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South
Cambridgeshire
District Council

6 July 2022

To: The Leader – Councillor Bridget Smith

Deputy Leader - Councillor Judith Rippeth

Members of the Cabinet – Councillors John Batchelor, Bill Handley, Dr. Tumi Hawkins, Peter McDonald, Brian Milnes and John Williams

Quorum: Three, including the Leader or Deputy Leader

Dear Councillor

This is a supplement to the previously-published agenda for the meeting of **Cabinet** on **Monday, 11 July 2022**, containing those reports which had not been received by the original publication deadline.

Yours faithfully Liz Watts Chief Executive

Requests for a large print agenda must be received at least 48 hours before the meeting.

Agenda

Pages

5. Public Questions

The deadline for receipt of public questions is 23:59 on Tuesday, 5 July 2022.

The Council's scheme for public speaking at committee meetings may be inspected here:

Public Speaking Scheme

a) From Mrs. Elizabeth McWilliams

In the news currently are two issues totalling nearly £33m of 'funding shortfalls' between developer promises and what can be achieved in the S106 agreements - significant projects that were originally going to be paid for by the developer, but that now require public monies in order to be completed:

- i) the request to the Greater Cambridge Partnership for £20m to relocate the railway station from Waterbeach to the New Town;
- ii) South Cambs District Council investing £12.85m in Northstowe for a sports pavilion and other community facilities.

My question (in 3 parts) is about how South Cambs District Council is going to avoid

any more such large projects requiring public funding, specifically:

- 1) What risk assessment has been undertaken on other developments currently between outline planning stage and finalisation of S106 agreements?
- 2) Has that risk assessment process identified any other projects at risk of funding shortfall?
- 3) What lessons has the Council learned about how to do this better in future?

b) From Mr. Tim Andrews

I am a Fulbourn resident who lives off Cow Lane, very near to Fulbourn Fields. I'm very disappointed that the developer has won its legal challenge to build 110 houses on the site off Teversham Road.

South Cambs District Council had refused the reserved matters application last year but the developer was able to convince the planning inspector to support the plans, particularly concerning the flood risk.

As one of many people directly affected by the substantial potential flood risk arising as a consequence of this of development proceeding, I'd like to ask Councillor Smith and/or Councillor Hawkins what their reaction is to the decision and what will the Council do differently another time.

c) From Mr. Daniel Fulton

Mr. Daniel Fulton wishes to make a statement about the primacy of the rule of law in the democratic process.

d) From Mrs. Jennie Conroy

In the case of NEC having been included in the emerging Local Plan how will the Council fulfil its obligations to respond to the consultation feedback at Reg 18, demonstrate the evolution of the plan in response to this and new evidence as it emerges given the DCO application this Autumn, to relocate to the Green Belt, will be founded on the case of a benefit of 8350 new homes, as specified in the draft NECAAP, and this outweighing the environmental costs of the relocation and site selection?

Examples of feedback and emerging evidence that could influence the emerging Local Plan include: lack of sustainability in the context of existing water supply, Natural England's assertion that without evidence of water supply in place the growth target will require extending beyond the plan period i.e. there will be a requirement of a reduction in housing growth targets to 2041; the environmental and economic costs to the public purse of a relocation of the future proofed water treatment works as a means to fulfil the scale of housing development proposed not to be fully known until the DCO submission; alternative options to fulfil the long standing objective for mixed development including housing at NEC that does not require the relocation of the waste water treatment works, evidenced by the existing Local Plan and recent planning applications; the existence of viable alternative site allocations for the 3,900 homes specified for NEC in the emerging plan period amongst identified development areas

and or new sites emerging excluding Green Belt and surrounding villages; legacy housing in the emerging Local Plan, excluding North East Cambridge in excess of 15,000 for build out beyond 2041, negating the requirement of the balance of 4,450 homes at North East Cambridge either now or the distant future; the evolution of additional and alternative sustainable transport networks linking core housing and employment sites including NEC, such as Waterbeach Newtown, Cambourne and Cambridge East (the Airport development) in effect undermining the qualification for the scale, environmental and economic cost of NECAAP on the basis of it being the 'most sustainable large scale brownfield site'; updates on employment and housing growth requirements in January 2023 and resulting reviews of site allocations including cost benefit analysis.

