

Local Development Framework Steering Group

A meeting of Local Development Framework Steering Group was held on Tuesday, 14th June, 2011.

Present: Cllr Michael Smith (Chairman); Cllr Nigel Cooke, Cllr Phillip Dennis, Cllr John Gardner, Cllr Ray McCall, Cllr Mrs Maureen Rigg, Cllr David Rose,

Officers: D Bage, M Clifford, J Dixon, Miss J Hutchcraft, I Nicholls, Mrs J Palmer, Miss R Wren, Mrs R Young (DNS); Mrs T Harrison (LD)

Also in attendance: No other persons present

Apologies: Cllr Mick Stoker

LDF 1/11 Appointment of Chairman

RESOLVED that Councillor Smith be appointed Chairman of the Local Development Framework Steering Group for the Municipal Year 2011/15.

LDF 2/11 Appointment of Vice Chairman

RESOLVED that Councillor Cooke be appointed Vice Chairman of the Local Development Framework Steering Group for the Municipal Year 2011/15.

LDF 3/11 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

LDF 4/11 Minutes of the meeting held on 25th January 2011

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held on 25th January 2011.

CONCLUDED that the minutes of the meeting held on 25th January 2011 be agreed as a correct record.

LDF 5/11 Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD) Review – Issues and Options Document

Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report of Core Strategy Review - Issues and Options

Sustainability Appraisal of Core Strategy Review Issues and Options

Habitats Regulations Assessment of Core Strategy Review Issues and Options

The Core Strategy Development Plan Document adopted in March 2010 was the key document in the Local Development Framework (LDF). It provided the strategic planning policies for the Borough.

As a result of the current economic situation, malaise in the development

industry and uncertainties in higher level planning and central government's funding policy, a review of the housing element of the Adopted Core Strategy was necessary, and the detail of that Review and Issues and Options arising for consideration were to be found in the Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD) Review Issues and Options Document (the DPD Review Document).

The report summarised the main details of the Development Plan Document Review Document, and noted that a Habitats Regulations Assessment of Core Strategy Review Issues and Options and Sustainability Appraisal of Core Strategy Issues and Options would accompany the Review Document. It sought consideration and approval of those documents for consultation, delegation of authority to officers to make minor changes to those documents prior to consultation and advised of the next steps towards Preferred Options and submission for independent examination.

Furthermore, it advised that the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report of the Core Strategy Review was prepared earlier this year and consulted upon in March 2010. The document had informed the Sustainability Appraisal of the Core Strategy Issues and Options, and required adoption by the Council; this report also sought Member's agreement to adopt the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report.

A Member requested that Planning Committee received regular updates to keep the committee informed.

CONCLUDED that: -

1. The report be noted.
2. The Core Strategy Development Plan Document Review Issues and Options Document, Habitats Regulations Assessment of Core Strategy Review Issues and Options and Sustainability Appraisal of the Core Strategy Review Issues and Options for consultation be endorsed;
3. A period of public consultation upon the Core Strategy Development Plan Document Review Issues and Options Document, Habitats Regulations Assessment of Core Strategy Review Issues and Options and Sustainability Appraisal of the Core Strategy Review Issues and Options be endorsed;
4. Adoption of the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report of the Core Strategy Review be endorsed.
5. Delegation be given to Officers giving authority to make any necessary minor amendments to the contents of the Core Strategy Development Plan Document Review Issues and Options Document Habitats Regulations Assessment of Core Strategy Review Issues and Options and Sustainability Appraisal of the Core Strategy Review Issues and Options prior to the public consultation period.

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Core Strategy Review Consultation Plan

Members were advised that ensuring effective consultation and community engagement was essential to the production of sound Development Plan

Documents (DPD). The report outlined the principles which guided Local Development Framework consultations, the statutory requirements for consultation on DPDs and the commitments made in the Council's Statement of Community Involvement. It then set out how these would be met in relation to the Core Strategy Review, along with details of the consultation period.

It was requested that members received a copy of the general facts which were given to journalists.

It was observed that officers could provide all Members with an article which Members could put into their ward news letters.

CONCLUDED that the report be noted.

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Tees Valley Joint Minerals And Waste Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD)

Tees Valley Joint Minerals And Waste Policies And Sites Development Plan Document (DPD)

Members were provided with a report which advised that following the Examination in Public of the Joint Minerals and Waste Core Strategy and Policies and Sites Development Plan Documents (DPD), the five Tees Valley Authorities had received the Inspector's Final Binding Report into the soundness of those documents.

It summarised the main issues considered by the Inspector and set out his conclusion that the DPDs provided an appropriate basis for the planning of minerals and waste in the Tees Valley for the periods of the plans. Furthermore, he took the view that the Councils had sufficient evidence to support the Core Strategy and the Policies and Sites DPDs, and could show that each had a reasonable chance of being delivered. The Inspector considered that both plans were sound and required no further changes, other than those proposed by the Councils, to make them so. Both plans were considered consistent with the principles contained in the Ministerial Statement "Planning for Growth". A copy of the Inspector's Report was provided to Members and was available for inspection at the Member's Library or to download from the Council's website.

The report also set out that the next stage was for the Council to adopt the DPDs and sought approval of those documents for that purpose. It also sought delegation to the Head of Planning the authority to make any necessary minor amendments to the documents prior to adoption.

It advised that once the Councils had adopted the documents, any person aggrieved by the Core Strategy or Policies and Sites DPDs could make an application to the High Court on the grounds that the document was not within the appropriate powers and/or a procedural requirement had not been complied with which could be made within six weeks from the date of adoption.

The DPDs were substantial documents and had therefore been made available for inspection in the Member's Library and the Council's website.

Members were advised that the document would need to be adopted by 12th August following consultation and if no objections were received the document would be safe to use by August.

CONCLUDED that: -

1. The report be noted.
2. The Joint Minerals and Waste Core Strategy and Policies and Sites Development Plan Documents for adoption be endorsed.
3. The Head of Planning be delegated the authority to make any necessary minor amendments to the Joint Minerals and Waste Core Strategy and Policies and Sites Development Plan Documents prior to adoption.