

Appendix 1

MSDC UPDATE

Mid Sussex District Plan

On 11th July MSDC submitted the Regulation 19 draft District Plan to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS). This starts the formal Examination phase of the plan which is now in the hands of PINS for consideration. As part of the submission the evidence library and all responses the Reg 19 draft were submitted to PINS.

PINS will appoint an Inspector to review the plan and he/she is likely to make some formal observations before the plan proceeds to a public examination which is likely to start this autumn. Subject to the public examination and the findings of the Inspector the plan would move to adoption in the spring of 2025

A change to the calculation of the housing requirement has meant that there is a slightly higher resilience in the plan moving the surplus over the housing requirement from 996 units to 1042 units (105.5% of the housing requirement) across the plan period. A further change is to extend the plan period from 2039 to 2040.

Martlets Shopping Centre

Redevelopment of the Martlets Shopping Centre is a corporate priority for MSDC. A market led approach to unlocking redevelopment has not demonstrated commercial viability (hence two approaches to the Levelling Up fund).

At a Cabinet meeting on 15th July the open and exempt agenda item on the Martlets Shopping Centre agreed to continue the work on the negotiations of a public-private JV between MSDC and NRR. The following was agreed:

- (i) Carefully consider the work since January 2024 to develop a proposal to take forward the re-development of the Martlets Shopping Centre.*
- (ii) Request that Officers continue to negotiate the financial and legal terms of a proposed Joint Venture and update Cabinet in September.*
- (iii) Assuming work progresses well, that the Council should receive a full report on this matter at its September meeting.*

Parks Masterplan

Cabinet has approved the procurement of the build contract for the first phase of the building works for the Parks Masterplan. In line with the agreed strategy this will see works commence at:

- (i) Mount Noddy Recreation Ground, East Grinstead
- (ii) Victoria Park, Haywards Heath
- (iii) Hemsleys Meadow and Finches Field, Pease Pottage

Phase 2 of the Masterplan includes St Johns Park, including improvements to St Johns Pavilion. Funding for Phases 1 & 2 comes predominantly from s106 contributions and grants from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (MSDC was awarded £1m - £328k of which is allocated to projects in Burgess Hill).

Centre for Outdoor Sport

Work is underway on the construction of the new Centre for Outdoor Sport with the expectation now that all the pitches (artificial and turf) will be delivered in phase one.

Parking Strategy

In line with MSDC's agreed Budget and Corporate Plan for 2024/25, a period of formal consultation commenced on 11th July on the proposed changes to parking fees.

The specific proposals are:

- Extending the current charging hours for all town centre car parks until 8pm.
- Introducing a daily tariff for Sundays and Bank Holidays of £1.50 in East Grinstead and Haywards Heath, and £1.00 in Burgess Hill car parks.

The formal consultation period lasts for 21 days from 11th July. During this period anyone will be able to submit comments by emailing parkingconsultation@midsussex.gov.uk.

Additional information and background reports can be found on the Mid Sussex District Council website at <https://www.midsussex.gov.uk/parking-travel/parking/>

Officers are also tasked with working up proposals for investment in the Council's parking estate including the introduction of new technologies.

Cllr Robert Eggleston