## Officer Executive Decisions

# Innovation Park Medway Local Development Order – Request to Consult

### Delegation from Leader and Cabinet and date

On 4 August 2020, Cabinet considered a <u>report</u> which sought permission to undertake further consultation on the Draft Innovation Park Medway (IPM) Local Development Order (LDO). The draft IPM LDO builds upon the masterplan to set principles for development which would allow developers and businesses to bring forward high quality development in the high-value technology, engineering, manufacturing, and knowledge-intensive sectors.

The report stated that an initial public consultation process was undertaken in 2019, which received comments from public and statutory consultees. Liaison had since been ongoing with statutory consultees to ensure their concerns are addressed prior to adoption of the LDO. This resulted in some changes to the LDO, Environmental Statement and supporting documentation, which would require re-consultation as a legislative requirement. The report added that ongoing liaison with Highways England (HE) and Natural England (NE) in particular, had led to changes to the Design Code and transport assessment work.

The Cabinet agreed to delegate authority to the Director of Place and Deputy Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader, the Portfolio Holder for Inward Investment, Strategic Regeneration and Partnerships and the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Economic Growth and Regulation to finalise and approve the Local Development Order, Environmental Statement and Design Code prior to public consultation, as set out in paragraph 2.8 of the report, in the interest of satisfying Environmental Impact Assessment requirements (decision no. 86/2020 refers).

The Cabinet also agreed to delegate authority to the Director of Place and Deputy Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader, the Portfolio Holder for Inward Investment, Strategic Regeneration and Partnerships and the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Economic Growth and Regulation to finalise and approve the Local Development Order, Environmental Statement and Design Code prior to public consultation, as set out in paragraph 2.8 of the report, in the interest of satisfying Environmental Impact Assessment requirements (decision no. 87/2020 refers).

#### Decision

Following review by the Director of Place and Deputy Chief Executive on 20 October 2020, the Local Development Order, Environmental Statement and Design Code are now finalised for consultation in accordance with the Cabinet delegations.

#### Reasons for Decision

This decision was made in the interest of proceeding with a public consultation process from 26 October 2020 to 27 November 2020.

Date of Decision

22 October 2020

# Lead Officer

Lucy Carpenter, <u>lucy.carpenter@medway.gov.uk</u>

# Details of any other options considered and rejected

The alternative option was to delay consultation, however the documents were completed to a satisfactory standard for consultation.

# Conflicts of Interest

None