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| **Subject:** **Planning Committee Work Programme 2013/14** | |
| **Report to: Planning Committee** | |
| **Report of: Executive Director ofSecretariat** | Date: 11 March 2014 |
| **This report will be considered in public** | |

**1. Summary**

* 1. This report updates Members on the current status of various projects for the current Assembly Year 2013/14 and sets out proposed areas of work for the Committee in the Assembly Year 2014/15.

**2. Recommendation**

* 1. **That the Committee notes the report that updates the status of various items on the Committee’s work programme for the Assembly Year 2013/14 and a long list of proposed projects for 2014/15 (paragraphs 4.7 – 4.8).**
  2. **That the Committee delegates authority to the Chair and Deputy Chair to agree the Committee’s final response to the Mayor’s consultation on proposals to revise the London Plan (paragraphs 4.2 – 4.3).**
  3. **That the Committee delegates authority to the Chair and Deputy Chair to agree a report to be sent to the Mayor in relation to his emerging Long Term Infrastructure Plan for London (paragraphs 4.4 -4.5).**
  4. **That the Committee agrees to use the first meeting in the next Assembly Year, 2014/15 to discuss the issue of the proposed Old Oak Common Mayoral Development Corporation, and the that the Committee delegates authority to the Chair and Deputy Chair to agree details of the meeting and issues for discussion, in consultation with the Chair of the Regeneration Committee (paragraphs 4.9 - 4.13).**

**3. Background**

* 1. The Committee receives a report monitoring the progress of its work programme at each meeting.
  2. At its Annual General Meeting on 1 May 2013 the Assembly agreed the establishment of committees for the 2013/14 Assembly year. During this year the Committee met on six occasions and undertook two site visits.
  3. By the end of this Assembly Year the Committee’s work over 2013/14 will have covered the following issues:
* The Mayor’s 2020 Vision for London;
* The Localism Agenda – neighbourhood planning in London and protecting assets of community value;
* The Mayor’s long-term infrastructure plan for London;
* Protection of London’s green and open spaces;
* The Mayor’s proposals to revise the London Plan; and
* London’s housing density.
  1. Agendas and reports of all the Committee’s meetings in 2013/14 can be found on the Assembly’s website here: <http://www.london.gov.uk/moderngov/ieListMeetings.aspx?CommitteeId=258>
  2. At the Assembly’s Annual General Meeting on 14 May 2014 a proposal to re-establish this Committee will be tabled for agreement with the following draft calendar of meeting dates:

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| 10 June 2014 | 18 November 2014 |
| 09 July 2014 | 22 January 2015 |
| 14 October 2014 | 18 March 2015 |

**4. Issues for Consideration**

* 1. In the last Assembly year the Committee has been using three central aspects of strategic planning policy for managing and prioritising its work programme. The three main areas of policy are:
* Undertaking the work for the next major revision of the London Plan, starting with the Statement of Intent to revise the Plan, the Mayor’s 2020 Vision and the policy proposals for consultation.
* Policy documents/guidance supplementary to the London Plan - these documents (SPGs) are aligned to key issues which the Committee will consider over the year, including open space, accessible London, affordable London, localism, and liveable world city.
* Opportunity area frameworks – the following frameworks are expected: Tech City (City Fringe), Old Oak Common, Southall, Euston, White City, Upper Lee Valley, and Barking Riverside.

**Work outstanding from the 2013/14 workprogramme**

**Proposals to revise the London Plan**

* 1. On 15 January 2014, the Mayor published Draft Further Alterations to the London Plan for a twelve week period of public consultation that ends on Thursday 10 April 2014. Since publication of the revised Plan the Committee has held three meetings (including this one) that have examined various aspects of the Mayor’s proposals in order to prepare a response to the Mayor’s consultation.
  2. The Committee is recommended to delegate authority to the Chair and Deputy Chair to agree the Committee’s final response to the Mayor’s consultation on proposals to revise the London Plan by 10 April 2014 and report back the response for formal notification at the Committee’s next meeting.

**Long term infrastructure plan for London**

* 1. On 10 September 2013 the Assembly’s Oversight Committee received an informal progress report from the GLA Head of Paid Service and Executive Director of Development, Enterprise and Environment on the preparatory work undertaken to deliver such an Infrastructure Investment Plan for London. [[1]](#footnote-1) On 28 November 2013 this Committee discussed with a number of invited experts the issues to be considered in the development of the Mayor’s Long Term Infrastructure Investment Plan for London. The Mayor expects to produce a Plan in the summer of this year. At the November meeting there was general agreement that work leading to the publication of the Plan would involve a number of stages and that the Mayor would welcome comments throughout the development of the Plan.
  2. The Committee is recommended to delegate authority to the Chair and Deputy Chair to agree a report to be sent to the Mayor in relation to his emerging Long Term Infrastructure Plan for London based on issues discussed at meetings of this Committee on 28 November 2013 and 25 February 2014.

**Planning the 2014/15 work programme**

* 1. Notwithstanding the Committee’s priorities set out in paragraph 4.1 above, Members have now begun to hold discussions about the form of the workprogramme for 2014/15.
  2. Meetings with Members to date have suggested a number of topics as potential workprogramme items. These include:
* **The Mayor’s role in strategic planning decisions:** The Mayor must be consulted on all planning applications that are of potential strategic importance to London. The Mayor has the power to ‘take over’ planning applications from London boroughs (to act as the Local Planning Authority and determine the application) and since 2009 the Mayor has taken over and decided eight applications. There are three more that have yet to be decided.[[2]](#footnote-2) Members may wish to engage in a short review of the policy considerations behind the decision to take over applications and whether the process is working as envisaged and set out in the GLA Act 2007.
* **Mayoral Development Corporations:** The Localism Act also gave the Mayor power to designate Mayoral Development Corporations (MDCs) to secure regeneration of designated areas in London. These powers allow the Mayor to assume local plan-making and development management functions for the area. In the latest revision to the London Plan the Mayor is considering promoting the establishment of further Mayoral Development Corporations.[[3]](#footnote-3) Members may wish to review progress in establishing further MDCs, criteria for selecting potential areas and how the plan-making powers can benefit regeneration of areas of London.
* **London’s mixed and balanced communities:** Mayoral planning policy supports communities mixed and balanced by tenure and household income that should be promoted across London which foster social diversity, redress social exclusion and strengthen communities’ sense of responsibility for, and identity with, their neighbourhoods. Members may wish to undertake a piece of work that assesses the extent to which this policy is being achieved. A report elsewhere on this agenda sets out further details of this proposal.
* **GLA land and property assets:** The GLA owns a portfolio of 181 land and property assets across London, covering more than 650 hectares. Most of these assets are either currently being disposed of, or are marked as for future sale. Members may wish to review how these sites are meeting the Mayor’s policy objectives set out in the London Plan – for example to increase the supply of affordable housing in London, provide sites for new employment and secure the delivery of community infrastructure etc. The work would build on and complement work planned by the Budget and Performance Committee by looking at wider implications of the disposal strategy for the London Plan.
  1. Members are asked to note these topics and any additional issues added as a result of Member discussions as a basis for the Committee’s work programme for 2014/15.

**Subject for June meeting [following agreement by Chair and Deputy Chair]**

**Old Oak Common**

* 1. On 20 February a report to the Mayor’s Investment & Performance Board set out the case for establishing a Mayoral Development Corporation (MDC) at Old Oak Common; a draft timetable and actions to achieve this; a draft MDC boundary and requested approval to proceed to public consultation.
  2. Old Oak is located in West London and is part of the Park Royal Opportunity Area. The Further Alterations to the London Plan identify Old Oak as its own Opportunity Area. Significant new rail infrastructure is being planned for Old Oak including; a new Crossrail station; an interchange with the Great West Mainline; and a new High Speed 2 (HS2) station interchange. These interventions will make Old Oak one of London's best connected places, with direct access to central London, Wales and the West Country, Birmingham and the North of England, and Europe.
  3. Research undertaken for the Mayor indicates that the Gross Value Added of this project could be between £3.5 billion and £6.2 billion for the London economy, with the potential for Old Oak to supply between 1.25 per cent and 2.5 per cent of the Greater London housing requirement and between 9.5 per cent and 13.8 per cent of Greater London's employment need up to 2031.
  4. Consultation on the details of the proposed MDC is likely to take place during the period May – August 2014. The Assembly’s Regeneration Committee is likely to undertake work on Old Oak Common as part of its terms of reference over the coming year and there is scope for this Committee to undertake work collaboratively with the Regeneration Committee on the same issue to add value to the Assembly’s response to the Mayor’s proposals.
  5. The Committee is recommended to agree to use the first meeting in the next Assembly Year, 2014/15 to discuss the issue of Old Oak Common, and the that the Committee delegates authority to the Chair and Deputy Chair to agree details of the meeting and issues for discussion, in consultation with the Chair of the Regeneration Committee.

**5. Legal Implications**

* 1. The Committee has the power to do what is recommended in this report.

**6. Financial Implications**

* 1. There are no direct financial implications to the GLA arising from this report.

**List of appendices to this report:**

None

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| **Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**  List of Background Papers:  None | |
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1. http://www.london.gov.uk/moderngov/documents/s28247/Long%20Term%20Infrastructure%20Investment%20Plan%20for%20London.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. http://www.london.gov.uk/priorities/planning/public-hearings [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. The Mayor designated London’s first MDC, the London Legacy Development Corporation, in 2012 for the area covering the Olympic Park and its immediate surroundings [↑](#footnote-ref-3)