

CORE STRATEGY CONSULTATION SUMMARY REPORT

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Cllr Jinny Pearce, Portfolio Holder for Planning, Regeneration, Economic Development and Transport
Portfolio Holder Consulted	
Relevant Head of Service	Ruth Bamford, Head of Planning and Regeneration
Ward(s) Affected	All Wards
Ward Councillor(s) Consulted	Not applicable
Non-Key Decision	
This report contains exempt information as defined in Paragraph(s) of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, as amended	

1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

The report provides a summary of background information to a previous Core Strategy Consultation report relating to a number of endorsements of material related to the previous consultation on Redditch's the Revised Preferred Draft Core Strategy (January – March 2011). This report focuses on Appendix 1- where there are actions to work on proposed changes to emerging Local Plan policies.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to Note the update report of the Executive Committee on 10th January 2012.

3. KEY ISSUES

Financial Implications

3.1 No financial implications.

Legal Implications

3.2 No legal implications.

Service / Operational Implications

3.3 This report is in response to Members requesting further information relating to the core strategy responses.

3.4 Public consultation

- 3.5 There have been a number of public consultations leading up the Revised Preferred Draft Core Strategy.
- 3.6 Previously, a joint consultation with Bromsgrove District Council on Development Options took place during 8th February - 30th April 2010 and further Preferred Draft Core Strategy Consultation took place during 31st October 2008 - 8th May 2009 and a Core Strategy Issues and Options consultation 9th May to 20th June 2008.
- 3.7 The Revised Preferred Draft Core Strategy was consulted upon between 21st January 2011 and 4th March 2011, which included a range of consultation methods including questionnaires, Planning Advisory Panel and local exhibition and drop in session around the borough.
- 3.8 The questionnaire asked a number of questions relating to the draft core strategy; these include views about the aspirations of the vision and objectives to deliver the vision and to provide policy direction. Views were also sought on the number of dwellings to be accommodated in Redditch between 2006 and 2026 and to the Government's New Homes Bonus - an incentive to build more homes in order to receive more money.
- 3.9 There were questions relating to what kind of infrastructure provisions we would like to see on Strategic Sites. As well as options to the Government's 'Localism' Bill, in particular neighbourhood plans questions were also asked as to whether there was justification in extending the Town Centre boundary outwards and if there should be flexibility in employment land policy targets.
- 3.10 As a result of the consultation the Council received over 300 responses from members of the public, residents groups and Statutory Consultees. Appendix 1 contains a table including:
- a summary of the responses received;
 - Officers' response to the comments; and
 - recommended action to be taken where a change can be identified or where further action to be taken.
- 3.11 The Council has also received three petitions in response to the consultation material. One relating to Brockhill with 674 signatures, second petition on Webheath ADR with 1016 signatures and third petition on the A435 ADR with 33 signatures. These petitions have been noted and taken into account and can be found in the table in Appendix 1.
- 3.12 The main points raised during the consultation have been considered and can be found in Appendix 1.
- 3.13 Executive Committee's decision 10th January 2012

3.14 The Executive Committee made the following decisions to :

- defer Appendix 3: Transport Assessment;
- note Appendix 4: Employment Land Review Update and Appendix 5 : Historic Environment Assessment, Appendix 6 : Winyates Green Triangle Ecological Assessment, Appendix 7 : Affordable Housing Viability Assessment, Appendix 8: Playing Pitch Strategy; and
- endorse Appendix 1: Core Strategy Response Table, Appendix 2: Worcestershire Landscape Character Assessment Supplementary Guidance and Appendix 9 : Response to the Draft National Planning Policy Framework.

Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications

3.15 An Equalities Impact Assessment of the previous Core Strategy draft was produced and another will be produced at the time of Policy review.

3.16 In order to allow more time for residents in the Webheath action group to ask questions and meet with the report writers of Appendix 3 Transport Assessment, the recommendation to note this appendix was not carried at Executive Committee on 10th January, and this is deferred until a later date.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT

As discussed under financial implications there is a potential risk from the presumption in favour of sustainable development. The uncertainty of the status of the emerging Local Plan in the context of the national planning policy could mean that the Council is subjected to increased appeals. It is therefore proposed to produce a Plan as quickly as possible.

5. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 : Core Strategy Response Table

Appendix 2 : Worcestershire Landscape Character Assessment Supplementary Guidance

Appendix 3 : Transport Assessment

Appendix 4 : Employment Land Review Update (To follow)

Appendix 5 : Historic Environment Assessment

Appendix 6 : Winyates Green Triangle Ecological Assessment

Appendix 7 : Affordable Housing Viability Assessment

Appendix 8 : Playing Pitch Strategy

Appendix 9 : Response to the Draft National Planning Policy Framework

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Core Strategy Consultation – 10th January 2012

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

24th January 2012

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