

UPDATES FROM TASK AND WORKING GROUPS

Local Plan Task Group

Since the last update to E&S Committee, the task group has met to discuss the Local Green Space proposed designations, the response to Surrey County Council's draft Minerals and Waste Joint Plan issues and options consultation and received a presentation from Building with Nature to help support the Green and Blue Infrastructure policy. Further discussions were held on the potential Green Belt release sites following receipt of information requested by Members. The joint meeting with the Staines Development Task Group to discuss the draft Infrastructure Delivery Plan was postponed as additional information is still being sought from the NHS and Surrey County Council. A further change since the last update is that members of the Staines Development Task Group not already on LPTG are now invited to LPTG meetings to observe and speak but not vote when a consensus view is required, and vice versa.

Staines Development Task Group

The group has met throughout January and February to discuss a range of topics, including specific development sites (Two Rivers North and the Elmsleigh Centre), transport and public realm proposals, the Riverside Car Park and surrounding area, and the potential for an exemption to the zoning proposals to allow schemes that deliver significant benefits to exceed the height and density restrictions in limited circumstances. David Lock Associates, the consultants working with Spelthorne, are now busy producing a draft of the Framework to be brought back to members of the task group in March for review ahead of the next stage of public consultation and no further meetings are currently scheduled until that review. The Chair of the task group has been producing an update after each meeting to provide further information on what was discussed and these can be found on our website.

CIL Task Group

The CIL Task Group met in January, and at a follow up meeting in February to discuss a bid from Surrey Police for a Police Engagement Van. It was decided not to recommend the bid in its current form for approval, due to it not being an essential requirement, and with a diesel engine, it does not support the Council's Green Agenda. Feedback has been provided, and the applicant is aware a more 'eco-friendly' scheme could be considered in the future.

With the above in mind, there are no formal decisions to take to the Spelthorne Joint Committee in March, however, a CIL progress report will be provided as agreed.

Climate Change Working Group

Since the last meeting the working group has met to discuss:-

- Proposed bids for Green Initiatives Funding
- EV Procurement
- Staff/Member Training
- Task Teams

Under task teams, key topics were outlined for Councillors to show an interest in and take forward. The only group to form, the Communications Task Group has met and discussed training for members and staff together with the start of a communications plan with our residents to encourage them to become more sustainable in their actions.