

Local Development Framework Steering Group

A meeting of the Local Development Framework Steering Group was held on Monday 11th December, 2006.

Present:- Councillor Cook (Chairman), Councillors Mrs Beaumont, Cherrett, Leonard, Lupton, Nelson, Mrs O'Donnell, Patterson (vice Councillor Narroway) and Stoker.

Officers:- M Clifford, P Copeland, Mrs J Elliott , Mrs R Young (DNS); Miss F Shayler (LD).

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Narroway and Walmsley.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 16th November, 2006 were agreed as a correct record.

Strong And Prosperous Communities: The Local Government White Paper

Members were informed of the implications of the local government white paper "Strong and Prosperous Communities" for planning.

The aim of the local government white paper was to give local people and communities more influence and power to improve their lives. Its vision was to revitalise local authorities and reshape public services around the citizens and communities that use them by giving more freedoms and powers to bring about change.

The white paper has significant implications for the operation of the Council as a whole. However there were also a number of proposals that would directly affect the delivery of local planning services and these proposals were summarised to Members.

The major focus of the white paper was to drive up prosperity and economic development along with community engagement and responsiveness. The term place shaping appears and there was no mention of the delivery of sustainable communities. There was a strong message to local authorities to integrate and support planning as a means of delivering an authority's strategic objectives.

RESOLVED that the content of the report and comments be noted.

Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Development Plan Documents – Core Strategy, Site Allocations Document and Proposals Map

Members were informed of progress on the preparation of the Joint Minerals and Waste Core Strategy and Site Allocations Development Plan Documents. Members

had been invited to an Issues and Options and Sustainability Workshop to be held on 13th December 2006.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

Core Strategy – Reconsultation on Strategic Options for Development and

Growth

Members were provided with a report that summarised the responses received to the reconsultation exercise carried out between the 3rd October and 24th November 2006 in relation to the Core Strategy strategic options for development and growth.

Overall, there had been 53 responses to the reconsultation on the Core Strategy strategic options for development and growth. Of these, 19 responses (36%) expressed a specific preference for Option 1.

There were 8 (15%) responses in favour of Option 2, and 3 (6%) responses were in favour of Option 3.

Option 4 had 6 (11%) responses expressing a preference, whilst Options 5 and 7 had 1 response in favour each (2%).

Those responses that did not contain a specific preference but outlined various issues relating to the location of future development numbered 15 (28%).

Stockton Renaissance, at their meeting of 7 November 2006, reconfirmed their support for Option 1.

Members held discussion on the Options and expressed a preference for Option 1 with a link to Option 4. Officers would give further consideration and a preferred options paper would be produced to be presented to a meeting in January 2007.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The report be noted.
2. The responses to the Core Strategy strategic options for development and growth reconsultation, in relation to the preparation of the Core Strategy preferred options be noted and further report be presented in January 2007.

Sustainability Appraisal of the Core Strategy

Members were provided with a report that set out the need for, and purpose of, Sustainability Appraisals of Local Development Documents. It outlined the process, and the progress made so far on appraising the Core Strategy.

Sustainability Appraisals were required to be carried out on all Development Plan Documents (DPDs) and Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs). They assess whether the objectives, options or policies contained in the DPD or SPD (in the first instance the Core Strategy) will contribute to achieving sustainable development, a concept at the heart of new planning policy. They appraise the social, economic, and environmental impacts of the plan.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

Regeneration Development Plan Document: Presentation

Members were provided with a presentation which looked at site allocations, issues and options, stakeholders and consultees. Members discussed the various areas in the borough for development and possible future housing and the constraints involved.

RESOLVED that the presentation be noted.