

**COUNCIL**  
**21 June 2023**  
**CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS**

Recommendation to Council made at the Cabinet meeting held on 8 June 2023

**Adoption of Rusper Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan**

There are 37 designated conservation areas in Horsham District. Each has a Conservation Area map, which identifies the area boundaries. Legislation requires that Conservation Areas are reviewed and managed to ensure their historic character is retained.

Cabinet agreed in September 2022 to approve the draft Rusper Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan for public consultation. These draft documents included some proposed boundary changes (additions) to the existing conservation area. A five-week public consultation exercise was held inviting comments on the Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan. An appendix to the Cabinet report includes representations that were received during the consultation. It is recommended that a final version of the Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan, incorporating revisions following consultation, is adopted with effect from 26 June 2023, after this Council meeting.

**RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL**

- (i) To approve the designation of the revised Conservation Area boundary for Rusper, as shown on the Conservation Area designation map (1) included in this report;
- (ii) To approve and adopt the Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan for Rusper, as set out in Appendix 2 to be used in the determination of planning applications from 26 June 2022; and
- (iii) To delegate authority to the Cabinet Member for Planning & Infrastructure to approve minor editorial changes prior to final publication of the Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan.

**REASON**

- (i) To formally designate the amended conservation area boundary.
- (ii) To provide updated conservation area guidance for residents, occupiers, developers and Members in determining applications and to designate the locally listed buildings.
- (iii) To give the Cabinet Member for Planning and Infrastructure delegated authority to approve minor changes to the Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan.

## **Environmental Health & Licensing and Economic Development Staffing**

This proposal seeks to get Council's approval to establish budgets for extra posts in Environmental Health & Licensing and Economic Development.

These posts are needed to: allow the Council to discharge its statutory functions following an increase in statutory work that requires an additional Environmental Health Officer; put in place a succession plan in Economic Development; and administer the Shared Prosperity Fund.

### **RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL**

- (i) To approve the £41,200 increase in the 2023/24 salaries budget to accommodate the creation two extra posts, one in Environmental Health team and a temporary post in Economic Development.

### **REASON**

- (i) All local authorities are under a statutory duty to inspect housing and ensure that the powers used to tackle housing problems are effectively discharged. The increase in awareness of damp issues, new guidance on damp and in the increase in the number of applications houses in multiple occupation has led to a need for an extra employee permanently in the Environmental Health Private Sector Housing Team.
- (ii) In the Economic Development Service there is a need for a temporary role to carry out the extra work associated with the Shared Prosperity Fund and get the service prepared for the likely full or phased retirement of its three officers.