

RUSHMOOR BOROUGH COUNCIL RECORD OF EXECUTIVE DECISION



Decision taken by individual Cabinet member

DECISION MAKER *(Name and designation)*

Cllr Keith Dibble, Portfolio Holder for Development & Economic Growth (in consultation Tim Mills, Head of Property and Growth)

DECISION AND THE REASON(S) FOR IT

Surrey Heath Borough Council has published their Pre-Submission (Regulation 19) Local Plan for consultation. At this stage in the Local Plan process, comments should focus on whether the Plan is legally compliant and whether it is 'sound'. The tests of soundness are set out in national planning policy and will form the basis against which the Plan is assessed at Examination.

Under Section 33A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by Section 110 of the Localism Act 2011) and in accordance with paras. 24-27 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2023), it is a requirement under the duty to cooperate for a local planning authority to engage constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis in the preparation of development plan documents and other documents.

In June 2024, the Council signed a Statement of Common Ground with Surrey Heath Borough Council on relevant strategic matters. The Surrey Heath Local Plan is in accordance with the Statement of Common Ground and, therefore, officers propose a response which sets out our support for the Local Plan. However, the response also reiterates that Rushmoor is unable to meet any of Surrey Heath's unmet housing need, particularly in light of the current government consultation on changes to the standard method for calculating housing need. The decision is made for the submission of this response to the consultation.

DATE DECISION TAKEN

19th September 2024

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

(Those examined by officers and generated by consultation, etc)

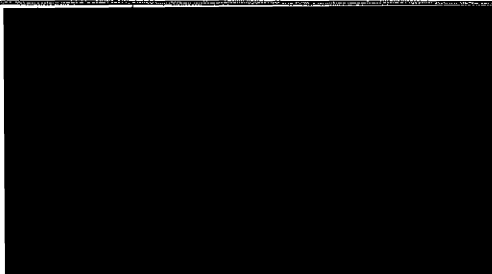
The Council could choose not to respond to the consultation, but this would not meet the legal obligations set out above and this provides the Council with an opportunity to reiterate our position in relation to unmet housing need.

ANY CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

(conflict of interests of any executive member who is consulted by the officer which relates to the decision. A note of dispensation should be attached).

N/A

Signed



29/24

Keith Dibble

(Decision maker)

Designation: Portfolio Holder for Development and Economic Growth

In consultation with **Tim Mills**

Designation: Head of Property and Growth.

Guidance notes for using this form

Recording executive decisions

New regulations¹ came into effect on 10 September 2012, under which Council officers and Cabinet members are required to record every decision they take which is connected to the discharge of a function which is the responsibility of the Executive (Cabinet). This applies whether the decision is taken by an officer or an individual Cabinet member. This record must be published on the Council's website.

Which executive decisions must be recorded?

The regulations state that any decision connected to the discharge of a function, which is the responsibility of the Cabinet, must be recorded and published. However, at Rushmoor we are restricting the recording requirement to those decisions that are 'closely' (rather than remotely) connected with the discharge of a function of the Cabinet. For guidance, this includes any decision that is either:

- A 'key decision'; or
- Delegated to an officer(s)/Cabinet member at a Cabinet meeting; or
- Delegated to an officer in consultation with a Cabinet member (within the scheme of delegation or authorised at Cabinet); or
- Any executive decision, whether or not it is in the Cabinet Scheme of Delegation, where there is a reasonable expectation of public interest in the matter being decided because it may have an impact on a community living or working in Rushmoor; or
- The subject of urgent action outside the Scheme of Delegation

Decisions which are administrative in nature – for example, purchasing low value items or are otherwise minor or routine, need not be recorded.

In addition, some decisions would be considered exempt from publication because, for example, they affect particular individuals rather than the public in general or concern the business affairs of any person (including the Council) where the information could be claimed to be commercially sensitive.

What are key decisions?

Key decisions are not usually taken by individual Cabinet members or officers, unless specifically delegated by the Cabinet.

A key decision is one which is likely to:

¹ The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012