



MEETING OF THE CABINET
6 OCTOBER 2008 - 11.00 AM – 12.06 PM

PRESENT:

Councillor Ray Auger
Councillor Paul Carpenter
Councillor Mrs Frances Cartwright

Councillor Mrs. Linda Neal - Chairman

Chief Executive
Strategic Director (x2)
Corporate Head Healthy Environment
Corporate Head Finance & Customer Services
Corporate Head Sustainable Communities
Service Manager Human Resources & Organisational Development
Service Manager Planning Policy
Service Manager Environmental Protection
Service Manager Performance Management & Engagement
Human Resources Manager
Senior Planning Officer
Cabinet Support Officer

Non-Cabinet Members :
Councillor Bob Adams
Councillor Mike Exton
Councillor Peter Martin-Mayhew



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CO28. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Smith and Councillor Mrs Spencer-Gregson.

CO29. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 1 September 2008 were confirmed as a correct record.

CO30. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (IF ANY)

No declarations of interest were made.

CO31. *LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK: SUMMARY OF PREFERRED OPTIONS FOR CORE STRATEGY MAY 2007 – CONSULTATION RESPONSES (POLICIES PO3, PO4 AND PO5 ONLY) RELATING TO HOUSING ISSUES

Decision:

- 1) To agree the Officer's responses and principle changes to policies PO3; PO4 and PO5 established by report number PLA 723 and the attached schedule.**
- 2) Delegate the correction of any typographical errors within the schedule to the Strategic Head of Sustainable Communities.**

Considerations/reasons for decision:

- 1) Report number PLA 723 by the Economic Development Portfolio Holder.
- 2) The Secretary of State's Proposed Changes to the East Midlands Regional Plan (Regional Spatial Strategy) as summarised in the report.
- 3) The Schedule of Officer's Responses to Representations received as attached at appendix 1 of the report.
- 4) Comments by members of the Cabinet that the reduction in number of houses allocated to villages within the region was welcomed.
- 5) Comments from the Corporate Head Sustainable Communities and Senior Planning Officer that the figures for allocations were assumed to change and were flexible. It was expected that affordable housing would be around 40% of that constructed within the district, but that this would be flexible. The provision of other community benefits, with regard to other Council priorities, would also be considered during any

negotiation process with developers. This would be specified within the Affordable Housing Planning Supplement.

CO32. * LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK: SUBMISSION CORE STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT

Decision:

- 1) To agree to recommend to Council the detailed changes to the Core Strategy set out in Appendix A**
- 2) Approve the publication of the document as the Submission Core Strategy for the making of representations and submission to the Secretary of State**
- 3) That authority be delegated to the Corporate Head of Sustainable Communities in consultation with the Economic Development Portfolio Holder to make any necessary amendments associated with the publication process prior to submitting the Core Strategy to the Secretary of State**

Considerations/reasons for decision:

- 1) Report number PLA 724 by the Economic Development Portfolio Holder.
- 2) An additional change to the text of the strategy in part E1 Employment Development, the land at Roseland Business Park was omitted in error and should read "8 hectares of land available at Roseland Business Park with a further 8 hectares for reserve use should they be required later in the plan period".
- 3) The text at 3.5.6 should read "a target" rather than "an average ratio".

Other options considered and assessed:

- 1) Under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Council is statutorily required to put in place a Local Development Framework for the District and the preparation of the Core Strategy DPD is established in the approved Local Development Scheme (LDS). Failure to progress the Core Strategy DPD in line with the LDS would put a risk the ability to achieve Housing and Planning Delivery Grant in future years.
- 2) PPS12 requires the development of reasonable alternatives

during the preparation of a DPD, for these to be subject to a Sustainability Appraisal and consulted upon widely. Throughout the preparation of the Core Strategy, alternative options have been considered and assessed through the Issues and Options and Preferred Options consultation stages, the latter also documenting why the Preferred Options had been chosen.

- 3) At examination the Core Strategy will be tested as to whether it is the most appropriate strategy when considered against reasonable alternatives and that it is has been developed from a robust and credible evidence base.

CO33. *REGULATION OF INVESTIGATORY POWERS ACT

Decision:

- 1) To approve the draft policy and guidance as detailed at Appendix A and B relating to the use of covert surveillance powers in accordance with the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 subject to the policy undergoing a full Equalities Impact Assessment. In the event any revisions are required to be made to the policy as a result of the assessment then the Policy to be brought back to Cabinet.**
- 2) To adopt the Codes of Practice relating to the use of CCTV cameras and covert surveillance set out at Appendix C and D**

Considerations/reasons for decision:

- 1) Report number LEG 026 by the Access and Engagement Portfolio Holder.
- 2) Discussions by the Communities PDG at its meeting on 12 August 2008.
- 3) Consideration by the Cabinet that perceived abuses of surveillance elsewhere had ensured that surveillance was high on the public agenda and that it was important to show that powers would only be used whenever correct procedures were followed and that it was essential for the public to have trust in the Council.

Other options considered and assessed:

The current policy relating to RIPA requires revision to include additional guidance to officers, recommendations from the Surveillance Commissioner and an open and transparent process for authorization of applications and monitoring use of the powers available under RIPA. The Council could consider adoption of local codes of practice, however where codes of practice have been introduced nationally by the Home office, local codes of practice may be inappropriate.

CO34. *ADOPTION OF THE COUNCIL'S CARBON MANAGEMENT PLAN

Decision:

That the Carbon Management Plan as attached to report number ENV 415 be adopted, subject to the inclusion of a cross-reference to documentation concerning improvements to the energy efficiency of housing stock.

Considerations/reasons for decision:

- 1) Report number ENV 415 by the Healthy Environment Portfolio Holder.
- 2) Consideration that the cost and efficiency savings alone make the plan worthwhile, in addition to the environmental benefits.
- 3) Consideration that as energy costs increase that more energy efficient solutions become increasingly attractive.
- 4) To promote changing behaviour within the community through setting a good example.

Other options considered and assessed:

The development and approval of a Carbon Management Plan provides a focus for the organisation and will encourage progress. An alternate approach would have been to distribute responsibilities to various service managers (via service plans) but this option is considered less likely to deliver the efficiency gains identified through the base lining and benchmarking process.

CO35. *CONSULTATION STRATEGY

Decision:

- 1) To adopt the consultation strategy and toolkit,**

subject to any minor alterations delegated to the portfolio holder in conjunction with the Corporate Head of Partnerships and Organisational Improvement.

- 2) To approve the action plan included with the strategy.**

Considerations/reasons for decision:

- 1) Report number PO 122 by the Access and Engagement Portfolio Holder.
- 2) Consideration of the importance of having a co-ordinated approach to consultation considering the cost and amount of time spent on consultations and the need for relevant consultation.

CO36. *GENDER EQUALITY SCHEME - MOVING THE COUNCILS DIVERSITY AND EQUALITY AGENDA FORWARD

Decision:

- 1) To approve the proposed way forward and to receive a new Generic Equalities Scheme following consultation and approval by the Equalities and Diversity Steering Group.**
- 2) To agree that the existing Generic Equalities Scheme remain in force for the time being until the new generic scheme incorporating the gender equality duty has been agreed.**

Considerations/reasons for decision:

- 1) Report number HR&OD 098 by the Organisational Development and Housing Portfolio Holder.
- 2) A gender equality scheme had been approved subject to additional consultation.
- 3) That creating a single generic scheme with separate sections was more desirable than three separate schemes for gender equality, race equality and disability equality.

DATE DECISIONS ARE EFFECTIVE

All decisions as made on 6 October 2008 can be implemented on 15 October 2008 unless subject to call-in by the Scrutiny Committee Chairman or any five members of the Council from any political groups.

**South Kesteven District Council, Council Offices, St. Peter's Hill,
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