

Neighbourhood Planning Support and Prioritisation: Portfolio Holder Report

Summary

SDC is preparing a support package for town and parish councils wishing to undertake Neighbourhood Planning. Local authorities have a duty to support these councils in their plan preparation, as provided by the Localism Act and subsequent Neighbourhood Planning Regulations. The proposed support mechanisms are set out below and include establishing a Neighbourhood Planning Forum and an online resource page.

SDC is able to offer all town and parish councils support in developing neighbourhood plans. However, the level of support may need to be prioritised depending on the level of interest in this form of planning. The proposed criteria for prioritising SDC's support are set out below.

Recommendation

That the proposed support package is prepared and implemented and support is prioritised in line with the outlined criteria.

Proposed Prioritisation of Neighbourhood Planning Support

SDC is able to offer all town/parish councils support in developing neighbourhood plans. The forms of support we can offer are set out below. We may also be able to provide Councils with tailored support, but this may need to be prioritised depending on the level of interest. The criteria for prioritising Council's for tailored support are set out below.

Support available to all town/parish council:

- Dedicated online SDC resource
- Participation in Neighbourhood Planning Forum
- Named contact officer within SDC
- Advice on national and local plan policies
- Review of draft documents
- Provision of contacts for external partners, including statutory consultees

Tailored support:

- Participation in steering groups
- Review of interim drafts
- Mapping / GIS support
- Advice on assessments and evidence base

Prioritisation:

- Town/parish areas with planned growth
- Town/parish priority areas for regeneration
- Town/parish areas with Plan Steering Groups and work programmes