

Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership

Joint Strategic Economic Committee

11 February 2016

Strategic Housing Market Assessment and Functional Economic Market Area Update

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To provide an update on progress with the Joint Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) and Functional Economic Market Assessment (FEMA) for Wiltshire and Swindon; and on arrangements for the Joint Working Group.

2. Background

- 2.1 Progress on the Joint SHMA and FEMA was reported to Committee in December 2015. A suggested approach towards joint working relationships between Wiltshire Council and Swindon Borough Council and how Councillors will be engaged in the SHMA/FEMA process through a Joint Working Group was agreed.

3. Joint Working Group

- 3.1 The membership of the Senior Officer/Councillors Joint Working Group has now been established as follows:

Wiltshire Council

- Councillor Fleur de Rhé-Phillipe - Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Skills and Strategic Transport
- Councillor Toby Sturgis - Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning, Development Management, Strategic Housing, Property and Waste
- Councillor Jonathon Seed - Cabinet Member for Housing, Leisure, Libraries and Flooding
- Alistair Cunningham - Associate Director, Economic Development and Planning

Swindon Borough Council

- Councillor Emma Famarzi - Cabinet Member for Housing and Public Safety
- Councillor Garry Perkins - Cabinet Member for Economy, Regeneration and Skills
- Councillor Toby Elliott - Cabinet Member for Communities and Strategic Planning

- Richard Bell - Head of Planning, Regulatory Services & Heritage

3.2 On 16th February a meeting of the Joint Working Group will be convened to consider the initial consultations and information gathering exercises undertaken to date by the consultants and next steps to progress the work.

4. Project Progress

4.1 A number of initial information gathering tasks have been undertaken to help inform the SHMA and FEMA, as follows:

- (i) With 'Duty to Co-operate' stakeholders as defined in the Localism Act 2011 via e-mail, regarding the SHMA/FEMA methodology; including local authorities, Environment Agency, Historic England, English Heritage, Natural England, Highways Agency, Home and Communities Agency and Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group.
- (ii) Structured interviews are currently taking place to obtain the views of stakeholders on the housing market including the Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), Ministry of Defence, development industry, and registered social providers.
- (iii) Face to face 1-2-1 interviews are being undertaken to specifically inform the FEMA. Consultees include a mix of public and private sector representatives, such as Swindon and Wiltshire LEP, Business West, Forward Swindon, Enterprise Wiltshire and the Federation of Small Businesses.
- (iv) Workshop with neighbouring local authorities on 21st January consistent with the Duty to Co-operate to consider the methodology and the approach to SHMA/FEMA for Wiltshire.

5. Recommendation

To Note the content of the report and progress being made on the Strategic Housing Market Assessment and Functional Economic Market Assessment.

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