

ITEM 6 – PLANNING PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK

Report by: Deborah Armstrong, Planning Officer

Purpose

This report presents the 2019/2020 SESplan Planning Performance Framework (PPF) to the SESplan Joint Committee for information.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the SESplan Joint Committee:

1. Note the SESplan Planning Performance Framework attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

Resource Implications

As set out below.

Legal and Risk Implications

All risks are detailed in the SESplan Risk Register and reported to Joint Committee on an annual basis.

Policy and Impact Assessment

No separate impact assessment is required.

1. Background

- 1.1 Planning Performance Frameworks (PPF) were introduced by Scottish Government in 2012. Developed by the Heads of Planning Scotland and supported by the Scottish Government, the framework captures key elements of a high-performing planning service, such as speed of decision-making, certainty of timescales, process and advice, delivery of good quality development, project management, clear communications and open engagement and an overall 'open for business' attitude.
- 1.2 The framework gives a balanced assessment of the quality of the planning service and is used to drive a culture of continuous improvement. All planning authorities, strategic development plan authorities and seven key agencies prepare a PPF report annually.

- 1.3 PPF reports contain both qualitative and quantitative elements of performance and set out proposals for service improvement. PPF reports are available on the [Heads of Planning Scotland](#) website.

2. Planning Performance Framework and Annual Report

2.1 Appendix 1 contains the ninth PPF prepared by the Strategic Development Plan Authority (SDPA) for Edinburgh and South East Scotland (SESplan). SESplan is also required to prepare an annual report covering the same period as the annual PPF and containing a review of SESplan's governance arrangements, membership and operation of the SESplan Joint Committee, a review of the key milestones achieved and the year ahead. As there are many cross overs and linkages between the PPF and Annual Report, SESplan incorporated the Annual Report into the PPF Report from 2017/2018 onwards. The PPF report is attached as Appendix 1 and covers the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020. Key points to note:

- Given the recent decision by Scottish Ministers to reject the Proposed SDP (SDP2) on the 16th May 2019, SDP1 approved in June 2013 and the associated Housing Land Supplementary Guidance adopted in October 2014, remains the extant development plan for the South East of Scotland until such time as new planning legislation comes into force;
- A Housing Land Position Statement was issued by SESplan within the last year, in light of the rejection of the Proposed SDP2. It set out a number of criteria which can be taken into account as material consideration in the determination of planning applications;
- SESplan achieved a red RAG rating for having a SDP over 5 years old. However, this has arisen as a result of the Proposed SDP2 being rejected by Scottish Ministers;
- Draft Supplementary Guidance (SG) Green Networks was published for consultation in 2018/19, which ended on the 10th April 2019. However, given the decision by Scottish Ministers to reject the Proposed SDP2, there is no longer a basis for this supplementary guidance to proceed to approval;
- SESplan has met all service improvements for 2019/20, with improvements related to updates on the implications arising from The Planning (Scotland) Act 2019, engagement with member authority services and other stakeholders and governance; and
- Service improvements for 2020/21 focus on the delivery of the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019, continued communication on the delivery of the planning review, continued engagement, improved customer feedback and continued support for SESplan duties in the absence of a core team and governance. Furthermore, providing ongoing support to the transition of SESplan to working as part of a wider regional partnership and in the preparation of the Regional Spatial Strategies.

2.2 The PPF for 2019/2020 has been formally submitted to the Scottish Government for review with feedback to be shared with the Joint Committee when published.

Appendices

Appendix 1 Planning Performance Framework Annual Report 2019/2020

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