

## **Guildford Executive recommend Draft Plan for consultation**

A clear green light to recommend consultation was given at last night's special Executive meeting about the Draft Local Plan (Wednesday 4 June). □□ The Executive considered the borough's Draft Local Plan and the recommendations of the Joint Scrutiny Committee from its special meeting on 15 May. The Executive unanimously agreed that the consultation timetable and the Draft Local Plan should go forward for Council to consider at its meeting on 19 June. □□ The Draft Local Plan incorporates views from last year's Issues and Options consultation and is a framework for how our borough will develop up to 2031. It covers key issues including affordable housing, the economy and employment, infrastructure, and the Green Belt. □□ Cllr Monika Juneja, Lead Councillor for Planning, says: "Last night's meeting allowed the Executive to consider the Draft Local Plan for the first time. It also provided another opportunity for public speakers to put forward their views directly to councillors. □□ "Following a wide-ranging debate, the Executive agreed that it is the right time and the right journey for the Draft Local Plan to go forward with a recommendation to Council for public consultation. We want to understand and balance the needs of communities and businesses across the whole borough. There are difficult decisions ahead, and we realise that some people will not agree with everything proposed, but we must plan for the future prosperity of everyone. □□ "The Joint Scrutiny Committee carefully considered the Draft Local Plan at their meeting last month and made a number of recommendations. We worked hard to address these issues in the weeks that followed, so the Executive could consider the latest information last night. This included our continued focus to challenge the required housing number throughout the Local Plan process." □□ Full Council will consider the Executive recommendations at a special meeting on 19 June. A second stage of extensive public consultation on the Draft Local Plan is due to begin next month. □□ You can view the Executive agenda and report at

[www.guildford.gov.uk/executive](http://www.guildford.gov.uk/executive). You can view the Draft Local Plan and evidence research at [www.guildfordlocalplan.info](http://www.guildfordlocalplan.info) □