

# Local Development Framework Steering Group

A meeting of Local Development Framework Steering Group was held on Tuesday, 14th December, 2010.

**Present:** Cllr Robert Cook (Chair), Cllr Mrs Jennie Beaumont, Cllr John Fletcher, Cllr Mick Stoker, Cllr Mick Womphrey

**Officers:** Mrs J Hall, I Nicholls, Miss R Wren, Mrs R Young (DNS); Mrs T Harrison (LD)

**Also in attendance:** No other persons were present

**Apologies:** Cllr Roy Rix

## **LDF 26/10**      **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **LDF 27/10**      **Minutes of the meeting held on 28th September 2010.**

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held on 28th September 2010.

CONCLUDED that the minutes of the meeting held on 28th September 2010 be agreed as a correct record.

## **LDF 28/10**      **Regeneration DPD and Core Strategy Review**

This report sets out that a draft of the Preferred Options version of the Regeneration Development Plan Document (DPD) had been prepared, and that it set out the Council's preferred policies and sites for development in the Borough up to 2026 in accordance with the strategic policies contained in the adopted Core Strategy. Further to this, it explained that the document and associated documents had been drafted for consideration through the Council's democratic processes in readiness for consultation and publicity early next year.

However, the current economic situation, malaise in the development industry and uncertainties in higher level planning and central government funding policy could impact on the direction and policy with specific reference to housing in Core Strategy, whose impact could in turn filter through to the Regeneration DPD.

It was considered necessary therefore to scope the need to review the housing element of the adopted Stockton on Tees Core Strategy (March 2010).

It sought agreement of the principle of undertaking a scoping exercise to assess the need to review the housing element of Stockton's Core Strategy, on the basis that Cabinet agreement would be sought for the structure, timetable, consultation and reporting of findings of any requisite review and actions thereafter.

As any changes in the direction, approach and fine detail of the Core Strategy could have implications for the progress and content of the Regeneration DPD, the report also sought agreement for a temporary delay to the programmed

consultation in respect of the Preferred Options version of the DPD, to ensure that any changes were properly incorporated into the Regeneration DPD.

Approval was sought for the content of the documents and agreement to a six-week period of consultation and publicity for Supplementary Planning Document 1: Sustainable Design Guide (SPD1) and Supplementary Planning Document 3: Parking Provision in Developments (SPD3). The precise dates were to be determined, but it was expected to be during February/March 2011.

It was noted that Cabinet previously approved the Issues and Options version of the Environment DPD, 30 September 2010 (Cabinet Decision record number D100111) for consultation and this would run concurrently with SPD1 and SPD3.

Members queried whether the housing targets would alter but were advised that the target set by the previous government had not been too far removed from Stockton Council's own figure and Stockton Council were closer to achieving the RSS figures than other authorities.

Concern was raised at the length of time it took to review a strategy as the economic climate could have changed again upon completion of the new strategy which would make it out of date again.

Concern was raised regarding the fact that the Yarm and Eaglescliffe Action Plan issues would be delayed further as they were combined with the strategy.

CONCLUDED that Members:-

1. Agree a temporary delay to the publication, consultation and publicity in respect of the Preferred Options version of the Regeneration DPD.
2. Agree that a scoping exercise be carried out in order to assess the need to review the housing element of the adopted Stockton on Tees Core Strategy, and that this is on the basis that Cabinet agreement to, and approval for any structure, timetable, reporting of findings and consultation in respect of any requisite review and actions is sought thereafter.
3. Approve and endorse the contents, publicity and consultation in respect of Supplementary Planning Document 1: Sustainable Design Guide (SPD1) and Supplementary Planning Document 3: Parking Provision in Developments (SPD3).
4. Note that consultation and publicity in respect of the Environment DPD will run concurrently with SPD1 and SPD3.

**LDF  
29/10**      **Minerals and Waste DPD Update**

Members were provided with a report on the progress in the preparation of the Joint Minerals and Waste Core Strategy and Policies and Sites Development Plan Documents. The report advised that Entec, on behalf of the Tees Valley Authorities, had submitted the Core Strategy and Sites and Policies Development Plan Documents (DPD's) and Proposals Map, including background evidence, supporting appraisals and assessments to the Secretary

of State for Independent Examination.

It also advised of the key issues arising from representations received following consultations undertaken in 2009 and 2010. Members received a briefing on the main policies and strategies of the Core Strategy and Policies and Sites DPD's.

Information was also provided in respect of Independent Examination, the appointment of an Inspector and Programme Officer, the likely timeframe for hearing sessions and the steps to Council adoption of the said DPD's and Proposals Map.

Members queried whether there were other areas in which minerals could be extracted but were advised that there were none. Officers confirmed that they had made their recommendations to inspectors on the lack of suitability of the anhydrite mine, however objectors had also made their case; the decision now lay with the inspector.

CONCLUDED that the report be noted.

**LDF  
30/10**

**Annual Monitoring Report 09/10**

Members were provided with a report advising of the completion of the Local Development Framework Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) for 2009/2010, prior to it being submitted to the Secretary of State before the end of December 2010. The AMR contained information about how the Council had performed against its Local Development Scheme and, following the adoption of the Core Strategy in March 2010, it also assessed progress against the Local Development Framework's objectives using locally specific targets and indicators. Core Indicators set by the Department for Communities and Local Government relating to Business Development, Housing, Environmental Quality, Minerals and Waste were also included.

CONCLUDED that the report be noted.