

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL
HOUSING AND PLANNING SCRUTINY SELECT COMMITTEE

26 September 2023

Report of the Director of Planning, Housing and Environmental Health

Part 1- Public

Matters for Recommendation to Cabinet - Non-Key Decision (Decision may be taken by the Cabinet Member)

1 RESPONSE TO THE 'FREIGHT, LOGISTICS AND THE PLANNING SYSTEM: CALL FOR EVIDENCE' CONSULTATION

This report sets out proposed response to the government's 'Freight, logistics and the planning system: call for evidence'. It seeks recommendations of approval to the Cabinet Member for Planning.

1.1 Background

1.1.1 The government is currently seeking input from interested parties in its 'Freight, logistics and the planning system: call for evidence' consultation. The deadline for responses is 6 October 2023. This report constitutes the council's proposed response to the consultation, centred around the questions posed. This is included as **Annex 1**.

1.2 The consultation

1.2.1 The consultation seeks views on the efficacy of local plans and planning policies in relation to planning for freight and logistics. Questions are also posed in relation to engagement between these sectors and local planning authorities and the decision-making process.

1.2.2 The consultation period runs until 6 October 2023. Therefore, the council has until this date to submit its response, which, once approved, will be actioned through the [online survey](#) . The proposed response is contained at **Annex 1**.

1.3 Legal Implications

1.3.1 There are no legal implications in relation to the response to the government's call for evidence.

1.4 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

1.4.1 There are no direct financial and value for money considerations associated with this response. The council is proposing to submit the local plan under the current

arrangements. However, if the proposals are to be brought forward future local plan work and budget-setting would need to reflect these changes.

1.5 Risk Assessment

1.5.1 There are no relevant risks in relation to the response to the government's call for evidence.

1.6 Equality Impact Assessment

1.6.1 The decisions recommended through this report do not have relevance to the substance of the Equality Act 2010.

1.7 Recommendations

HPSSC is asked to recommend to the Cabinet Portfolio holder for Planning to:

APPROVE the proposed response to the freight and logistics call for evidence.

The Director of Planning, Housing and Environmental Health confirms that the proposals contained in the recommendation(s), if approved, will fall within the Council's Budget and Policy Framework.

Background papers:

Annex 1- Proposed response to the freight and logistics call for evidence

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