

MOTIONS TO COUNCIL – MOTION TEMPLATE

Date of Council Meeting	26 October 2023
Title of Motion	Stroud Local Plan
Proposer	Councillor Haydn Jones
Seconder	Councillor Chris Evans
Recommendation for Council to vote on	<p>Council resolves that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Party leaders or their nominees should be included in the decision making process to resolve this issue. • Any modifications to the plan should be subject to full public consultation, the results published, described and reflected where appropriate in the plan. • A change of fundamental strategy to address identified challenges, including site selection, should be explored with key stakeholders. • Resolution to areas of highlighted concern raised by inspectors should be subject to proper independent analysis discrete from site promoter evidence. • The 5 year land supply should be updated and made public on a 6 monthly basis in line with current practice. • Every effort should be made to work with all partners involved including National Highways and the County Council.
Context for the motion (i.e. why is the motion being submitted – what is the proposer aiming to achieve)	<p>This Council Notes the challenges highlighted, fundamental soundness concerns raised and advice provided by Planning Inspectors regarding the Draft Stroud Local Plan. It recognises that all Political Groups need to work together to resolve this as effectively as possible in the interests of all our communities. It recognises the potential threat of development beyond the scope of a properly made Local Plan, where control of site selection is limited and delivery of essential infrastructure, including transport and education, is not coordinated.</p>
Motions must be about matters for which the Council has a responsibility or which affect the District – please confirm how this criteria is met	Relates to the Stroud Local Plan review.

<p>Which Council Plan Priority does the Motion support? (select all that apply)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Environment and Climate Change – Protecting our environment and leading the district to carbon neutrality in 2030 2. Community Resilience and Wellbeing – Strengthening and supporting our communities so people feel included and connected 3. Economy, Recovery and Regeneration – Supporting a thriving and resilient local economy
<p>Does the motion have potential financial or resource implications for the Council – if yes advise what these might be</p> <p>Financial implications limited to ongoing Strategic Planners time associated with Local Plan review including independent expert analysis & cost of public consultation.</p>
<p>Does the motion have potential legal or constitutional implications for the Council – if yes advise what these might be</p> <p>Not aware.</p>
<p>Are there any Environmental or Climate Change Implications that the Council should be aware of – if yes advise what these might be</p> <p>Climate and environmental considerations are part of the Local Plan process.</p>
<p>Are there any equalities impacts associated with the motion? If yes an equalities impact assessment will be required</p> <p>Not aware.</p>
<p>Does the motion require further background information to enable the Council to make a decision– if yes advise what might be required</p> <p>General Local Plan overview.</p>

OFFICER IMPLICATIONS

Officer Name	Mark Russell
Officer Title	Head of Planning Strategy and Economic Development
Officer Contact Details	Mark.russell@stroud.gov.uk
<p>Has the Council or is the Council doing any work at the current time in relation to this motion or any associated issues? If yes please add details</p> <p>The Council is currently progressing the Draft Local Plan Review which is currently at Examination. The Council also produces regular housing monitoring information.</p>	
<p>Does the motion support any of the priorities set out in the Council Plan?</p> <p>The Motion is intended to resolve matters relating to the adoption of the Local Plan.</p>	
<p>Does the motion have potential financial or resource implications for the Council – if yes advise what these might be and confirm whether budget is available</p> <p>The request for a change of fundamental strategy to be explored with key stakeholders has resource implications relating to the amount of time taken up by officers. If carried, this would significantly impact on officers being able to undertake other duties, including those tasks set out in our Action Plan sent to the Inspectors on 12 September 2023.</p>	

Does the motion have potential legal or constitutional implications for the Council – if yes advise what these might be

The current Local Plan examination process is governed by legal procedures set by the Planning Inspectorate and some of the elements of the motion imply that the Council currently has discretion where none exists, for example, references to undertaking full public consultation, inviting independent analysis and considering a change of fundamental strategy are matters which the Planning Inspectors have jurisdiction over, not the Council.

Are there any Environmental or Climate Change Implications that the Council should be aware of – if yes advise what these might be

There are no specific Environmental or Climate Change Implications that the Council should be aware of.

Should an equality impact assessment be completed before the deliberation of this motion?

No, the motion does not raise any particular equality implications.

Does the motion require further background information to be carried out to enable the Council to make a decision – if so advised what might be required

Yes, officers are preparing a briefing note to assist members to consider the various aspects of the motion.

END