

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting9th October 2008

1. Title of Item/Report

Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) - Final Report

2. Record of the Decision

Consideration was given to a report on the North East Regional Spatial Strategy. On the 15th July 2008, the Department of Communities and Local Government (CLG) published the final version of the North East Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS). The report provided a summary of the policies contained within the RSS and gave a broad overview of how the policies impacted on Stockton-on-Tees.

The enactment of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase act (2004) created a statutory requirement for the Regional Planning Body (North East Assembly) to develop a Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS).

Following a number of consultation drafts, The North East of England Plan - Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) had been adopted. The RSS was the planning framework for North East England, which set out the long-term strategy as to where, when and how development would be encouraged in the region over the next 15-20 years providing a vision up to 2021. All subsequent Local Development Framework (LDF) Documents, produced by the Council, must be in general accordance with the RSS and when considering major planning applications, the Council would take account of the RSS policies.

The Strategy covered Northumberland, County Durham, Tyne and Wear and the Tees Valley and addressed matters such as the scale and distribution of provision for new housing, priorities for the environment such as countryside and biodiversity protection, transport, infrastructure, economic development, agriculture, mineral extraction and waste treatment and disposal. The policies in the Strategy set out how the Council would improve built and natural environments and create sustainable rural and urban communities, how the Council would meet housing needs, where transport improvements had to be made and where developments should take place to create jobs.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

3. Reasons for the Decision

Members noted that the RSS had been through several stages of preparation including Submission Draft (June 2005), Examination in Public (March 2006), Panel Report (July 2006) and two sets of Proposed Changes, one in May 2007 and the other in February 2008. The Council forwarded representations to Government Office for the North East (G.O.N.E) at each stage of the process, which had been taken into account during the development of the Strategy. The Secretary of State had accepted the final changes to the RSS and the Strategy had been adopted.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

Councillor Nelson declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of this item as he served on Tristar Homes Limited Management Board.

Councillor Cunningham declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of this item as he was a member of the Regional Development Agency.

6. Details of any Dispensations

Not Applicable

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Not later than Midnight on Friday, 17th October 2008

Proper Officer
13 October 2008