidence. In each case Officers will prepare a report containing the representation (grouping similar representations together) and a recommended way forward.

3.2 A revised Plan will be prepared which, depending on the extent of modifications made, will be subject to either a single stage or two further stages of public consultation, before the Plan is submitted for independent examination by a government appointed Inspector. Alongside this, the Council will need to reach early decisions about its intended approach to growth in villages and start the complex process of identifying, appraising and consulting on potential development site options in these locations.

3.3 In relation to the Design Guide and Landscape Appraisals these are intended to be Supplementary Planning Documents and hence need not be subject to further consultation or independent examination before being approved for use. Separate reports will be brought to the Working Party in relation to these.

3.4 At the meeting Officers will up-date Members on the main areas which are subject to representations but it is not intended that any detailed consideration will be given to these at this meeting.

Recommendation: **This report is for Information only.**