

REPORT TO CABINET

REPORT OF: Economic Development Portfolio Holder

REPORT NO: PLA 800

DATE: 4th January 2010

TITLE:	Revision to Local Development Scheme	
KEY DECISION OR POLICY FRAMEWORK PROPOSAL:	Key Decision	
PORTFOLIO HOLDER: NAME AND DESIGNATION:	Cllr Frances Cartwright Economic Development Portfolio Holder	
CONTACT OFFICER:	Karen Sinclair, Planning Policy Service Manager 01476 406438 k.sinclair@southkesteven.gov.uk	
INITIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT:	Carried out and Referred to in paragraph (7) below:	Full impact assessment Required: No
Equality and Diversity		
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT:	This report is publicly available via the Local Democracy link on the Council's website: www.southkesteven.gov.uk	
BACKGROUND PAPERS:	Cabinet Report PLA467 dated 6 th December 2004 Cabinet Report PLA478 dated 7 th February 2005 Cabinet Report PLA615 dated 9 th October 2006	

1. RECOMMENDATION

That:

- a) Cabinet approves the revised Local Development Scheme and that it is formally submitted to the Secretary of State
- b) the revised Local Development Scheme comes into effect on the 15th February 2010 or from such later date that may be required by the Secretary of State and on which the Council receives notice that such requirements have been met

2. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 2.1 To enable the Cabinet to approve for submission to the Secretary of State (via the Government Office for the East Midlands) the revised Local Development Scheme.
- 2.2 As the LDS provides the project management framework and timetable for the preparation of Local Development Framework (LDF) Documents it relates to both the Quality Living and Good for Business priority themes.

3. DETAILS OF REPORT

- 3.1 The Local Development Scheme (LDS) is a public statement of the local planning authority's programme for the production of Local Development Documents (LDDs) over a three year period. It is a requirement of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 that each local authority prepares and maintains a LDS.
- 3.2 The current LDS took effect on the 28th January 2008.
- 3.3 Progress on preparing LDDs against the approved LDS is assessed on an annual basis through the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR). The last AMR identified that progress on the Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD), Site Specific Allocations and Policies DPD and Grantham Area Action Plan (AAP) had not progressed as planned.
- 3.4 There is a need, therefore, to revise the LDS not only to take account of these issues but also changes in the Development Plan regulations, for instance the timing for making representations at publication stage of a Submission DPD now takes place before formal submission to the Secretary of State rather than after if.
- 3.5 The key changes to the LDS timetable are:

Core Strategy DPD

- 3.6 There has been slippage in progressing to the adoption of the Core Strategy due to delays in the commencement of the examination. The hearing sessions of the examination are due to start on the 19th January 2010 and are currently programmed to last for nine sitting days, although it is expected that this may be reduced. The Inspector has provisionally indicated that she intends to issue her binding report to the Council in April 2010. This would allow the Council to formally adopt the Core Strategy in May or June, the timing of which will be dependant on when the general election is called to be held. The LDS timetable has been revised to reflect these factors.

Site Specific Allocations and Policies DPD and Grantham AAP

- 3.7 The January 2008 LDS envisaged that both these documents would be adopted by mid 2010. This will no longer be possible due to slippage in the preparation of the documents due to the need to focus on the preparation of the Core Strategy DPD. The timetable now proposes working towards adoption in early 2012 for both documents, a delay of around 6 months from when the current LDS expected adoption to take place. The timetable proposed has taken account of the revisions to the Development Regulations and the experience gained from the preparation of the Core Strategy DPD, in particular the processes involved leading up to and during the submission stage.
- 3.8 The revised LDS only includes details and a timetable for the preparation of DPDs. The Planning Act 2008, the provisions of which commenced on the 6th April 2009, removed the requirement for both the Statement of Community Involvement and Supplement Planning Documents (SPDs) to be specified in

the LDS. However, a separate programme for SPD preparation will be drafted and made publicly available in due course.

- 3.9 A copy of the revised LDS is attached as an appendix to the report.
- 3.10 The revised LDS timetable has been sent to GOEM for their informal comments, as this can reduce delays in obtaining approval from the Secretary of State once the LDS has formally been submitted via GOEM. GOEM have commented that the timescales proposed look acceptable to them in broad terms. They also made a couple of detailed comments on the timetable's presentation, which have been incorporated.

4. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 Do not revise the LDS. This is not considered to be appropriate given that there is a legal requirement for the authority to prepare and maintain an up to date LDS.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Budgetary provision has been made utilising Housing and Planning Delivery Grant (HPDG) to support the LDF process during 2009/2010. Growth bids have been submitted as part of the budget process for 2010/11 and 2011/12 (indicative), which reflect the number of LDF documents to be prepared and the stages that will be undertaken over this period i.e. examination of the Site Specific Allocations and Policies DPD and Grantham AAP during 2011/12.

6. RISK AND MITIGATION (INCLUDING HEALTH AND SAFETY AND DATA QUALITY)

- 6.1 These are set out in the LDS.

7. ISSUES ARISING FROM EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 7.1 None, although the preparation of individual LDDs will be the subject of an assessment.

8. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 None arising from this report.

9. COMMENTS OF SECTION 151 OFFICER

- 9.1 As part of the 2010/11 budget process for 2010/11 and 2011/12 sufficient funding has been allocated at the request of the Planning Policy service manager in order to enable the delivery of the LDF element of the process. It is proposed to fund the delivery of the LDF through HPDG and the Council has recently received provisional notification for the 2009/10 allocations which will be sufficient to meet the full cost.

10. COMMENTS OF MONITORING OFFICER

10.1 The first draft local development scheme was approved in 2004 and has been revised periodically to take into account changes in statutory requirements throughout the intervening period. The scheme now requires revision to incorporate the current timetable for delivery of the Local Development Framework.

11. APPENDICES:

Appendix A Revised LDS