

## **AGENDA ITEM**

### **REPORT TO PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**15 September 2010**

**CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF  
DEVELOPMENT AND  
NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES**

## **LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK: ENVIRONMENT DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT ISSUES AND OPTIONS**

### **SUMMARY**

1. This report advises members that the Spatial Planning team are moving forward with the preparation of the Environment Development Plan Document (DPD) Issues and Options. A draft issues and options report has circulated for internal council consultation in July with the amended document subsequent to this consultation being presented to members.
2. The issues and options paper details issues affecting the natural, historic and rural environment of Stockton-on-Tees Borough and invites the public and stakeholders to make comments on which options they feel are most appropriate for dealing with these issues. In accordance with the Local Development Scheme (LDS) the document is intended to go out for public consultation in November/December 2010.

### **DETAIL**

3. Issues and Options is the first stage of the consultation process. This report details issues affecting the natural, historic and rural environment of Stockton-on-Tees Borough and invites the public and stakeholders to make comments on which options they feel are most appropriate for dealing with these issues. The issues and options paper presents the chance to consider how different policy options might deliver or hinder those broader local community priorities and test whether those choices fit well with national policy and guidance.
4. The report details an overarching approach to mitigating and adapting to the affects of climate change and delivering green infrastructure. With the following four main themes providing the main content of the report:

**THEME 1 Natural Environment** – planning policies on the protection and enhancement of the natural environment

**THEME 2 Historic Environment** – policies on the conservation and, where appropriate, enhancement, of the built heritage within the Borough.

**THEME 3 Rural Environment** – policies on rural character and diversification

**THEME 4 Urban Open Space** – policies on the strategic management of green spaces throughout the Borough

5. In accordance with the LDS the document is intended to go out for public consultation in November/December 2010.
6. The Environment DPD Issues and Options report is available in the Members' Library and on the Electronic Members' Library (accessible through the Council Intranet).

## **NEXT STEPS**

7. Following consideration by planning committee the report will be referred to Cabinet on 30 September 2010 for Members agreement

## **RECOMMENDATION**

8. Members are recommended to: -

- i) Note the content of and provide comment on the report

## **Corporate Director of Development and Neighbourhood Services**

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## **Background Papers**

**Financial Implications** - The cost of producing the Environment DPD work is being met through current budgetary provisions.

**Environmental Implications** – The Environment DPD Issues and Options details issues affecting the natural, historic and rural environment of Stockton-on-Tees Borough and invites the public and stakeholders to make comments on which options they feel are most appropriate for dealing with these issues.

**Community Safety Implications** – None

**Human rights Implications** – The provision of the European Convention of Human Rights 1950 has been taken into account in the preparation of this report.

**Ward and Ward Councillors** – All ward Councillors