

BUSINESS RATES – RURAL SETTLEMENT LIST

4.0 Overview and Scrutiny Comments

4.2 The Panel discussed the Business Rates – Rural Settlement List report at its meeting on 5th December 2024.

4.3 It was observed by Councillor Hassall that the villages of Buckden and Diddington were two very separate locations and that by being considered together Diddington would potentially lose out under the scheme. It was confirmed to the Panel that there were no qualifying businesses within either village and that to separate the two would still leave Buckden defined as an urban settlement. It was proposed by Councillor Hassall to add an additional recommendation to the Cabinet report, this was seconded by Councillor Mokbul and the Panel voted unanimously in favour of forwarding the proposed recommendation to the Cabinet;

3) Separate the two villages of Buckden and Diddington, defining Buckden as an urban settlement and Diddington as a rural settlement.

4.4 Councillor Shaw commented that it would be helpful to highlight in future reports which settlements have seen a change in definition. Future reference handy to highlight which settlements have seen a change in definition.

4.5 The Cabinet are to be advised that should they choose to adopt Recommendation 3, as proposed by the Overview and Scrutiny Panel, the Rural Settlement List and maps as contained within Appendices D, E & F are to be adopted under Recommendation 1 as opposed to Appendices A, B & C should the Cabinet proceed with Recommendations 1 and 2 only.

4.6 Following the discussion, the Panel were informed that their comments would be added to the Cabinet report in order for Cabinet to make a decision upon the recommendations within the report, and additionally, the Panel request that the Cabinet consider adding the following recommendation to their report;

3) Separate the two villages of Buckden and Diddington, defining Buckden as an urban settlement and Diddington as a rural settlement.