

Local Development Framework Panel
23rd June 2010
Progress Report on Preparation of Local Development Framework (LDF)
Documents

Agenda Item 5

Portfolio Area:	Cllr Harley Cabinet Member for Enterprise and Culture
Report Presented by:	Eleanor Dash Planning Policy Manager

Background Papers:	Core Strategy PPS12: Local Spatial Planning Local Development Scheme Secretary of State's letter 27.5.10 on abolition of Regional Strategies.
Corporate Implications:	Please refer to table at end of report.
Options:	To note the contents of this report. To approve changes to the LDF timetable.
Risks:	Delays to the LDF timetable.

Executive Summary
Public consultation on the Core Strategy will be extended until 8th July. Comments will be invited on the implications of the Secretary of State's letter concerning abolition of Regional Strategies on the Core Strategy. The Core Strategy consultation will be extended until 8th July.
Tenders have been requested for the preparation of the Water Cycle Study Stage 2.
There will be discussions with Parish Councils on the Allocations Document in September/October this year.

Decision
To note current progress on the preparation of Local Development Framework documents.

Purpose of Report

This report sets out progress in the preparation of the Core Strategy, evidence base and the Allocations Document.

Core Strategy

The Council published the Submission Draft Core Strategy on 10th May. Representations on the draft Core Strategy were requested by 5pm on 24th June. These representations will be considered by this Panel and will be submitted to the Secretary of State, together with a summary of the main issues raised by the representations. The representations must be taken into account by the Inspector at the Core Strategy examination. Local authorities are required to review the representations and consider what, if any, changes should be made to the draft Core Strategy before submission.

The Secretary of State published a letter to all Chief Planners on 27th May notifying them of the Government's intention to rapidly abolish Regional Strategies and to return decision making powers on housing and planning to local councils. This stated that consequently, decisions on housing supply (including the provision of travellers sites) will rest with Local Planning Authorities without the framework of regional numbers and plans. The letter stated that Local Planning Authorities and the Planning Inspectorate should have regard to it as a material planning consideration.

In accordance with Cllr Harley's instructions, officers have issued a statement that referred to the Secretary of State's letter and invited comments to be made on the implications of the letter on the Core Strategy. These comments can be taken into account alongside all the other comments made on the Core Strategy. This statement has been sent to all Core Strategy consultees. In order to give people time to respond to these issues, the period of consultation on the Core Strategy has been extended by 2 weeks until 5pm on 8th July.

At the time of writing this report, (9th June) 33 representations had been received on the Core Strategy from 15 persons, or organisations. However, this is not an indication of the final number of representations that are likely to be received, as the majority of these are submitted at the end of the consultation period.

The next Panel meeting is scheduled for 21st July and the agenda for that meeting must be published by 13th July. This does not allow sufficient time between the close of the consultation on 8th July and the 13th to analyse representations that are sent in at the end of the consultation period. It is suggested that the next Panel meeting should therefore be deferred. Two dates which are not booked for other meetings are 29th July or 4th August and Members are requested to consider whether either of these is suitable.

Evidence Base

Tenders have been requested from consultants for the Stage 2 Water Cycle Study. The deadline for submission of the tenders is 11th June and it is hoped that consultants can be selected to start work on the study shortly after that date.

Allocations Document

Work is in progress on the preparation of the Allocations Document. It is proposed that meetings will be arranged with Parish Councils in September and October to discuss what, if any, changes they would wish to see to the village envelope boundaries and other designations within villages.

Corporate Implications			
Financial:	Costs of employing consultants to prepare evidence. Costs associated with Core Strategy Hearing.		
Legal:	Planning policy set out in Local Development Documents.		
Equalities & Diversity:	As set out in Core Strategy		
Customer Impact:	As set out in Core Strategy		
Environment & Climate Change:	As set out in Core Strategy		
Consultation/Community Engagement:	Local Committees		Partners
	Public		Staff
Key Decision:	No		
Public/Private Report:	Public		
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