

## **Planning Inspectorate approves modifications to Development Management Policies Local Plan**

A seven-week consultation on our emerging Development Management Policies Local Plan ended on Thursday 2 February. The Planning Inspectorate found that if we implement the suggested 'main modifications', the plan will meet all legal and national policy requirements. We will now consider whether to adopt the plan at the Extraordinary Council meeting on the 22 March.

Lead Councillor for Planning Policy, Cllr Joss Bigmore said:

"This is great news for the progression of our Development Management Policies Local Plan. It means that we can progress with the strong requirements on new development that we had hoped for."

"The draft Development Management Policies Local Plan, and all the policies it contains, is so important. We get to set the standards that developers must meet. Our proposed policies cover topics such as heritage, biodiversity, climate change, design, infrastructure and transport.



"We are especially pleased that the Inspector has not reduced our class-leading requirement of at least 20% Biodiversity Net Gain on development sites. This is higher than the national requirement of 10%. In fact, most of our policies are not the subject of the Inspector's proposed main modifications."

Once adopted, our new Development Management Policies Local Plan will become the starting point for our decision-making for planning and development, together with the Local Plan Strategy and Sites (LPSS). It will also replace the policies that remain from the existing Local Plan 2003.