

Proposed timetable for preparation of the Core Strategy, to be included in the revision to the Local Development Scheme.

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

Background Papers: Planning Policy Statement 12
Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2008
Communities and Local Government Plan Making Manual

Corporate Implications: Please refer to table at end of report

Options: To approve this timetable.
To amend the timetable.

Risks: Delay due to staffing shortage or illness.
Delay due to representations concerning soundness.
That the Plan may not be found sound.

Executive Summary

This report sets out a proposed timetable for the preparation and adoption of the Core Strategy Development Plan Document.

Decision

To approve this timetable for the preparation of the Core Strategy.

Core Strategy Evidence Base Work

Approval of Appropriate Assessment by LDF Panel on 30th September.

Affordable Housing Viability Study by Three Dragons Consultancy. Final report to LDF Panel for approval as Evidence Base 2nd December

Infrastructure Requirement Study preparation September- October 2009. Approval by LDF Panel at proposed additional meeting in early November.

Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) Preparation of Draft Report by end of July 2009. Consultation with site owners and agents August 2009. Revisions to draft SHLAA by end of August 2009. Consultation with stakeholders September 2009. Preparation of final SHLAA October 2009. Approval of final SHLAA report by LDF Panel as evidence base 2nd December, or at additional meeting in early November.

Highways study of proposed growth locations phase 2: Preparation of detailed assessment of capacity of highway network to accommodate growth locations and SHLAA sites September- November 2009. Approval by LDF Panel as evidence base 2nd December.

Sustainability Appraisal

Sustainability Appraisal of Submission Draft preparation September- November 2009. Approval by LDF Panel 2nd December. Approval by Council 14th December.

Proposed programme for Core Strategy DPD

Approval of submission documents by the LDF Panel 2nd December 2009.

Approval of submission documents by the Council on 14th December. The Council should consider that the plan is sound at the time that it is published. This approval by the Council will be in the form of a resolution to authorise officers to both publish and subsequently submit the Core Strategy.

The submission documents are:-

- The Core Strategy
- The changes to the proposals map (ie changes to the adopted Local Plan Review proposals map that result from proposals in the Core Strategy).
- The sustainability appraisal.
- A statement of who was invited to be involved in the plan preparation and how they were invited.
- A summary of the main issues raised and how they have been addressed.
- Any other supporting documents, which would be the evidence base prepared to inform the Core Strategy preparation.

Before the Council submits these documents to the Secretary of State, it must publish and make available the documents it proposes to submit on the website and in Council offices and at appropriate places: The Council normally makes documents available at all libraries in the District. Government guidance states that *this is not an additional requirement to undertake public consultation*. The development plan is published in order for representations relating to issues of soundness to be made. (Consultation with various bodies, residents and businesses has already taken place during the plan preparation process. In the case of the Braintree Core Strategy this was between October and December 2008.)

The Council also has to send copies of the documents to consultation bodies and set out in a local newspaper, covering the whole District, a statement of the representations procedure and a statement advertising the documents availability and locations at which they can be inspected.

It will therefore be necessary to arrange printing of the submission documents subject to approval by the LDF Panel on 2nd December and by Council on 14th December.

Printing mid December to mid January.

Proposed publication of documents 28th January (to coincide with date of publication of the Essex Chronicle) with a minimum of a six week period during which representations can be made on the Core Strategy up to 12th March.

28th January The Council requests EERA for an opinion on general conformity with the regional spatial strategy.

Officers summarise representations March/April and these will be reported to the LDF Panel by the end of April. If any representations cause the Council to question its view that the plan is sound, it may be necessary to make changes to the plan at this stage. (This would require amendments to the following dates.)

The Council needs to provide the summary and the representations made to the planning inspector, who will conduct the examination of the soundness of the Core Strategy.

Pre-hearing meeting to be arranged by Planning Inspector. June 2010

Advertisement of examination six weeks prior to examination. July 2010

Independent public examination by planning inspector. September 2010

Receipt of Inspector's recommendations and publication of these. March 2011

Adoption of the Core Strategy. June 2011

Corporate Implications				
Financial:	Cost of preparation of documents, of the hearing, Programme Officer and Inspector.			
Legal:	Core Strategy is a Statutory Planning Document.			
Equalities & Diversity:	N/a			
Customer Impact:	Framework for future planning decisions			
Environment & Climate Change:	N/a			
Consultation/Community Engagement:	Local Committees	Y	Partners	Y
	Public	Y	Staff	Y
Key Decision:	No			
Public/Private Report:	Public			
Officer Contact:	Eleanor Dash			
Designation:	Planning Policy Manager			
Ext No:	2563			
Email:	Eleanor.dash@braintree.gov.uk			