

Extract of report to Cabinet Member for Managed Growth 25th September 2018

7.3 This will require a revised timetable as follows:

- Publication of Draft Local Plan (Supplementary Update) – winter 2018/19
- Publication of Submission Draft (for consultation) – summer 2019
- Submission to Secretary of State – autumn 2019
- Examination of plan – winter 2019/2020
- Adoption of the Local Plan Review – spring/summer 2020 8. What options have been considered and what is the evidence telling us about them?

8.1 The broad alternatives¹¹ available at this stage include:

(a) Progressing with the publication and submission of the next version of the plan as soon as possible.

(b) Publish an additional non statutory supplement to the Draft Local Plan detailing additional/alternative sites.

(c) Restart the local plan review by repeating the ‘issues and options’ consultation undertaken in light of the HMA wide longer term housing need and the SGS options.

(d) Suspend preparation of the local plan review until the duty to cooperate discussions have firmly established a housing requirement for the Borough.

9. Reasons for recommending preferred option

9.1 It remains a priority of the Council to have a reviewed development plan in place as soon as possible, but it is also important to ensure that a robust plan is prepared that the Council considers is a sound basis for putting forward to examination.

9.2 Option (a) is not recommended as this is unlikely to incorporate a housing requirement that would be supported across the HMA (and thus has a greater risk of being found unsound) and any additional/alternatives sites would not have had the opportunity to be tested through informal consultation.

9.3 Option (c) is not recommended as although this would result in a plan having the best chance of being found sound, it would result in significant delay to plan production. This option would require a long term view of development at least up until 2036 (and more than likely beyond) to be taken now.

9.4 Option (d) is not recommended as it would result in significant delay and be open to other as yet unknown factors impacting upon the timescale, especially if duty to cooperate discussions are not concluded.

9.5 Option (b) is preferred as it allows progress, in an open manner, to continue to be made but recognises that a number of other issues need to be pursued further to enable a sound plan to be submitted. It represents a balance between options (a) and (c)