



Plan Making and Managing Growth for your Communities

26/11/2019

- **Local Plan Reviews should be completed no later than 5 years from adoption date (Regulation 10A of the Town & Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012;** early reviews will be required if there is a likelihood of significant national policy change, when local circumstances change or when policies are no longer fit for purpose.
- **The Duty to Co-operate is not a Duty to Agree, but your Plan cannot be examined without meeting it.** Demonstrate effective joint working, such as collaborating on a piece of research or evidence base; or using same policy wording across LPAs and set out both areas of agreement and disagreement between authorities.
- **There are a number of “must do’s” to ensure good plan making with neighbouring authorities:** early and on-going collaboration including a cross border Member-led task group to guide Local Plan preparation to speed up the process; regular officer working group meetings and early engagement with national bodies.
- **Be creative, honest and upfront with members.** Don't hide the challenges of housing supply and delivery. Be spatial, develop a strong vision and remember the Plan/Monitor/Manage mantra.
- **Cultivate in-house skills and knowledge to enrich your plan.** Talk to and use your in-house specialists (environment officers, school admissions team etc); they will have local, current and accurate knowledge and can become plan-making champions.
- **Take care when using consultants.** You know more than them about your area and there is a probably an officer somewhere within your council who is an expert on a topic and would be happy to help.
- **It still holds true that ‘one picture can paint a thousand words’.** Visual communication has a vital role to play in the plan-making process, helping to convey your narrative and vision in an easy to share format.
- **Storyboarding is essential part of planning, communicating and managing your Plan.** It forms a solid guide on the structure, content and production management of the final output.

Speakers:

Steve Barker, Planning Advisory Service
 Simon Cole, Ashford Borough Council
 Richard Grant, Plymouth City Council
 Duncan Clarke, London Borough of Sutton
 Bally Meeda, Urban Graphics

Attendees: 28