

## **COMMENTS FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (PERFORMANCE AND GROWTH)**

### **BUCKDEN NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN: EXAMINATION OUTCOME AND PROGRESSION TO REFERENDUM**

- 4.1 The Panel discussed the Buckden Neighbourhood Development Plan: Examination Outcome and Progression to Referendum at its meeting on 9th December 2020.
- 4.2 A comment is made regarding the references within the Neighbourhood Plan to the fact that it conforms to European Union (EU) regulations in the context of the United Kingdom's departure from the EU. As things stand, the Neighbourhood Plan must conform to EU regulations until the regulations no longer apply.
- 4.3 A further comment is made about the possibility that local communities might develop a Neighbourhood Plan which conflicts with the District Council's Local Plan. The rule is that Neighbourhood Plans must be consistent with the District Council's Local Plan.
- 4.4 Attention is drawn to a cycle route shown to be in Grafham Parish. Members have been informed that the cycle route referenced only shows an indicative route and that policies can only be applied within the Neighbourhood Plan area. In this case the Panel wants to ensure that the Plan is compatible with the parameters imposed on the form of the Neighbourhood Plan.
- 4.5 The Panel has a positive view of the Neighbourhood Plan where the Parish Council has prioritised a list of projects.
- 4.6 The deletions the Examiner has made was discussed by the Panel. It was confirmed that the Parish Council had agreed to the deletions and that the amended version is what had been presented to Members.
- 4.7 Regarding the Neighbourhood Plan process, Members stress that the Neighbourhood Plan is a collaborative effort between the District Council and the Parish Council and that it proceeded through several stages before it was presented to Members at the meeting.
- 4.8 The Panel recommend that the Cabinet should act upon the Examiner's report and accept the modifications and progress the Neighbourhood Plan to referendum.