

Licensing and Planning Policy Committee
(Date of Meeting)

SURREY PLACE AMBITION CONSULTATION

Head of Service:	Victoria Potts, Head of Place Development
Wards affected:	(All Wards);
Urgent Decision?(yes/no)	No
If yes, reason urgent decision required:	
Appendices (attached):	Appendix 1 – Epsom and Ewell Borough Council's response

Summary

Surrey County Council is seeking responses to its draft Surrey 2050 Place Ambition Strategy, and Implementation Framework by 4 March 2022.

The consultation response supports the high-level principles but raises concern over the identification of Epsom as part of the Strategic Opportunity Area 6, because the consequences of this and how it relates to our own local strategy for growth and meeting local housing requirements is unclear.

Recommendation (s)

The Committee is asked to:

- (1) Note the contents of the Surrey Place Ambition and agree the consultation response at Appendix 1.**
- (2) Approve delegated authority to the Head of Place Development and Chair of Licensing Planning Policy Committee to finalise and submit the Council's response to Surrey County Council.**

1 Reason for Recommendation

- 1.1 To ensure that Members are informed about the contents of the Surrey 2050 Place Ambition and agree the council's response to this.

2 Background

- 2.1 Surrey County Council working in partnership with Surrey districts and boroughs and other key stakeholders have published the Surrey 2050 Place Ambition for stakeholder consultation until 4 March 2022. Members are requested to note the contents of the document together with our draft response which will be submitted to the County Council.

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- 2.2 The preparation of the Surrey 2050 Place Ambition has evolved over time with input from Surrey districts and boroughs. The Surrey 2050 Place Ambition sets out what Surrey's strategic partners want to collectively achieve over the next 30 years in terms of good growth. By working collaboratively and in partnership, there is the likely prospect to achieve a long term and coordinated approach to growth in Surrey that is well aligned to infrastructure planning and delivery. The Surrey Place Ambition is not intended to replace or conflict with district and borough local plans, but to complement them and to provide a framework to align plans with infrastructure priorities of the County Council and other infrastructure providers.
- 2.3 The Surrey 2050 Place Ambition has been informed by various factors, including climate change and environment, economic, spatial, infrastructure and health and wellbeing at the local, county, regional and national levels.
- 2.4 Whilst Surrey is an important growth hub for the United Kingdom's economy, there is a need to address the existing and future infrastructure deficit which places constraint on investment opportunities and development potential. The Surrey 2050 Place Ambition provides the necessary partnership framework for this to be achieved in an integrated and coordinated manner. The delivery of the Surrey 2050 Place Ambition will require continuous political commitment.

Vision and strategic priorities of the Surrey 2050 Place Ambition

- 2.5 The Surrey 2050 Place Ambition sets out a clear vision – a county of well-functioning and connected communities and a high-quality life. It also sets out four strategic priorities, which are:
1. Improve connectivity both within Surrey and between other strategic important hubs;
 2. Enhance the place offer of Surrey's towns, which includes Epsom;
 3. Maximise the potential of our Strategic Opportunity Areas. For the avoidance of doubt, the Surrey 2050 Place Ambition identifies eight Strategic Opportunity Areas. These are:
 - Longcross – Staines - Heathrow corridor;
 - Woking hub;
 - Guildford hub;
 - Blackwater Valley corridor;
 - Cranleigh – Dunsfold corridor;
 - Epsom – Leatherhead corridor;
 - M23 - Gatwick corridor; and
 - M25 J6/A22 South Godstone
- 2.6 The Strategic opportunity Area 6: Epsom-Leatherhead Corridor occupies a strategic location between Heathrow and Gatwick.
- 2.7 The key challenges identified for this SOA in the implementation plan are:

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- Congestion around J9 of M25 and on surrounding roads
- Delay to Crossrail 2
- Impact of permitted development rights
- Town centre accessibility and connectivity issues
- Unknown impact of Covid-19 on the commercial market
- Insufficient start up and grow on space

2.8 Key actions identified for this SOA are:

- Collaborative work with National Highways to address highway issues at M25 J9 and surrounding roads such as the A243 and A24.
- Delivery of Crossrail 2 to improve service frequency, speed and capacity into central London and delays to this scheme will have an impact on the potential of the SOA.
- In a shift away from car dominated centres, creation of segregated cycling and walking routes as well as bus connectivity linking employment and education areas,
- Support for 20- minute neighbourhoods responding to changing working practices and demands on local centres.
- Retention of key strategic employment areas. However, it is recognised that some renewal of employment areas will be required. The full impact of Covid-19 on the commercial market remains to be seen.
- Support for the creation of an enterprise centre/ zone suitable for the creation and growth of creative and technology-based businesses in conjunction with partners such as UCA and Northeast Surrey College of Technology (NESCOT).

2.9 Priority Outcomes for this SOA are:

- Support the regeneration, economic potential, and competitiveness of the SOA
- Increased active travel options which will help address challenges around climate change and support health and wellbeing
- Increase in renewable and low carbon energy supply and improved digital connectivity.

Delivering the Surrey 2050 Place Ambition/Good Growth

2.10 The Surrey 2050 Place Ambition will be delivered through:

- District and borough local plans and other strategies;
- Countywide strategies and plans; and
- Sub-national strategies and plans.

3 Risk Assessment

Legal or other duties

3.1 Impact Assessment

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3.1.1 There are no additional impacts arising from this report.

3.2 Crime & Disorder

3.2.1 There are no implications regarding crime and disorder arising from this report.

3.3 Safeguarding

3.3.1 There are no implications regarding safeguarding arising from this report.

3.4 Dependencies

3.4.1 There are no implications regarding dependencies arising from this report.

3.5 Other

3.5.1 There are no other impacts arising from this report.

4 Financial Implications

4.1 There are no direct financial implications for the purposes of this report.

4.2 **Section 151 Officer's comments:** None arising for the purposes of this report.

5 Legal Implications

5.1 There are no direct legal implications for the purposes of this report.

5.2 **Legal Officer's comments:** None arising from the content of this report.

6 Policies, Plans & Partnerships

6.1 **Council's Key Priorities:** The following Key Priorities are engaged:

6.2 The Surrey Place Ambition relates to two key themes and their objectives in the EEBC Four Year Plan. These are: 'A successful place with a strong, dynamic local economy where people can thrive', and 'Alive and connected socially, economically, geographically and digitally'.

6.3 **Service Plans:** The matter is not included within the current Service Delivery Plan.

6.4 **Climate & Environmental Impact of recommendations:** None arising from this report.

6.5 **Sustainability Policy & Community Safety Implications:** None arising from this report.

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6.6 **Partnerships:** The Surrey 2050 Place Ambition has been developed in partnership with Surrey districts and boroughs and other key stakeholders as part of the Surrey Future's Partnership.

7 Background papers

7.1 The documents referred to in compiling this report are as follows:

Previous reports:

- None

Other papers:

- [Surrey Place Ambition Consultation - draft for consultation](#)
- [Surrey Place Ambition Implementation Framework - draft for consultation](#)