

A meeting of the **CABINET** will be held in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER, PATHFINDER HOUSE, ST MARY'S STREET, HUNTINGDON PE29 3TN** on **THURSDAY, 16 MARCH 2006** at **11:30 AM** and you are requested to attend for the transaction of the following business:-

**Contact
(01480)**

APOLOGIES

1. MINUTES (Pages 1 - 8)

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd February 2006.

**Ms C Deller
388007**

2. MEMBERS' INTERESTS

To receive from Members declarations as to personal and / or prejudicial interests and the nature of those interests in relation to any Agenda Item. Please see Notes 1 and 2 overleaf.

3. CORE STRATEGY DPD AND STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT - SUBMISSION FOR CONSULTATION & REVISION TO THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (Pages 9 - 16)

To consider a report by the Planning Policy Manager.

(The Local Development Framework Core Strategy, Statement of Community Involvement and Appendices A-C are enclosed separately).

**R Probyn
388430**

4. LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN (LTP) 2006 -2011 AND CAMBRIDGESHIRE LONG TERM TRANSPORT STRATEGY (Pages 17 - 30)

To consider a report by the Planning Policy Manager on the Cambridgeshire Local Transport Plan (LTP) 2006 -2011 and Long Term Transport Strategy.

**S Bell
388387**

5. CAMBRIDGESHIRE & PETERBOROUGH MINERALS & WASTE PLAN: CONSULTATION ON ISSUES & OPTIONS ADDITIONAL SITES (Pages 31 - 44)

To consider a report by the Planning Policy Manager outlining proposals published by Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council for minerals and waste planning.

**R Probyn
388430**

6. MEDIUM TERM PLAN: REQUESTS FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS
(Pages 45 - 72)

By way of a report by the Head of Financial Services to consider requests for the release of funding for Medium Term Plan schemes.

S Couper
388103

7. PERFORMANCE MONITORING (Pages 73 - 82)

To consider the quarterly monitoring report prepared by the Head of Policy.

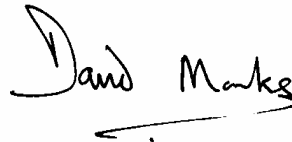
H Thackray
388035

8. REQUEST FOR A LOAN TO SIBSON-CUM-STIBBINGTON PARISH COUNCIL (Pages 83 - 84)

To consider a report by the Head of Financial Services.

Mrs E Smith
388157

Dated this 8th day of March 2006



Chief Executive

Notes

1. *A personal interest exists where a decision on a matter would affect to a greater extent than other people in the District –*
 - (a) *the well-being, financial position, employment or business of the Councillor, a partner, relatives or close friends;*
 - (b) *a body employing those persons, any firm in which they are a partner and any company of which they are directors;*
 - (c) *any corporate body in which those persons have a beneficial interest in a class of securities exceeding the nominal value of £5,000; or*
 - (d) *the Councillor's registerable financial and other interests.*
2. *A personal interest becomes a prejudicial interest where a member of the public (who has knowledge of the circumstances) would reasonably regard the Member's personal interest as being so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Councillor's judgement of the public interest.*

Please contact Mr A Roberts, Democratic Services Officer, Tel No. 01480 388009/e-mail Anthony.Roberts@huntsdc.gov.uk if you have a general query on any Agenda Item, wish to tender your apologies for absence from the meeting, or would like information on any decision taken by the Committee/Panel.

Specific enquiries with regard to items on the Agenda should be directed towards the Contact Officer.

Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting as observers except during consideration of confidential or exempt items of business.

Agenda and enclosures can be viewed on the District Council's website – www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk (under *Councils and Democracy*).

If you would like a translation of Agenda/Minutes/Reports or would like a large text version or an audio version please contact the Democratic Services Manager and we will try to accommodate your needs.

Emergency Procedure

In the event of the fire alarm being sounded and on the instruction of the Meeting Administrator, all attendees are requested to vacate the building via the closest emergency exit and to make their way to the base of the flagpole in the car park at the front of Pathfinder House.

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HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the CABINET held in the Council Chamber, Pathfinder House, St Mary's Street, Huntingdon PE29 3TN on Thursday, 23 February 2006.

PRESENT: Councillor I C Bates – Chairman.

Councillors Mrs J Chandler, N J Guyatt, A Hansard, Mrs P J Longford, Mrs D C Reynolds, T V Rogers and L M Simpson

APOLOGY: An apology for absence from the meeting was submitted on behalf of Councillor D P Holley.

168. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 10th February 2006 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

169. MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Councillor I C Bates declared a personal interest in Minute No. 175 by virtue of his membership of Cambridgeshire County Council.

170. PRIMARY CARE TRUSTS

Further to Minute No. 05/88, the Cabinet considered a report by the Chief Executive (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) regarding proposals for the proposed reconfiguration of Primary Care Trusts (PCTs), Strategic Health Authorities (SHA) and Ambulance Trusts in the Eastern Region. Consideration also was given to a report by a Working Group established by the Service Delivery and Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel recommending the retention of a free-standing Huntingdonshire PCT.

Members were reminded that two options for the future configuration of the Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) in Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire had been included as part of the formal consultation process and that representations previously made by the District Council to the SHA had sought the inclusion of an additional option for a free-standing Huntingdonshire PCT.

Mindful of the high level of support locally for the retention of the Huntingdonshire PCT, the Council's decision at their meeting held on 22nd February to support a Motion to that effect, the contrasting needs of the rural community in Huntingdonshire and the working relationship between the District Council and the PCT which had secured a number of successful health-related initiatives, the Cabinet

RESOLVED

- (a) that the Chief Executive advise the Norfolk, Suffolk and

Cambridgeshire Strategic Health Authority (SHA) of the District Council's support for the retention of a free-standing Primary Care Trust for Huntingdonshire;

- (b) that the content of the report authored by the PCT entitled "Commissioning a Patient-Led NHS in Huntingdonshire" be endorsed; and
- (c) that a copy of the District Council's representations in the matter be forwarded to the Chairman and Chief Executive of the Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire SHA and to other interested partner organisations and stakeholders.

171. LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT: GOVERNANCE

Further to Minute No. 05/157, a report by the Head of Policy was submitted (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) regarding the establishment of a Local Area Agreement Board to oversee the development and ensure the achievement of the Local Area Agreement framework outcomes.

Having been acquainted with the terms of reference and proposed composition of the Board which would be drawn from business, the County and District Councils, Local Strategic Partnerships, the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership, the Police, the Health Authorities, and the voluntary and community sectors, the Cabinet

RESOLVED

that the Leader of the Council be appointed to represent the District Council on the Local Area Agreement Board for Cambridgeshire.

172. LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS: SHAPING THEIR FUTURE

By way of a report by the Head of Policy (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) the Cabinet was invited to comment on a consultation paper issued by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) entitled "Local Strategic Partnership: Shaping Their Future". Using a series of questions, the consultation had invited responses on the development and current thinking on LSPs and community strategies as informed by recent evaluation undertaken nationally and by the Audit Commission.

Members noted that the paper would be considered by the District Council's partners involved in the Huntingdonshire Strategic Partnership and Partnership Board, who could submit comments directly to the ODPM.

Having been advised that the HSP Board had already considered the implications of the proposals and acknowledged the potential role of Overview and Scrutiny in the evaluation of the LSP and community strategy process, the Cabinet

RESOLVED

that the conclusions set out in paragraphs 7.1 – 7.3 of the report now submitted be endorsed and that the Head of Policy be authorised to respond to the consultation paper.

173. MONITORING OF THE CAPITAL PROGRAMME - 2005/06

Consideration was given to a report by the Head of Financial Services (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) highlighting variations to the approved Capital Programme in 2005/06 and the consequential estimated revenue impact. It was

RESOLVED

that the report be received and the variations noted.

174. TREASURY MANAGEMENT - INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE

A report by the Head of Financial Services was submitted (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) which reviewed the respective levels of performance achieved by Fund Managers during the quarter 1st October – 31st December 2005 in managing the investment of the Council's capital receipts. Having been advised that the interest earned on the funds invested would exceed the targets assumed in the budget, Members

RESOLVED

that the contents of the report now submitted be noted.

175. HIGHWAYS AGENCY 2006

Members considered a report by the Head of Environment and Transport (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) regarding progress in negotiations to secure a new agreement with the County Council for the discharge of specific functions in future years following the termination of the Highways Agency in March 2005.

Having noted the range of highway-related activities which would be included in the future agency arrangement and the financial implications of the proposed arrangements, the Cabinet

RESOLVED

that, after consultation with the Executive Councillor for Environment and Transport, the Director of Operational Services be authorised to enter into an agreement with the County Council for a period of 3 years commencing 1st April 2006, to secure the discharge of the highways functions described in paragraph 6.2 of the report now submitted, within existing budget provision.

176. CONCESSIONARY FARES

Further to Minute No. 108, consideration was given to a report by the Head of Environment and Transport (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) updating the Cabinet on progress achieved towards the introduction of a new Concessionary Fares regime on 1st April

2006. Reference also was made to a Members briefing note prepared by the Head of Environment and Transport (a copy of which is also appended in the Minute Book). Members were advised that since their previous meeting, negotiations had continued among Cambridgeshire authorities and the bus operating companies to finalise a scheme that was acceptable to all parties.

It was explained that agreement had been secured for the operation of a scheme which would involve free travel within the District and a part subsidy for travel within other Cambridgeshire areas. This would operate for a period of one year commencing on 1st April 2006. The scheme would be reviewed and developed further following an assessment of recorded travel data in the first year of operation.

Having noted the financial implications of the scheme illustrated in Table 1 of the report now submitted and the extent of the supplementary issues still requiring agreement prior to its implementation, the Cabinet

RESOLVED

- (a) that on the understanding that all City and District Councils in Cambridgeshire formally commit to the proposed scheme, Option 2 contained in Table 1 of the report now submitted be approved for implementation for the twelve months period commencing 1st April 2006;
- (b) that free travel on Community Transport services be made available to pass holders for services accessing market towns in Huntingdonshire; and
- (c) that the Head of Environment and Transport be requested to report to the Cabinet on the progress of the scheme after 6 months operation and appropriate publicity given to the scheme.

177. CAR PARKING ORDER - OAK DRIVE, HUNTINGDON

By way of a report by the Head of Environment and Transport (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) the Cabinet considered a proposal to control car parking in the vicinity of Sapley Square, where a new health centre, PCT offices and a community centre currently were being developed.

The Order would provide free parking for a maximum of two hours with no return within one hour and set other requirements for the regulation and use of the car park. Whereupon, it was

RESOLVED

that the Director of Central Services be authorised to proceed with the making of an Off Street Car Parking Order for the car park at Oak Drive, Huntingdon.

178. SMALL SCALE ENVIRONMENT IMPROVEMENTS

The Cabinet considered a report by the Head of Environment and Transport (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) outlining

progress on small scale environmental improvement schemes and proposing a programme of schemes for 2006/07. Following discussion on the criteria for the prioritisation of schemes, it was

RESOLVED

that the necessary funding be released from the medium term plan for the programme of schemes for 2006/07 as set out in paragraph 4.1 of the report now submitted.

179. PLANNING GAIN SUPPLEMENT: CONSULTATION

Consideration was given to a report by the Planning Policy Manager (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) describing the content of a consultation paper published by HM Treasury entitled "Planning Gain Supplement: A Consultation". Members were informed that Planning Gain Supplement (PGS) was a proposed new tax which would be levied by Central Government on land that had the benefit of planning permission. The new tax would be used to fund a range of infrastructure needs and largely replace the S106 contributions currently secured by local authorities.

Although acknowledging that the proposed PGS would offer benefit to developers, Members expressed concern at the methodology which might be used for the distribution locally of funds generated from development and at the categorisation of items which would fall within and outside the proposed new planning obligations. Therefore, the Cabinet

RESOLVED

that the Director of Operational Services, after consultation with the Executive Councillor for Planning Strategy be authorised to respond to the consultation along the lines described in paragraphs 4.1 – 4.5 of the report now submitted and that the response be copied to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and Government Office for the Eastern Region.

180. CONSULTATION ON PLANNING POLICY STATEMENTS

By way of a report by the Planning Policy Manager (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) the Cabinet was acquainted with the content of consultation papers published by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) on Housing (PPS3) and Development and Flood Risk (PPS25) comments on which had been requested by 28th February 2006.

RESOLVED

- (a) that the report now submitted be noted; and
- (b) that the Director of Operational Services, after consultation with the Executive Councillor for Planning Strategy be authorised to respond to the consultation papers along the lines described in paragraphs 3.1 and 5.1 of the report relating to PPS3 and PPS25 respectively.

181. DEVELOPMENT BRIEF - OLD FIRE STATION SITE/HOUSEHOLD WASTE DISPOSAL SITE, ST NEOTS

Having considered a report by the Head of Planning Services to which was attached a draft development brief for the Old Fire Station – Household Waste Disposal Site, St. Neots (copies of both documents are appended in the Minute Book), the Cabinet

RESOLVED

that the development brief for land surrounding the Old Fire Station and Household Waste Disposal sites in St. Neots be approved for public consultation prior to adoption as Interim Planning Guidance.

182. DISABILITY EQUALITY SCHEME

By way of a report by the Head of Policy (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) the Cabinet was invited to consider the content of a draft Disability Equality Scheme for adoption by the Council.

Members were advised that the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (as amended) would place a duty on public bodies to promote disability equality and that preparation of a draft scheme would enable consultation to be undertaken in advance of the statutory deadline for implementation. Having been informed that the draft scheme would be produced in a similar way to the current Race Equality Scheme, the Cabinet

RESOLVED

that the content of the draft Disability Equality Scheme be approved for consultation.

183. HOUSING ACT, 1985: ENFORCEMENT OF STANDARDS - DELEGATED POWERS

A report by the Head of Environmental Health Services was submitted (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) seeking a variation to the Council's scheme of delegation in respect of the enforcement of housing standards in properties, including houses in multiple occupancy, Whereupon, it was

RESOLVED

that the Head of Environmental Health Services and the Director of Operational Services be authorised to appoint suitably qualified, experienced and trained Officers to carry out duties under the Housing Act 1985 and any Regulations or Orders made thereunder and after consultation with the relevant Executive Councillors to institute legal proceedings under the Act.

Chairman

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CABINET

16 MARCH 2006

**CORE STRATEGY DPD AND STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT – SUBMISSION FOR CONSULTATION AND REVISION TO THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME
(Report by Planning Policy Manager)**

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report describes the background and consultation involved in the production of the Core Strategy, the Proposals Map and the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). Leading to the final version of the documents (see attached) to be submitted to the Secretary of State. Members are asked to consider these documents and recommend to Council that they be approved for submission. As a consequence of a change in the timetable for the production of the Core Strategy and the knock on affect it will have on other documents. Members are also asked to approve changes to the Local Development Scheme (LDS).

2 CORE STRATEGY BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Core Strategy is the first policy document that the Council has produced as part of the new system of plan production. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 placed a duty upon local planning authorities to prepare new types of 'Development Plan Document' (DPD), replacing the existing Local and Structure Plans. In addition to the Core Strategy DPD, the Council also intends to produce a number of other DPD's, including a Development Proposals DPD – containing allocations of land for housing and other uses that is programmed to be submitted in 2007.
- 2.2 The Core Strategy has been subject to a Sustainability Appraisal (as part of the supporting material) and will be accompanied by a Proposal Map that shows the physical extent of the Core Strategy Policies. Together with the Statement of Community Involvement they will be submitted to the Secretary of State in April.

3 PREVIOUS CONSULTATIONS

- 3.1 On the 25 May 2005 the Council gave approval for public consultation on the Preferred Options Core Strategy Document. In accordance with the regulations the six-week public consultation period started on the 27 June.
- 3.2 The Council received over 700 formal responses specifically regarding the content of the Core Strategy, of which 273 were in support or support with conditions, 173 were observations and 268 were objections. The representations and responses are included in Appendix A.

- 3.3 Areas that were particularly supported related to the overall vision, settlement hierarchy and areas of strategic green space enhancement. The areas that received the most objections were the settlement boundaries, settlement hierarchy, location of housing development, housing mix and infrastructure requirements.

4 SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO THE CORE STRATEGY

- 4.1 There have been a number of comments from consultees, which have led to the inclusion of either new policies or a change to an existing policy.
- 4.2 The first significant change relates to affordable housing. Although the Core Strategy Preferred Options Report included a definition of affordable housing, it did not set any targets or thresholds of the scale of development where affordable housing would be sought. The intention was to set targets and thresholds in a separate Planning Obligations Development Plan Document.
- 4.3 Advice on planning obligations was previously contained in Circular 1/97. This has now been superseded by Circular 05/2005 on Planning Obligations. The guidance contained in this new circular and advice received from Go-East indicates that if the Council's targets and thresholds for affordable housing are included in the Core Strategy Development Plan Document then all other planning obligations matters can be included within a Supplementary Planning Document rather than a Development Plan Document. The Supplementary Planning Document would involve less onerous statutory procedures and could be produced more quickly and at lower cost.
- 4.4 On the 7 December 2005 the Council gave approval for public consultation on the Affordable Housing Targets and Thresholds Preferred Option in identical fashion to the approach used with the Preferred Options: Core Strategy Report in July/ August.
- 4.5 The Council received 153 representations, of which 9 were in support or support with conditions, 20 were observations and 124 were objections.
- 4.6 The representations on the Affordable Housing Targets and Thresholds have been considered and changes have been incorporated into the Core Strategy DPD. Details of the representations and response are included in Appendix A.
- 4.7 The second significant change relates to biodiversity. Although the Core Strategy: Preferred Options Report included references to biodiversity, it did not include a specific policy on the matter. There were a number of objections concerned that there was no policy requiring development to plan for biodiversity and nature in the early stages of the development process. Although PPS9 contains guidance to ensure that new development takes account of the role and value of biodiversity, it does not indicate how this should be applied at the local level, therefore for clarity and in order to incorporate local biodiversity targets, an additional policy has been included within the Core Strategy.

- 4.9 The third significant change relates to water resources. A comment was received regarding the lack of consideration of water resources in the Core Strategy. Water resources are considered to be an essential pre-requisite to determining whether and where further development is feasible, and what water efficiency measures must be incorporated into new-build. Policy B5: Energy Use has been expanded to include water use. It states that new developments should aim to minimise water consumption through the incorporation of water efficiency measures

5 SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL

- 5.1 At each stage of the process in developing the Core Strategy a sustainability appraisal has been carried out. The Council received 31 responses to the Sustainability Appraisal on the Preferred Options Core Strategy Report and the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report and are included in Appendix B.
- 5.2 Most comments received sought to include additional indicators or objectives. However it is recommended that respondents be informed that the objectives and indicators that have been selected are the most appropriate, and that it is not necessary to include an exhaustive list of all possible indicators, as these should really just be the key indicators for Huntingdonshire.
- 5.3 In terms of responses to the Scoping Report, most comments received sought to add objectives that were beyond the scope of planning and no changes have been made as a result of these representations. A few comments sought to update the name of plans included in the document. It is suggested that these comments be accepted.
- 5.4 A final 'Sustainability Appraisal' of the policies as now produced has been undertaken jointly by the Council and consultants and is also included in Appendix B.

6 STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT - BACKGROUND

- 6.1 A key objective of the new planning system is to strengthen community involvement in planning processes. The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) sets out the Council's standards for involving local residents and other stakeholders at relevant points during the preparation, alteration and revision of LDF documents and in the course of dealing with planning applications.
- 6.2 There are many techniques that can potentially be used to involve local residents and other key stakeholders. As a minimum the Council must comply with the regulations contained in The Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 and advice contained in Circular 15/92: Publicity for Planning Applications. However, it is desirable to do more than what is set out in the Regulations, especially in relation to plan production to ensure that community involvement is effective.

- 6.3 On the 28th September 2005 Council gave approval for public consultation on the Statement of Community Involvement. In accordance with the regulations the six-week public consultation period started on the 17 October.
- 6.4 The Council received 88 representations to the Draft SCI of which 21 were in support or support with conditions, 63 were observations and 4 were objections. The representations and responses are included in the Appendix C.
- 6.5 The representations received on the SCI were generally very supportive. However, a few suggestions were made that have been incorporated into the final version. These include:
- Further details on how the SCI effectiveness will be monitored and an indication of what may trigger a review of the document;
 - Details of community involvement at the pre-examination stage and the adoption stage for DPD production;
 - Examples of organisations that are included within the definition of general consultation bodies; and
 - A more positive statement of what types of consultation the Council will undertake on different DPD's and SPD at the various production stages.
- 6.6 The SCI aims to strike a balance between using additional appropriate techniques for involving people in the planning process and the potential resource implications of doing so. Chapter 3 sets out the methods that would be used to involve residents and other key stakeholders in plan production and chapter 4 sets out the methods that would be used to involve them in the course of dealing with planning applications.

7 CORE STRATEGY - NEXT STEPS

- 7.1 The Core Strategy and Statement of Community Involvement will be considered by a special meeting of Council on 20 March, and subject to its approval it will be submitted to the Secretary of State. Following its submission there will be a statutory six-week period for public consultation during April, May and June. Subsequently, the representations received will be considered by the person appointed to hold the independent examination (the Inspector). After the examination, the Inspector will produce a report with recommendations which will be binding upon the authority.
- 7.2 The availability of the Core Strategy itself, together with supporting material such as the Sustainability Appraisal, will be publicised widely – through District Wide Magazine, a press release, newspaper advertisements and the Council's web site. The latter will also be used to host an 'interactive' version of the DPD which enables comments on individual policies or paragraphs to be submitted electronically.

8 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME BACKGROUND

- 8.1 The Local Development Scheme (LDS) is a requirement of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. It sets out the range of statutory planning documents which the Council will produce under the new system. As well as informing the community and other stakeholders of what to expect, the LDS is designed to assist with project management.
- 8.2 At its meeting on 17 March 2005 Cabinet approved the first Local Development Scheme (LDS) for Huntingdonshire for submission to the Government. In April Go-East confirmed it had no objections to the scheme. A first amendment to the LDS was agreed by Cabinet at its meeting on 1st September 2005 to allow for the preparation and adoption of Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) on Wind Power. This amendment was also agreed by GO-East.
- 8.3 On the 2nd February 2006, a second amendment was considered. This related to Planning Contributions, which in the September 2005 version of the LDS, was put forward as a Development Plan Document (DPD). The proposal is to replace this with two Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD). One would deal with Developer Contributions towards Affordable Housing, and the second one with other Planning Contributions for social and physical infrastructure, such as open space and community facilities.
- 8.4 Cabinet approved the second amendment, but the details have not been submitted to Go East as the proposed publication of the SPD on Developer Contribution towards Affordable Housing will have to be altered in view of the delay in finalising the review of the Housing Needs Study. A further report on the timetable will be presented to the Cabinet.

9 PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE SCHEME

- 9.1 It was recognised when the first LDS was produced that regular reviews would be required because of the many factors that can affect the need and timetable for producing planning documents (the principal risks are listed at paragraph 5.4 of the LDS).
- 9.2 The current proposed amendments follow advice given by the Planning Inspectorate suggesting that the time allowed between submission of the Core Strategy and the preparation for the examination is optimistic. Their suggestion is a delay of three months for the date of the examination. The impact of this will knock onto the production of the Planning Proposals DPD. The revised timetable for the production of these documents is set out in Appendix D.

10 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 It is recommended that Cabinet:
Recommends to Council that the Core Strategy, the Proposals Map and the Statement of Community Involvement be approved for submission together with any supporting documents to the Secretary of State;
- 10.2 Agrees the proposed amendments to the Local Development Scheme attached in Appendix D for submission to the Secretary of State.

Background Papers:

ODPM, 2004, *Planning Policy Statement 12: Local Development Frameworks*

Report to Council, 25 May 2005, and Minutes, *Core Policies DPD – Preferred Options for Consultation*

Report to Council, 7 December 2005, and Minutes, *Core Policies DPD – Affordable Housing Targets Preferred Option for Consultation*

Report to Cabinet, 24 November 2005, and Minutes, *Core Policies DPD – Affordable Housing Targets Preferred Option for Consultation*

HDC, 2005, *Sustainability Appraisal: Scoping Report*

Scott Wilson, 2005, *Sustainability Appraisal of the Initial Options for the Core Strategy Development Plan Document*

Report to Council, 28 September 2005, and Minutes, *Draft Statement of Community Involvement*

Report to Cabinet, 17 March 2005, and Minutes, *Local Development Scheme*

Report to Cabinet, 1 September 2005, and Minutes: *Local Development Scheme*

Report to Cabinet, 2 February 2006, and Minutes: *Local Development Scheme*

CONTACT OFFICER - enquiries about this report to Richard Probyn, Planning Policy Manager on 01480 388430.

PLANNING PROPOSALS DPD

Overview	
Is this a Development Plan Document?	Yes
What is it for?	Contains site-specific proposals for different forms of development up to 2021, plus policies relating to the overall scale and timing of growth.
What area will it cover?	All of Huntingdonshire
What documents will it conform with?	Consistent with spatial framework set out in the Core Strategy.
Is SEA required?	Yes

Proposed timetable	
Survey work commences	April 2003
Public participation on Preferred Options	June 2007
Submission to Secretary of State	January 2008
Pre-examination meeting	March 2008
Independent examination	July 2008
Receipt of Inspector's report	November 2008
Modify submitted plan & adoption	January 2009

How will it be produced?	
Organisational lead	Head of Planning Services / Executive Member for Planning Strategy.
Who will produce the document?	The Development Plans Section of the District Council.
Who will approve it?	The Council, prior to its submission to the Secretary of State.
How will the community be involved?	Opportunities to participate at key stages throughout the process in accordance with the basic requirements set out in the Regulations, and the proposals contained in the emerging Statement of Community Involvement.

Monitoring & review	
Document production and implementation (once adopted) to be reviewed annually, and reported in the Annual Monitoring Report.	

CORE STRATEGY DPD

Overview	
Is this a Development Plan Document?	Yes
What is it for?	Sets out the spatial vision, objectives and policies for managing development in the area.
What area will it cover?	All of Huntingdonshire
What documents will it conform with?	Consistent with national planning guidance and in general conformity with the Regional Spatial Strategy.
Is SEA required?	Yes

Proposed timetable	
Survey work commences	April 2003
Public participation on Preferred Options	June-July 2005
Submission to Secretary of State	April 2006
Pre-examination meeting	July 2006
Independent examination	January 2007
Receipt of Inspector's report	April 2007
Modify submitted plan & adoption	June 2007

How will it be produced?	
Organisational lead	Head of Planning Services / Executive Member for Planning Strategy.
Who will produce the document?	The Development Plans Section of the District Council.
Who will approve it?	The Council, prior to its submission to the Secretary of State.
How will the community be involved?	Opportunities to participate at key stages throughout the process in accordance with the basic requirements set out in the Regulations ³ , and the proposals contained in the emerging Statement of Community Involvement.

Monitoring & review	
Document production and implementation (once adopted) to be reviewed annually, and reported in the Annual Monitoring Report.	

³ This reference and those that follow refer to The Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004

CABINET

16TH MARCH 2006

**LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN (LTP) 2006-2011 AND CAMBRIDGESHIRE
LONG-TERM TRANSPORT STRATEGY
(Report by Planning Policy Manager)**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Provisional Cambridgeshire Local Transport Plan (LTP) 2006-2011 was submitted by the County Council to Government in July 2005. As part of that process, all the District authorities of Cambridgeshire were signed partners to the Plan and provided input to the project and the inclusion of a District-based supporting Statement.
- 1.2 Government has now reported on the LTP and rated it 'very promising' and included a level of reward funding for 2006/07. Under new guidance issued, they have stated that a full LTP needs to be submitted to Government by the end of March 2006 and the authorities have been working together to deliver the plan based on feedback provided as part of the Provisional Plan. As part of this work the County Council, as lead partner, is aiming to translate the 'very promising' rating to an 'excellent' full plan with the possibility of further reward funding.
- 1.3 In addition to refining the LTP based on feedback received, the Government also requires that a high-level Long Term Transport Strategy is included setting out the more strategic objectives for Cambridgeshire.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Full LTP is now available in draft form and can be viewed online at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/ltp and it is a Background Paper to this report. Key areas where there has been change to the provisional Plan are as follows;
- Strategy details have been modified in accordance with feedback as follows;
 - The strengthening of the sections covering national policy guidance and text on the analysis of options – particularly the link to Long Term Transport Strategy
 - The inclusion of a Strategic Environmental Assessment on the LTP
 - More detail on the Traffic Manager and the Transport Asset Management Plan, particularly on actions that will be taken

- More detail of revenue expenditure on transport infrastructure / services and on the performance management of budgets and targets
- More detail on cross-boundary working and joint working with the Highways Agency
- The LTP now includes the high level Long Term Transport Strategy (LTTS). See Section 3 below
- A modified programme as required by Government to match the provisional funding award

2.2 Table 1 below indicates the provisional figures for Cambridgeshire announced at the end of 2005.

Table 1: Government LTP funding (£000s)

		2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	Total
Integrated Transport	Block Allocation	7,372	6,848	6,843	6,820	6,777	34,660
	Reward Funding	1,290	-	-	-	-	1,290
	Total	8,662	6,848	6,843	6,820	6,777	35,950
Maintenance Block allocation		12,782	13,038	13,689	14,374	15,093	68,976

2.3 The Full LTP draft contains the proposed Capital programme for 2006/07 and the proposed overall programme for 2007/11. It should be noted however that the actual amount to be spent in future years may change depending on how schemes are taken forward. This will include the continuing performance of the LTP when judged on an annual basis by Government based on meeting targets and scheme delivery.

2.4 One major change to the 2006/07 programme is the proposed Major Safety scheme proposed for the A605/B6761 at Elton. While this scheme has been progressing for a number of years, following the last major accident, a safety camera and other minor works were introduced. The effect of these has been to significantly reduce the accident rate to such a level where there have been no recorded accidents over the last two year period.

2.5 In parallel with physical works introduced and proposed, the County Council have also been negotiating with the affected landowner in terms of implementing the major scheme. During the past year, these have reached a stage where it became evident that the land would have to be subject to a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO). As part of that process, legal advice was taken which indicated that given the much reduced rate and severity of accidents at the junction, that the County Council would be unable to win a CPO Inquiry as a compelling need to acquire the land could not be made.

- 2.6 On this basis, the County Council is recommending that the Elton scheme is deferred whilst continuing to monitor site conditions with a view to identifying a scheme that may be required in future years. For information, the Major Scheme programme will be revised to bring forward a scheme on the A605/A141 junction between March and Guyhirn within Fenland District.
- 2.7 A copy of the District Council statement submitted with the Provisional LTP in July 2005 is attached at Annex A. This gives a broad outline of the works we have been engaged with on a local basis.

3. LONG-TERM TRANSPORT STRATEGY

- 3.1 Consultants have been working on the development of a Long Term Transport Strategy (LTTS) since summer 2005. Following stakeholder workshops and other consultation, the consultants have now completed the high level LTTS work for inclusion as an Annex to the LTP. Work on the detailed elements of the LTTS is ongoing and will be submitted to Cabinet later in the year once stakeholder consultations are completed.
- 3.2 The LTTS has adopted the same objectives as the LTP as follows;
- To create a transport system that is accessible to all;
 - To protect and enhance the built and natural environment
 - To develop integrated transport and promote public transport, walking, cycling and other sustainable forms of public transport;
 - To make travel safer;
 - To maintain and operate efficient transport networks; and
 - To provide a transport system that meets the needs of the economy

The LTTS therefore provides the framework against which the current and future LTP's will be required to deliver improvements to transport.

- 3.3 The LTTS has been developed to take full account of the various regional strategies – the Regional Economic Strategy and (draft) Regional Spatial Strategy (including the Regional Transport Strategy) – as well as the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Structure Plan and other organisations including District Council's, other transport authorities and service providers.
- 3.4 The strategy covers the period 2006 to 2021 and has been developed to take account of the wide range of issues across the County with the greatest challenge to accommodate the continuing demand to travel. The strategy therefore looks to assess current travel patterns by different modes and to project forward to 2021 and also consider the implementation of various projects including the Guided Busway, Chesterton Interchange and A14 improvements.

- 3.5 A number of differing scenarios were designed to test the effects of improved walking and cycling, public transport, better roads and demand management respectively. In order to control the growth in travel by car and tackle congestion, pollution and safety problems, this work demonstrated that the application of demand management techniques, working in tandem with improved public transport and more attractive conditions for walking and cycling would be required.
- 3.6 The strategy has therefore been structured to take account of the differing transport needs and issues of the County and develops specific proposals for;
- Rural areas
 - Strategic corridors
 - Market towns and their hinterlands; and
 - Cambridge
- 3.7 The LTTS therefore continues the approach adopted to date of widening travel choice and managing demand and the elements of the strategy include;
- Smarter choices – encouraging people to consider means of travel other than the private car;
 - Better conditions for walking and cycling – promoting sustainable travel choices for shorter journeys, encouraging greater physical activity and ensuring that people are safe;
 - Better public transport – providing effective travel choices on inter-urban corridors and for longer trips in urban areas, reducing reliance on the car and better meeting accessibility needs;
 - Demand management – better managing travel by car through a range of techniques, including the introduction of road user charging in Cambridge, where drivers will be able to choose a range of alternative modes; and
 - Highway management – making the best use of the road network including ensuring that measures are in place to support public transport, walking and cycling, tackling specific road safety problems, management of freight and targeted ‘congestion-busting’ measures where there is no alternative
- 3.8 The LTTS will require a substantial investment programme necessitating strong partnership working between the County and District Councils, Government, Regional Bodies, Transport Operators and the Voluntary sector. It will be delivered through a number of means, such as future LTP’s, the Transport Innovation Fund and Development Planning Process for new growth areas.
- 3.9 In funding terms, substantial commitments are expected to include the LTP, Transport Innovation Fund, Growth Area funding with contributions from public and private sector partners and the development industry.

4.0 OTHER SCHEMES

- 4.1 In addition to the proposed programme, the County Council is also looking to deliver schemes through the Government's Growth Area Fund (GAF). GAF funding has already been confirmed for schemes in Cambridge at Addenbrookes Access Road, Riverside Bridge, access works at Cowley Road and the relocation of Cowley Road Park and Ride site. Additional funding has also been granted for the Northstowe area pedestrian and cycle network.
- 4.2 The Highways Agency continues to progress proposals for the A14 upgrade between Ellington and Fen Ditton. In tandem with this work a joint study is also being undertaken into the implications relating to the road network and A14 viaduct in Huntingdon. It is expected that a report will be available outlining the recommendations for the viaduct in March 2006. This will then allow the Highways Agency to move towards a Preferred Route Alignment.

5. OTHER ISSUES

- 5.1 An emerging issue arising from the full LTP is that there is currently no programmed commitment from the County Council to deliver the bus priority measures between Huntingdon and St. Ives in time for the opening of the Guided Bus scheme in 2009. It is evident that the position has changed since the submission of the Provisional LTP 2006-2011 in July 2005 where supporting text and statements gave a more specific commitment towards the delivery of this element.
- 5.2 Cabinet will be aware that this was a crucial element for the District Council in giving support to the Guided Bus project in that such support would only be given on the basis that the proposals will provide the greatest benefit to Huntingdonshire residents and businesses.
- 5.3 The County Council have been exploring different ways of funding this particular scheme, including a Major Scheme bid for a programme in excess of £5M in value. To date, these have been unsuccessful. While the current LTP programme indicates the delivery of the George Street / Walden Road /Bus Station contraflow bus lane within Huntingdon during 2006/07, there are no other elements committed in the 5-year programme.
- 5.4 On-going correspondence and discussions continue to take place between Executive Councillors and Senior Officers of both Councils with the aim of reaching agreement on a way forward. However, on the basis of the Planning Inspector's decision relating to the Guided Bus scheme and the stated importance of the on-street elements in contributing to the overall success of Guided Bus, there is very serious concern as to the future viability of the overall scheme, and

District Council support, without the projected delivery of these crucial elements between Huntingdon and St. Ives.

6. CONCLUSIONS

6.1 The District Council has always provided its full support to the LTP process and been a signed partner to previous LTP's and included a full District Statement therein. However the potential inability to deliver the bus priority measures either in tandem with the opening of the Guided Bus scheme or as part of the proposed 5-year integrated transport programme, renders it necessary to consider the options available to the District Council. These are as follows;

- i. To continue to support the LTP and provide signed agreement thereto and the inclusion of a District-based Statement, if required by the County Council, and to authorise the Director of Operational Services, after consultation with the Executive Councillor for Environment & Transport, to approve any minor amendments to the Full LTP and to approve the District Statement prior to the formal submission of the Full LTP to Government by 31st March 2006;
- ii. As (i) above but to also continue negotiations with the County Council over the next 12-months to secure the Huntingdon to St. Ives measures within the LTP programme;
- iii. To formally advise the County Council that this Council is currently unwilling to formally sign-up as a partner to the Full LTP on the grounds that the delivery of the Huntingdon to St. Ives measures are not included in the 5-year integrated transport programme; and
- iv. As (iii) above but to also advise Go-East of this Council's position relating to the 2006-11 Full LTP

6.2 It should be noted that options (iii) and (iv) would have an affect on the overall rating of the Full LTP 2006 – 11 when considered by Go-East following formal submission on 31st March 2006. It is also likely that additional impact would be felt on locally based transport initiatives and projects jointly delivered by the County and District Council.

6.3 Officer level discussions are still taking place regarding the programme for the Huntingdon to St. Ives bus priority works and the Executive Councillor for Environment & Transport will give a verbal update at the Cabinet meeting.

6.4 Any recommendation to approve the Full LTP will be required to be submitted to the first available meeting of Full Council for approval.

7. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Cabinet consider the approach it wishes to take as outlined in 6.1 above

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Cambridgeshire Provisional LTP 2006 -2011
Draft Full Cambridgeshire LTP 2006 – 11
Draft Cambridgeshire Long Term Transport Strategy
DfT Cambridgeshire Guided Busway Order and Deemed Planning Permission

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HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL STATEMENT

Introduction

This is the third Cambridgeshire Local Transport Plan in which this Council has participated with both the County Council and the other local authorities of Cambridgeshire. During the 6 years of the first two plans, the Council has been an active partner in both the formulation of the Annual Progress Report to Government but also, importantly, in terms of the delivery of the policies and action plans on the ground across Huntingdonshire.

This work has specifically led to the development of this Council's Medium Term Plan in respect of transport related projects. As a result of the headline aims and objectives of the LTP, our Capital Programme, based on a rolling 5-year programme, has been specifically developed to maximise scheme delivery on the ground, working with a range of partners. Over the life of the LTP's, the Council remained on course and delivered in excess of £5M of transport related expenditure for the benefit of Huntingdonshire and as part of this new LTP, we will continue to deliver a similar programme in accordance with the aims and objectives of the plan.

Overview

Transport is a key driver of this Council and, in providing travel choice and in the consideration of issues around social exclusion, the environment and local economy, we continue to work with a range of partners to deliver our joint aims and objectives for the benefit of Huntingdonshire.

Huntingdonshire, by its location as part of the Cambridge Sub-Region, remains at the forefront of an area that is experiencing major growth in the local economy. While that brings significant opportunities and potential for growth, including better jobs, homes and transport infrastructure, these in themselves bring about the challenge for this to be achieved and delivered in a sustainable fashion.

We remain committed to working with our extensive range of partner organisations to deliver the local agenda and acknowledge with our work to date and in the future, that continued and greater involvement across the community will be increasingly vital to the success we enjoy locally.

As a result we welcome the emerging Long-Term Transport Strategy to cover the period to 2021 and the delivery of a new Cambridgeshire Local Transport Plan that;

- recognises the issues emerging from the revised draft Structure Plan placing a much greater emphasis on sustainability
- the continued approach by Government on the A14 issues arising out of the CHUMMS study and the current public consultation on the delivery of the scheme; and

- issues continuing to emerge from both Regional Planning Guidance (RPG 14) and the Regional Transport Strategy.

Key Issues

In terms of the work that we have undertaken to jointly deliver the LTP, reference should be made to our Huntingdonshire statement contained within previously submitted Annual Progress Reports.

However a number of major issues covering the period 2006-2011 are of direct relevance to our aim in delivering the LTP locally working in partnership and it is important to highlight these as follows;

Huntingdon to Cambridge Guided Bus

The District Council's originally approved Policy has been that:-

- the Council supports the principle of a guided bus system from Huntingdon to Cambridge provided that it will deliver the benefits claimed for it within the CHUMMS study, and that it can be delivered in an economic and cost effective manner.
- in order of descending cost heavy rail would be the most expensive option, light rail would be cheaper, but still significantly more expensive than guided bus.
- if a satisfactory case cannot be made for guided bus it follows, therefore, that neither the light or heavy rail option could be supported.

What is the District Council involvement?

- we commissioned our own consultants to provide an independent assessment of the proposal at an early stage. Based on the outcome of this study the District Council indicated its 'in principle' support for the proposal. This was conditional upon –
 - the economic case for the scheme prepared by the County Council being accepted by the Government; and
 - appropriate mitigation being provided to minimise any adverse environmental impacts.
- we continue to work with the County Council to ensure that their proposals will provide the greatest benefit to Huntingdonshire residents and businesses — for example, the provision of bus lanes and priority measures between Hinchingsbrooke Hospital and St. Ives including the link to Huntingdon Railway Station and both town centres, were added after support from the District Council, as well as the open nature of the system whereby multiple operators will be able to access the system subject to quality thresholds being met

- Our Cabinet continue to be briefed on the development of the scheme as the proposals are progressed

Local Development Framework

This is currently underway in Huntingdonshire and a central theme is to address the relationship between land-use and transport to improve access and modal choice for all. This is of particular importance as we develop the Cambridge Sub-Regional Infrastructure partnership. Annual reporting of progress on the LDF will continue to take place via our yearly statement through the Annual Progress Report.

Cambridge Sub-Regional Implementation Study

We continue to work closely with the County Council, Cambridgeshire Horizons and the other local authorities that are part of the Cambridge Sub-Region in developing the necessary infrastructure to cope with existing problems and to cater for the growth envisaged across the County. A number of sub-groups continue to examine future development needs based on forecast growth and development across the region. These focus on a range of issues including the identification of the required transport programme and the relationship between this work and the development strategy and the mechanisms required for simplifying and speeding up the implementation process.

Market Town Transport Strategies & Civic Trust Vision Projects

The District Council has given its full support to the aims and objectives of this work over the life of the existing LTP's and will continue to do so over the life of the new Plan. It has been a pro-active partner in the formulation of the strategies in St. Neots and Huntingdon & Godmanchester, including financial contributions to transport modelling work, and looks forward to taking the draft work for St. Ives to completion and the development of a similar strategy for the Ramsey area.

In terms of delivery of action plans that support the strategies, the Council has developed its Capital programme such that we contribute financially to those strategies currently approved and have provided a forward commitment to contribute to St. Ives and Ramsey as these come on line. Additionally the Council's Projects team have been engaged to undertake the design and contract work on a number of schemes emerging from both the St. Neots and Huntingdon & Godmanchester Action Plans and the Council will continue to provide that staffing commitment, subject to available resources, to all the strategies.

The Council also has on-going engagement with the Civic Trust to develop Vision projects for all the Huntingdonshire market towns. To date, the completed project for Huntingdon has now reached such a stage that it is now being re-visited and refreshed. To date, the work has been used in a number of key areas to inform the transport strategy and, in particular, the integration of land-use and transport issues.

A Vision for St. Ives was published in 2003 and for St. Neots in 2004 and these are being used to inform both revised and future transport strategies for the towns, particularly with regard to future development opportunities.

Within Ramsey, the Council and other partners have been developing a range of issues within the forum of the Ramsey Area Partnership. A number of these relate to transport and will be considered as part of any transport related strategy for the town in the future.

CHUMMS

The Council supports the principle of the Guided Bus scheme covered elsewhere in this statement and welcomes the continued Government support relating to the road-based outcomes of the scheme. This scheme remains crucial to Huntingdonshire as well as the wider region and the rest of the country given its strategic nature in national and European terms. We therefore keenly await details of this scheme to emerge following current public consultation on the delivery of the scheme, to which we will provide input in relation to balancing local need against the strategic nature of the route, leading to the completion of the scheme towards the end of the life of this Plan.

Other Key Strategies

Car Parking – During the first half of 2003, the Council appointed Consultants to undertake a review of our Car Parking strategy in order to provide further guidance following the last review in 1995. The primary reason for carrying out this work was to enable the Council to review its strategy to reflect national guidance issued by Government and in order to reflect local transport policies such as the LTP as well as the Council's current Medium Term Objectives.

The Council approved the strategy during 2004 and the first actions will be implemented during Summer 2005. We will continue to report emerging issues and actions within the yearly Annual Progress Report statement.

Taxi Study – As with Car Parking, the same Consultants were appointed to undertake a dual study into our Taxi strategy as well as a Hackney Carriage Demand study. Again the primary reasons for carrying out this work were for the Council to assess whether there are any areas of unmet demand relating to Hackney Carriage provision as well reviewing the strategy to reflect both

national and local policies such as the LTP and the Council's own Medium Term Objectives.

The approved Strategy contains a series of Short, Medium and Long-Term Actions to be considered by the Council in the future, subject to funding. We will continue to report the emerging issues and actions within the yearly Annual Progress Report statement.

Local Strategic Partnerships

Under the Local Government Act 2000 Local Authorities and partner agencies had a duty to establish Local Strategic Partnerships and draw up a Community Plan to improve the economic, environmental and social well being of the local area.

In Huntingdonshire, the Strategic Partnership was established and the Community Plan was published in 2004. Consultation with the public highlighted transport and access as a key concern. As a result, the Strategic Partnership established a sub- group to lead on this area and this is included within the adopted Plan.

The Transport and Access chapter was written with input from community groups and partner agencies and draws on the extensive public consultation. The 4 key objectives are:

- Comprehensive, affordable, safe public transport services
- Improved road safety
- Reduced congestion
- Improved access

The actions set out in the transport and access chapter are complementary to the LTP and give the added value of having a local Huntingdonshire perspective on this key public concern. A key area of work is for the group to lead on Accessibility Planning for Huntingdonshire and to inform the Framework Accessibility Strategy for Cambridgeshire by March 2006.

Improving Rural Access inc. Concessionary Fares

In accordance with the Council's Medium Term Objectives around reducing economic deprivation and supporting rural communities, the Council will shortly be considering the results of a study to review the options available to the Council for supporting the use of public transport, including taxis, to enable people who are disadvantaged by location etc. to gain access to employment, leisure and other essential services. The purpose of the study is to give the Council access to a properly researched series of options that will allow it to consider where it should provide additional support and to allow the development of a financial bid in its Medium Term Plan to fund such subsidies.

The work undertaken by Consultants has also looked at rural accessibility issues, the results of which will be used by the Local Strategic Partnership in developing the Accessibility Strategy.

Advance work relating to improving rural access and social inclusion has resulted in the Council providing resource input to community transport schemes across Huntingdonshire. We support four existing schemes in the form of staff resources, professional advice and financial support in both revenue and capital terms to ensure that the continued social need that they give is continued to be met. For the period through to 2009/10, our current commitment is in excess of £310K.

Conclusion

As this Statement demonstrates, Huntingdonshire remains committed to supporting the transport and access agenda across the District and is active in both the strategic policy arena that sets the future agenda as well as delivery of initiatives on the ground, particularly through financial contributions via our Medium Term Plan.

In addition to those Key Issues outlined above and as our yearly statements within the previous LTP Annual Progress Reports outline in greater detail, the Council continues to financially support the transport and access agenda locally in the sum of just under £7M for the period 2005/06 to 2009/10. We will continue to build on such commitment through the further development of our Medium Term Plan.

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**CAMBRIDGESHIRE & PETERBOROUGH MINERALS & WASTE PLAN:
CONSULTATION ON ISSUES & OPTIONS
ADDITIONAL SITES
(Report by Planning Policy Manager)**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report informs Cabinet of proposals for minerals and waste planning published by Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council, and recommends a response on behalf of the District Council.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council are responsible for minerals and waste planning in the county. In June / July 2005 they consulted on options for a new planning framework covering these matters, looking ahead to 2021. The Council submitted comments on these options which were approved by Cabinet on the 21st July 2005.
- 2.2 Following this consultation a number of additional locations have been proposed and the Minerals and Waste Planning Authorities are now seeking views on these locations. The closing date for comments was 13 March, but the County Council's officers have agreed that the District Council's views can be submitted following this meeting.
- 2.3 As a result of the planning reforms introduced in 2004 this new framework will comprise a number of elements (although Cambridgeshire and Peterborough intend to produce these in parallel):
- A Core Strategy setting out the overall vision, objectives and policies
 - A set of site-specific proposals
 - An 'Action Plan' for the Mepal/Earith area, which will examine this area in more detail in view of the numerous sites located there and the many associated issues such as highway impacts, flood protection and restoration
 - A Proposals Map
- 2.4 The proposed timetable for producing these documents is as follows:
- Initial consultation on issues & options (present stage) – June/July 05
 - Consultation on preferred options – March/April 06
 - Submission to Secretary of State – Jan/Feb 07
 - Examination – June 07
 - Adoption – December 07

3. THE ISSUES AND OPTIONS DOCUMENT

- 3.1 Members will recall that the Issues & Options document contained several sections:
- A series of questions about general policy issues that the Core Strategy may address.
 - A number of potential mineral extraction sites: some of these are new, some are extensions to existing sites and some are existing (but unimplemented) allocations that could be renewed.
 - Proposals for 'Mineral Safeguarding Areas' and 'Mineral Consultation Areas': the former are areas where known mineral resources would be safeguarded pending possible extraction in the longer term; the Consultation Areas cover areas where the potential is less well established, but where the Minerals Planning Authority would have to be consulted on any significant proposals that could compromise extraction.
 - A number of potential sites for waste management facilities (a mixture of new sites and existing allocations).
- 3.2 All of the site-specific proposals were presented first for Cambridgeshire as a whole (excluding Mepal/Earith) and then for the area that might form the Mepal/Earith Action Plan.

4. IMPLICATIONS AND POTENTIAL RESPONSES

- 4.1 Growth in Cambridgeshire will inevitably place continuing demands upon both the minerals industry and waste management facilities. Where possible it is desirable that sites are found within the county to address these requirements, thereby minimising the need for long-distance movement of materials. However it is essential that extraction, recycling and disposal operations take place in a way which safeguards the environmental quality of the area and the living conditions of local residents.
- 4.3 The suggested responses of the Council for the additional locations are contained in appendix 1.
- 4.4 Two general concerns should be raised again, the first of which is the process of site selection. It is understood that the potential new sites for mineral extraction and waste management facilities in the document are solely ones that have been proposed by the minerals and waste industry, following approaches by Cambridgeshire and Peterborough City Councils (it should be noted that they are not necessarily endorsed by the councils, and it is very unlikely that all of them will be required or allocated in the new plan).
- 4.5 This approach could fail to capture sites that such developers and operators do not have an interest in at present. This is a serious flaw, as it imposes an artificial limit on the range of options for consideration by stakeholders at this early stage of plan production. A particular need in Huntingdonshire is the requirement for a new waste recycling site to serve St Neots, although there are two sites proposed for this in the set of additional sites neither of them are suitable. The site identified on the A428 is unsuitable but a site within the vicinity of this road would be

beneficial and the District Council would welcome the opportunity to meet with the Waste and Minerals Authorities to discuss potential sites. The authorities should be urged to look more widely at potential opportunities for locating new facilities, and should also be asked to circulate any additional proposals that come forward as a result of the present consultation to key stakeholders (including the District Council), so that their relative merits can be considered.

- 4.6 The second concern is the very limited information about the potential sites that has been made available at this stage (no more than a series of maps). If stakeholder consultation is to be effective it must be supported by adequate information about the proposals, but the document fails to provide even a cursory analysis of site-specific constraints and potential impacts. The suggested responses in the appendix 1 are based upon officers' own analysis of the sites. The document also needs to provide an indication of how much of the aggregate supply target will be provided by recycling and how much through extraction so that a clear idea is given on the scale of provision required.

5. RECOMMENDATION

Cabinet is recommended to submit observations to Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council along the lines set out in section 4 and Appendix 1 of this report.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Cambridgeshire County Council & Peterborough City Council (June 2005)
Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Minerals & Waste Development Plan: Issues and Options Paper

CONTACT OFFICER - enquiries about this report to Richard Probyn (Planning Policy Manager) 388430

APPENDIX 1: SUGGESTED RESPONSES TO POTENTIAL NEW WASTE MANAGEMENT SITES

Maps showing the sites concerned are included at the end of the appendix.

Site 3: Colne Fen Quarry, Earith

This site is East of Somersham at the existing Colne Fen Quarry. The potential use is waste recycling producing secondary aggregate and inert landfill.

Suggested response:

In principle there is no objection to this use at the site provided it is limited to the life of the current sand and gravel extraction. The impacts of the proposal on the local road network and country wildlife sites in the vicinity require careful assessment and appropriate mitigation measures. There is also a Site of Special Scientific Interest to the South East of the site.

Site 22: Woolpack Farm, Hemingford Grey

This site is located south of the A14, north west of Woolpack Farm, Hemingford Grey. The potential use is inert landfill and permanent waste recycling.

Suggested response:

Unacceptable. The site is located between a wooded area and a lake. The use of this site for inert landfill and permanent waste recycling would have an unacceptable visual impact. The site has a limited frontage onto the A14 and it is unclear how a suitable junction would be achieved. The impacts of the proposal on the road network in the vicinity will require careful assessment and appropriate mitigation measures. This is a Site of Special Scientific Interest to the West.

Site 23: St Neots

This site is located east of St Neots at the junction between the B1428 and the A428. The potential use is a household waste recycling centre.

Suggested response:

Unacceptable. This location is a gateway into St Neots and the impact the proposal would have on this and on the road network in the vicinity will require careful assessment and appropriate mitigation measures. Although this site is not suitable there is a need for a waste recycling site to serve St Neots and a site in the vicinity of the A428 would be beneficial.

Site 24: St Neots Sewage Works

This site is located north of St Neots south of the existing sewage works. The potential use is a household waste recycling centre.

Suggested response:

Unacceptable. This proposal would have an obtrusive impact on the landscape in an area which has been identified in the Council's emerging Core Strategy as an Area of Strategic Greenspace Enhancement. The impacts of the proposal on the road network in the vicinity will require careful assessment and appropriate

mitigation measures. There are Sites of Special Scientific Interest to the North and South West of the Site.

Site 28: Weybridge farm, Alconbury

This site is located north of the A14 between Ellington and Brampton. The proposal is for sand and gravel extraction.

Suggested Response:

Support in principle. A large area of the site has been used for sand and gravel extractions. This site would be an appropriate location for further sand and gravel extraction, particularly given the location of the proposed realignment of the A14. The impacts of the proposal on the road network in the vicinity will require careful assessment and appropriate mitigation measures.

Site 30: Needingworth Quarry, Needingworth

This site is north east of Needingworth. The potential use is waste recycling producing secondary aggregate.

Suggested Response:

In principle there is no objection to this use at the site provided it is limited to the life of the current sand and gravel extraction. The impacts of the proposal on the local road network and country wildlife sites in the vicinity require careful assessment and appropriate mitigation measures.

Site 31: Puddock Hill, Warboys

This site is located north of Warboys between Warboys Wood and Pingle Wood. The potential use is for Hazardous landfill and continuing waste recycling of non hazardous waste.

Suggested Response:

Unacceptable. Permission for the use of this site for the disposal of hazardous waste was refused in May 2004 and the subsequent appeal of this decision was withdrawn. The reason for refusal given included; sufficiently serious risks to human health and the water environment, stress on the social and economic fabric of the local community and the impact of odours. These reasons still apply. In addition to this the road infrastructure in this location is poor and the impact of the proposal on the local road network would require careful assessment and appropriate mitigation measures. A large are of the site is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest.

Site 35: ADAS site at Woodhurst, Huntingdon

This site is located east of Woodhurst. The proposal is for composting and waste recycling and recovery.

Suggested Response:

Potentially acceptable. This site has planning permission for the production of compost for agriculture, horticulture and landscaping and for the establishment of an ADAS composting research project. There would be a landscape impact along the east of the site which would require new landscaping. There is also an

orchard at the north of the site, the impact of the proposal on this and the local road network will require careful assessment and appropriate mitigation measures.

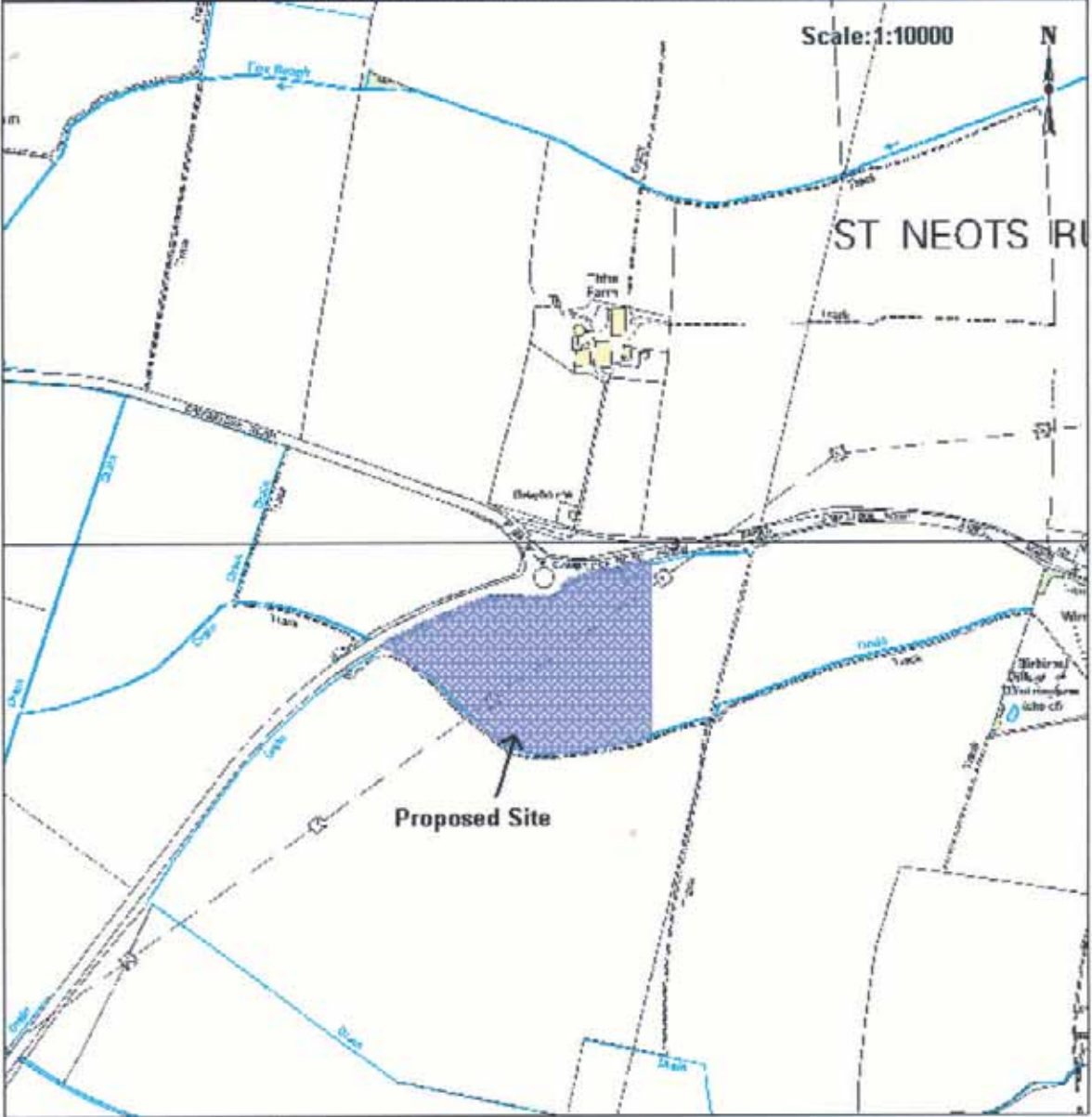


SS4 Site 22: Option 1	Do you support this proposal for a waste management site, if so why?
SS4 Site 22: Option 2	Do you object to this proposal for a waste management site, if so why?
SS4 Site 22: Option 3	Do you support this proposal in part, subject to amendments? If so please indicate the amendments requested?



**Cambridgeshire
County Council**
Environment &
Community Services

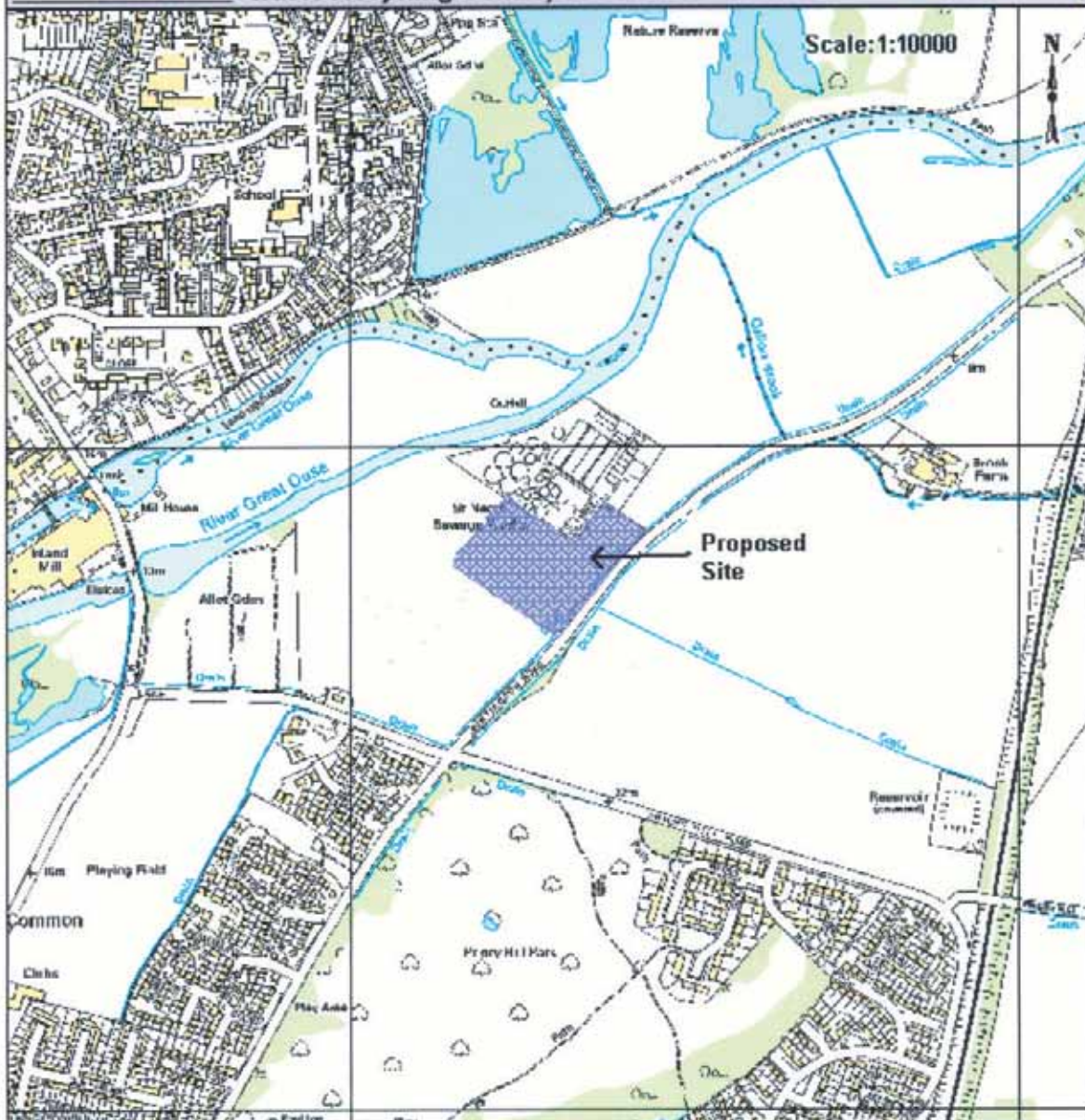
Topic SS4: New Waste Management Sites
**Site 23: St Neots (Household Waste
Recycling Centre) see also SS4 site 24**



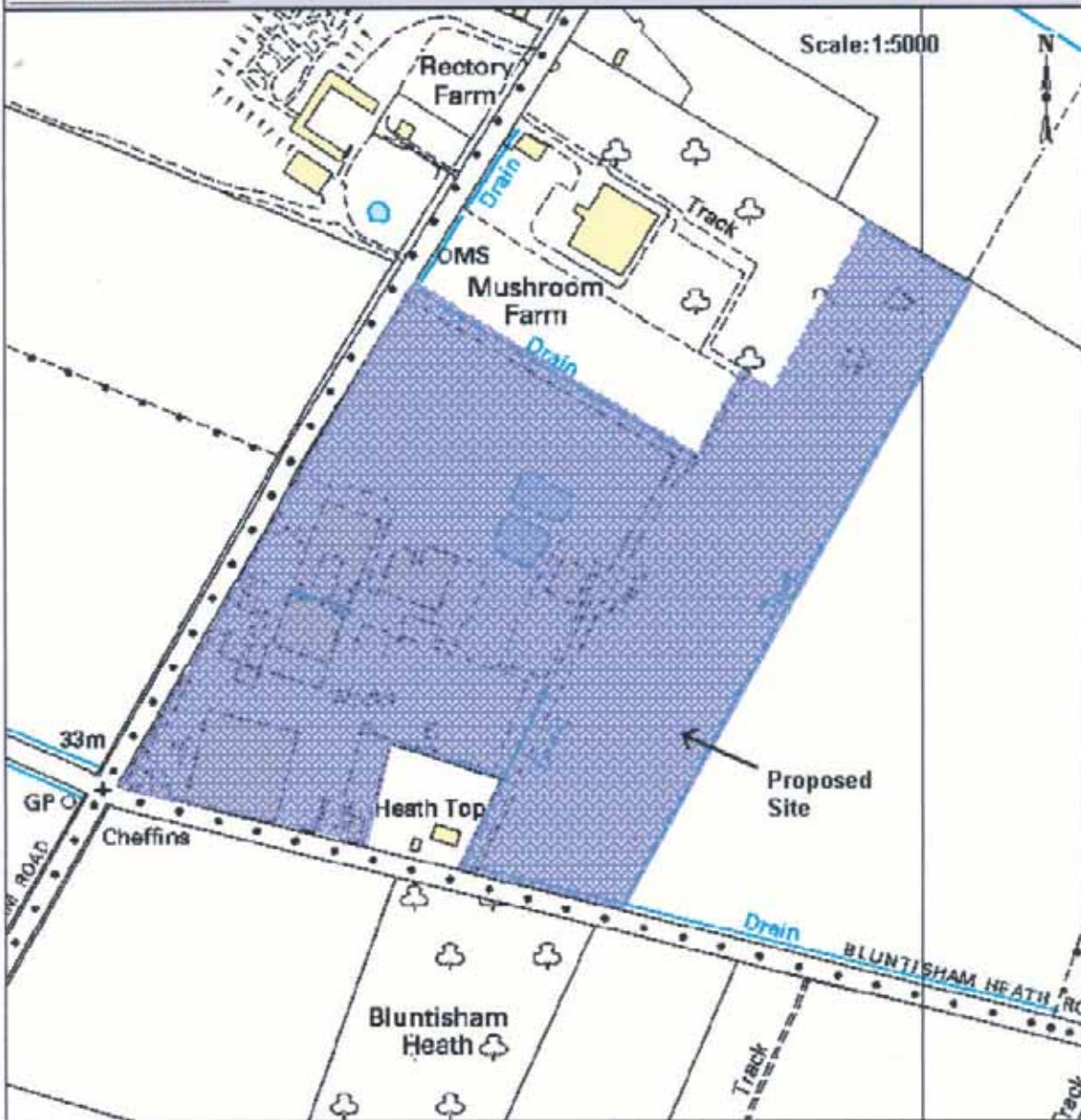
<p>SS4 Site 23: Option 1</p>	<p>Do you support this proposal for a new waste management site, if so why?</p>
<p>SS4 Site 23: Option 2</p>	<p>Do you object to this proposal for a new waste management site, if so why?</p>
<p>SS4 Site 23: Option 3</p>	<p>Do you support this proposal in part, subject to amendments? If so please indicate the amendments requested?</p>

19/10/2005
BC9

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SS4 Site 24: Option 1	Do you support this proposal for a new waste management site, if so why?
SS4 Site 24: Option 2	Do you object to this proposal for a new waste management site, if so why?
SS4 Site 24: Option 3	Do you support this proposal in part, subject to amendments? If so please indicate the amendments requested?



SS4 Site 35: Option 1	Do you support this proposal for a waste management site, if so why?
SS4 Site 35: Option 2	Do you object to this proposal for a waste management site, if so why?
SS4 Site 35: Option 3	Do you support this proposal in part, subject to amendments? If so please indicate the amendments requested?

CABINET

16 MARCH 2006

MEDIUM TERM PLAN REQUESTS FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

(Report by the Head of Financial Services)

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to allow Cabinet to decide whether to release funds for the MTP schemes detailed in the attached annexes.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Council considered the draft budget and MTP report at its December meeting and agreed *that, having regard to the implications for future spending and Council Tax levels, Directors review with appropriate Executive Councillors the need for schemes/projects included in the MTP but not yet started and that specific prior approval be sought and obtained from the Cabinet before such schemes/projects are implemented.*

- 2.2 Officers have considered which schemes have wholly or partly started with reference to the following definitions:

STARTED

- The staff have been appointed and/or a legally binding contract is in place for all aspects.
- Some of the staff have been appointed or a legally binding contract is in place for **part** of the scheme **and there is no sensible option to avoid or defer those elements that are not yet legally committed.**
- The scheme is based on a partnership and **all** constituent projects have been agreed with those partners and they have reserved funding for them in the current year.

PARTIAL START

- Some of the staff have been appointed or a legally binding contract is in place for part of the expenditure and there is a practical cost-effective option to not carry out the full scheme at this time.
- The scheme is based on a partnership and **some** individual projects have been agreed with those partners and they have reserved funding for them in the current year.

- 2.3 Officers have subsequently identified which schemes that they wish Cabinet to consider releasing further funding for and have discussed them with the relevant Executive Councillor.

- 2.4 Annex A summarises and the following Annexes detail the schemes where release of funds is now requested.

3. RECOMMENDATION

3.1 The Cabinet is recommended to release the funds shown in Annex A.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT 1985

None

Contact Officer:

Steve Couper

Head of Financial Services 📞 **01480 388103**

		Net Revenue Impact (£'000)										Net Capital (£'000)				
		2005/ 2006	2006/ 2007	2007/ 2008	2008/ 2009	2009/ 2010	2010/ 2011	2005/ 2006	2006/ 2007	2007/ 2008	2008/ 2009	2009/ 2010	2010/ 2011			
SUMMARY																
Annex																
B	192 - Vehicle Replacement Programme – 06/07															
C	22 - CCTV Improvements – Leisure Centres															
D	39B & 309/442/441 - Disabled Facilities Grants															
E	611 - Discretionary Repair Loans / Grants															
F	662 - Community Information Centres															
G	450 - Replacement Photocopiers	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	27				
H	651 – Herne Rd STW Replacement															
I	652 – Closed Church Yards Maintenance															
J	469/620 – Crime and Disorder – Lighting Improvements															
K	389 – Local Transport Plan															
L	474 – Safe Cycle Routes															
M	460 – CCTV – Camera Replacements															
N	250 – St Neots Transport Bid															
O	472 – Accessibility Improvements															
P	361 – Huntingdon Transport Strategy															
Q	362 – St Ives Transport Strategy															
R	479 – Community Transport Funding															
S	132 – Railway Station - Improvements															
T	400 – Bus Shelter Provision															
U	672 – Concessionary Fares															
V	480 – Implementation of the Car Parking Strategy															
W	603 – AJC Small Scale Improvements															
X	674 – Heart of Oxmoor	36	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1980				
Y	336 - Huntingdon Leisure Centre - Impressions Expansion															
	Total amount for which release now requested	37	309	321	321	321	321	321	321	321	321	2007	743			

192 - Vehicle Replacement Programme – 2006/07

Robert Ward

Financial Impact	Net Revenue Impact						Net Capital							
	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000
Approved Budget Already released		9	18	18	18	18	18		362					
Amount for which release now requested		9	18	18	18	18	18		362					

Justification for Release

The machinery detailed in the MTP Bid, Vehicle Replacement Programme 2006/07, will have reached the end of their operational life and therefore a Capital provision is urgently required to replace these front line vehicles.

22 - CCTV Improvements – Leisure Centres

Simon Bell

Financial Impact

	Net Revenue Impact						Net Capital							
	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000
Approved Budget Already released	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	45	0					
Amount for which release now requested	1	1	1	1	1	1	1							

Justification for Release

Sawtry Leisure Centre's extension is on schedule to open in late June 2006. Previous bids for CCTV enhancements have been held back until nearer final completion. As a result, 20k has been slipped which is now required to provide essential site safety coverage.

39B & 309/442/441 - Disabled Facilities Grants

Steve Plant

Financial Impact	Net Revenue Impact										Net Capital					
	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000	2011/ 2012 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000		
Approved Budget		25	72	117	162	184	184		995	895	895	895				
Already released									0							
Amount for which release now requested		25	50	50	50	50	50		995							

Justification for Release

The Council must award a DFG for work to achieve one or more of a set of purposes defined by statute. DFGs are awarded on the recommendation of an Occupational Therapist (OT) and funds aids and adaptations like ramps, stair lifts and level access showers. DFGs enable elderly and disabled people to live independently and therefore contribute towards the quality of life for vulnerable people. The Council must be satisfied that a DFG is necessary and appropriate and that to carry it out is reasonable and practicable. The Council is, therefore, expected and required to set a budget that can cope with the likely level of demand placed upon it.

The Government has recently announced allocations for 2006/07 and has allocated a maximum of £524k to contribute towards DFGs in Huntingdonshire. This is an 18% increase on the 2005/6 allocation and a 36% increase on the 2004/5 allocation. The increase reflects a slight increase in national resources for DFGs and a revised allocation formula within the Eastern Region. Within the Region, Government Office had resources to allocate every local authority 70% of what they bid for. The Council's increase in allocation in 2006/7 reflects the increase in our bid through the HIP process.

The OTs continue to report fluctuating staff levels and difficulties with staff sickness, recruitment and retention which may impact on OT referrals for DFGs. This will be monitored. The OTs have predicted that 20 DFGs costing an average of £5k each will be approved each month, resulting in an annual budget requirement of £1.2m. The Government have recently (December 2005) abolished the means test for children's DFGs and although the impact of this legislation is not yet known, there are a significant number of children's DFGs in the pipeline for approval this year. MTP release of £1,330k gross, £995k net is requested to enable DFGs to be processed and paid from the beginning of the new financial year.

611 - Discretionary Repair Loans / Grants

Steve Plant

Financial Impact	Net Revenue Impact						Net Capital							
	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000
Approved Budget		6	18	30	42	48	48		233	233	233	233		
Already released									0					
Amount for which release now requested		6	12	12	12	12	12		233					

Justification for Release

House repair loans / grants are discretionary but it is the expectation of government that authorities will work to address private sector unfitness and disrepair. The published guidance from the ODPM states "The government would consider an authority to be failing in its duty as a housing enabler and in its responsibility to consider the condition of the local private sector stock if it did not make some provision for assistance".

Repair loans / grants are made according to a tightly-defined criteria based on the seriousness and urgency of the repair and the ability of the owner to finance. All repair loans / grants may therefore be assumed to be to finance work that would otherwise not have been carried out, and if not carried out would have led to deterioration in the built environment and, in some cases, would have led to a decline in the health of the owner.

The Council's policy is to issue interest free loans to eligible owner occupiers. A charge is placed on their property and the loan is repaid when the property is sold. Grants are given in exceptional circumstances if there is inadequate equity in the property to support the charge.

662 - Community Information Centres

Dan Smith

Financial Impact

		Net Revenue Impact						Net Capital					
2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000
	44												
Approved Budget Already released													
Amount for which release now requested	44												

Justification for Release

These two projects are already operational, Yaxley commenced in April 2003 and Ramsey in April 2005. The funds are needed to pay staff salaries and project operating costs and consequently safeguarding and securing an existing physical asset and resource. These 2 posts will enable the two centres to continue to provide the high quality advice and information services to the respective local areas.

450 - Replacement Photocopiers

Roy Reeves

Financial Impact

	Net Revenue Impact						Net Capital							
	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000
Approved Budget Already released	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0	27 0						
Amount for which release now requested	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	27						

Justification for Release

This funding will be used to replace the photocopiers in Pathfinder House and Castle Hill House that were purchased in 2000. Notwithstanding the development of network printing, the need remains for a number of photocopiers for one-off small scale copying. The current photocopiers are reaching the end of their working life and it is important for the machines to be reliable, efficient and updated to incorporate technological developments.

651 - HERNE RD STW REPLACEMENT

Chris Allen

Financial Impact

	Net Revenue Impact						Net Capital							
	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000
Approved Budget Already released	1 0	2 0	2 0	2 0	2 0	2 0	2 0		30 0					
Amount for which release now requested	1	2	2	2	2	2	2		30					

Justification for Release

Herne Rd Sewage Treatment Works serves 8 ex-council houses. The works remained in the ownership of HDC at LSVT. The plant has been maintained by HHP on behalf of the Council.
 The plant was installed in the 1970s as a package plant and has reached the end of its life. Replacement parts are hard to find and getting expensive. Failure of the plant means that the consent standard will not be met and this could lead to prosecution

652 - Closed Church Yards Maintenance

Chris Allen / Robert Ward

Financial Impact	Net Revenue Impact						Net Capital							
	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000
Approved Budget Already released		25 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	15 0	15 0							
Amount for which release now requested		25	15	15	15	15	15							

Justification for Release

This is a new scheme identified due to the transfer of closed church yards from parish councils to the district for their future maintenance. There could also be a liability on some sites due to dangers from falling tombstones and walls etc. The money in 2006 also includes for a survey of the churchyards to assess the needs fully.

469/ 620 - Crime and Disorder – Lighting Improvements

Sonia Hansen / Chris Allen

Financial Impact	Net Revenue Impact						Net Capital							
	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000
Approved Budget Already released	4 4	5 4	6 4	7 4	8 4	8 4	8 4	23 23	23 23	23 23	23 21	23 21		
Amount for which release now requested		1	1	1	1	1	1		23					

Justification for Release

This scheme provides for the provision of extra lighting to areas where there is a public safety issue throughout the district. The particular schemes are identified as discussions are held with local residents, the police or safety partnerships. The release of these funds will allow these discussions to progress and money to be allocated.

389 LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN

Stuart Bell / Chris Allen

Financial Impact	Net Revenue Impact						Net Capital							
	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000
Approved Budget Already released	13 13	18 13	22 13	27 13	31 13	34 13	36 13	86 86	87 87	87 87	87 87	87 87	77	
Amount for which release now requested		2	4	4	4	4	4		87					

Justification for Release

This scheme provides funds for several smaller projects which support the local transport plan. Many of these are joint funded by parish or the county council. Discussions have taken place with the parishes regarding schemes that they would consider important and release of funding will allow these to progress.

474 - SAFE CYCLE ROUTES

Stuart Bell / Chris Allen

Financial Impact

	Net Revenue Impact						Net Capital							
	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000
Approved Budget Already released	6 6	16 11	23 11	28 11	32 11	36 11	37 11	20 20	205 0	87 87	87 87	87 86		
Amount for which release now requested		5	10	10	10	10	10		205					

Justification for Release

This scheme is a jointly funded scheme with the County Council and has been successful at producing safe cycle routes to schools. These have included Huntingdon to Hinchingsbrooke, Brampton to Hinchingsbrooke, Oxmoor to St Peters and Eynesbury to the Station. In order that County can commit to this years programme, a decision is needed to spend this years' money so that the design can be completed before the autumn. There is a priority list of schemes agreed with the County, and this includes St Neots Town centre to the station and Island Common, St Neots.

Early approval is sought as agreement for joint funding has been reached with the County Council and this commitment needs to be confirmed.

460 – CCTV - CAMERA REPLACEMENTS

Sonia Hansen

Financial Impact	Net Revenue Impact						Net Capital							
	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000
Approved Budget Already released	-6	-20	-13	3	13	13	13	99	13	99	114	0	13	0
Amount for which release now requested		1	1	1	1	1	1						13	

Justification for Release

Several of the CCTV cameras were provided on a lease. This has now expired and approval has been granted previously to purchase these on the expiration of the lease. Money is required this year to purchase those cameras whose lease is now expiring.

250 - ST NEOTS TRANSPORT BID

Stuart Bell / Chris Allen

Financial Impact	Net Revenue Impact						Net Capital							
	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000
Approved Budget Already released	1 1	12 10	14 10	14 10	14 10	14 10	14 10		83					
Amount for which release now requested		2	4	4	4	4	4		83					

Justification for Release

This bid is to fund works in St Neots identified under the St Neots Market town Strategy.

The scheme planned for this year for which this funding is required is the St Neots Town Centre to the Station Cycle route. This scheme a joint funded scheme with the County Council and is out for consultation this summer with construction in the spring.

472 - ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS

Chris Allen

Financial Impact	Net Revenue Impact						Net Capital							
	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000
Approved Budget Already released	8 8	9 8	10 8	12 8	12 8	12 8	12 8	31 31	31 31	31 31	31 31	31 31	31 31	31 31
Amount for which release now requested		1	1	1	1	1	1		31					

Justification for Release

The scheme is to carry out works on the highway and car parks to improve access to and from public transport areas to public places, especially for the disabled. This includes surfacing, signage, dropped crossings etc.

Release of funding is required to start this work over the summer to get the greatest benefit.

361 - HUNTINGDON TRANSPORT STRATEGY

Stuart Bell / Chris Allen

Financial Impact	Net Revenue Impact						Net Capital							
	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000
Approved Budget Already released	4	8	17	20	22	22	22	70	146	74	74	74		
Amount for which release now requested	4	6	8	8	8	8	8	70	72					
		2	4	4	4	4	4		74					

Justification for Release

This scheme is a jointly funded scheme with the County Council to enable the Huntingdon Transport Strategy schemes to be completed to the agreed programme. This programme has been widely publicised to the public and partners. Funding this year is towards the railway station improvements and Ambury Rd cycleway.

362 - ST IVES TRANSPORT STRATEGY

Stuart Bell / Chris Allen

Financial Impact	Net Revenue Impact						Net Capital							
	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000
Approved Budget Already released		2	6	8	11	11	11		76	76	76			
Amount for which release now requested		2	4	4	4	4	4		76					

Justification for Release

The St Ives Market town Strategy is being finalised and schemes are being identified for this coming year. These schemes are joint funded between the district and county council. With the funding released, design of these schemes can commence.

479 - COMMUNITY TRANSPORT FUNDING

Stuart Bell / Sonia Hansen

Financial Impact	Net Revenue Impact						Net Capital							
	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000
Approved Budget Already released	35 35	69 35	69 35	69 35	69 35	69 35	69 35							
Amount for which release now requested	34	34	34	34	34	34	34							

Justification for Release

This council supports the community bus schemes of the Nene / Ouse Community Bus and is to support the Ramsey and District community Bus. This bid was to increase the funding for these projects and the release of funds is now needed to continue these in this and future years.

132 - RAILWAY STATION - IMPROVEMENTS

Stuart Bell / Chris Allen

Financial Impact	Net Revenue Impact						Net Capital							
	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000
Approved Budget Already released	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	15	15					
Amount for which release now requested	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		15					

Justification for Release

Work is planned to start on the Huntingdon Railway Station interchange in May 2006, once the damaged ticket office has been repaired. This is a joint scheme with the County Council and the release of funds is required to progress the scheme.

400 - BUS SHELTER PROVISION

Stuart Bell / Chris Allen

Financial Impact	Net Revenue Impact						Net Capital							
	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000
Approved Budget	12	18	23	27	28	29	29	100	36	36	36			
Already released	12	17	20	20	20	20	20	100						
Amount for which release now requested		1	2	2	2	2	2		36					

Justification for Release

The scheme is to provide new bus shelters as part of the Prime Site advertising bus shelter contract. This money will erect shelters in locations that could not be funded from the advertising fund but are needed due to their use.

Discussions have already taken place with town and parish councils over possible locations.

Further shelters were provided in 2005 and this is to continue the programme with further sites.

Release of funding is required to start this work which our partners have been consulted on.

672 - CONCESSIONARY FARES**Stuart Bell / Steve Couper**

Financial Impact	Net Revenue Impact						Net Capital							
	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000
Approved Budget Already released	16	232	232	232	232	232	232							
Amount for which release now requested		232	232	232	232	232	232							

Justification for Release

A new scheme of concessionary fares is being discussed on a county wide basis following new government proposals.

This release of funding will enable this council's commitment to be made.

480 - IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CAR PARKING STRATEGY

Richard Preston

Financial Impact	Net Revenue Impact						Net Capital							
	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000
Approved Budget Already released	-144	-91	-143	-197	-197	-197	-197	44	380	1819				
Amount for which release now requested		-91	-82	-82	-82	-82	-82		380					

Justification for Release

Monies are required this year to construct the extension to the Riverside car park in Huntingdon to provide extra spaces for the town centre. The present capacity for the town does not meet the present needs and these extra spaces are urgently needed.

603 - AJC SMALL SCALE IMPROVEMENTS

Chris Allen

Financial Impact	Net Revenue Impact						Net Capital							
	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000
Approved Budget	11	17	22	26	30	34	36	109	112	82	82	82	82	
Already released	11	14	14	14	14	14	14	109						
Amount for which release now requested		3	6	6	6	6	6		112					

Justification for Release

This scheme is made up of several different projects throughout the district. These are partnership schemes with County, Town or Parish Councils. A joint assessment of schemes has been made by the County and District Members and Officers and a report was submitted to the AJC meeting in December 2005 recommending schemes for completion in 2006 /07.

Early approval is sought as agreement for joint funding has been reached with the County, Town and Parish councils and these commitments need to be confirmed.

674 - HEART OF OXMOOR

Chris Allen

Financial Impact

		Net Revenue Impact						Net Capital					
2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000
48	19	-37	-40	-40	-40	-40	2230	-2161	-110				
12	18	18	18	18	18	18	250						
36	1	1	1	1	1	1	1980	-2161					

Approved Budget
Already released

**Amount for which release
now requested**

Justification for Release

There are multiple schemes happening on the Oxmoor, including Buttsgrove Way housing, Sapley Square development, Acorn Centre, Coneygeare open space, etc.

This scheme provides the funding for the appraisal work for these schemes and the capital monies for others. The developments are progressing rapidly and release of funding is required to ensure that these continue to programme. There are many partners involved in the works, who have committed monies and need their programmes met.

Land sales will bring in an income shortly as will development contributions to make this a cost zero scheme.

336 - Huntingdon Leisure Centre - Impressions Expansion

Simon Bell

Financial Impact

	Net Revenue Impact						Net Capital							
	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000	2005/ 2006 £000	2006/ 2007 £000	2007/ 2008 £000	2008/ 2009 £000	2009/ 2010 £000	2010/ 2011 £000	2011/ 2012 £000
Approved Budget Already released	6	-6	-6	-6	-6	-6	-6	256	0					
Amount for which release now requested	0	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	150						

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Justification for Release

Fitness equipment at Huntingdon Leisure Centre has been on site for 5 years. Predicted lifespan of cardio-vascular equipment is a maximum of 5 years. In the last 5 years Huntingdon has been exceptionally busy with Impressions visitor numbers exceeding 250,000 in that period. Financial performance, however, has been affected more recently as customers have had ready made excuses to move elsewhere in search of better and newer equipment. With the imminent opening of Sawtry LC's Impressions Fitness studio there will be a further opportunity for customers to move and further affect HLC.

A bid for £250k has been approved for 2005/06 for improvements to HLC's Fitness studio and the opportunity to bring new equipment into the centre to coincide with the opening of Sawtry should not be missed. The bid covers building improvements as well as equipment. Expenditure on building improvements will be held back in the short term.

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PERFORMANCE MONITORING (Report by the Head of Policy)

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Council has adopted an updated Corporate Plan – “Growing Success” – which includes a series of measures or local performance indicators to help judge our success in achieving a series of priorities and outcomes. These measures are set out in a “scorecard”, an integral part of the Council’s Comprehensive Performance Management framework (CPMF). This framework provides for quarterly reporting of progress against the targets in the scorecard so that, if necessary, remedial action can be taken to ensure that performance is at the level expected.
- 1.2 The performance data in this report relates to the third quarter, 1st October to 31st December, of the current financial year.

2. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Council’s “scorecard” (attached) contains a range of performance information, including –
- the outcome or result that the Council is seeking to achieve: these include the Council’s six overall priorities;
 - the lag or end of year measure that will indicate success or otherwise in achieving the outcome;
 - the actual performance for the end of the previous year;
 - the target for the end of the current year;
 - the leading or interim measures that will help to demonstrate that we are on course to achieve the end of year target or indicate where remedial action might be necessary; and
 - the target for the lead measures.

The scorecard has been colour coded as follows:-

- green — achieving target or above;
 - amber — between target and an “intervention” level (the level at which performance is considered to be unacceptable and action is required);
 - red — the intervention level or below; and
 - grey — data is currently unavailable.
- 2.2 At this stage in the development of the CPMF there are some “grey areas” where performance data is not currently available. For some measures this results from the time lag between the collection of the data and its publication in a meaningful form. In others, the systems in place to monitor the relevant activity are still being developed. In the majority of cases this data will be available from the next quarter; otherwise, a specific reference has been made in the comments column.

- 2.3 Many of the lead measures are a composite of other measures at a service level. Where appropriate, reference has been made in the comments column to the number of measures which combine to provide the actual performance, broken down by the various levels of performance. In some cases the extent of “grey areas” have been an influencing factor resulting in a performance level which is below the current target.
- 2.4 A supplementary report is attached which provides further details on the leading or interim (red) measures that are not achieving target and what action is proposed to remedy the situation.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The Cabinet is invited to consider progress against targets.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION




Performance Management reports produced from the Council's CPM software system.
Growing Success: Corporate Plan.

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ANNEX A

Growing Success - October to December 2005

Community benefits we deliver:

Outcome	Lag or end of year Measure	Actual 2004/05	Target for 2005/06	Lead or interim Measure	Target 2005/06	Actual Oct to Dec	Comments
Good reputation	Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) rating	Excellent	Excellent	% of CPA improvement plan outcomes on track.	80%	76%	See Annex B
Good value for money	% satisfied with level of Council Tax for services provided	36%	60%	% projected average annual council tax increase for the next 5 years % of residents who have a clear understanding of council tax paid for services provided by the council.	5%	34.4%	Interim results from resident survey November 2005 (771 responses analysed out of 874)
Good quality of life	% satisfied with Huntingdonshire as a good place to live	87%	88%	% of lead targets for the six priority areas forecast to be met	80%	72% 	126 measures, currently 92 are green –72% 16 amber– 12.5% 16 red – 12.5% 2 grey – 3%
Safe and Active Communities	% who feel safe	82%	85%	% of targets for Safe & Active Communities forecast to be met	80%	75% 	16 measures, currently 12 are green–75% 3 amber–18.5% 1 red – 6.5%
Healthy Population	Average life expectancy	77.5 yrs males 82.1 yrs females	77.5 yrs males 82.1 yrs females	% of targets for Healthy Population forecast to be met	80%	74% 	23 measures currently 17 are green –74% 6 red – 26%

Outcome	Lag or end of year Measure	Actual 2004/05	Target for 2005/06	Lead or interim Measure	Target 2005/06	Actual Oct to Dec	Comments
Clean, Green and Attractive Environment	% satisfied that Huntingdonshire is a clean, green and attractive place	72%	75%	% of targets for Clean, Green and Attractive Environment forecast to be met	80%	78% 	32 measures currently 25 are green – 78% 5 amber –16 % 2 are red –6%
Housing that meets Local Leads	% of housing needs targets achieved	83%	80%	% of targets for Housing that meets Local Needs forecast to be met	80%	73% 	22 measures currently 16 are green –73% 3 amber –14 % 2 red –9% 1 grey –4 %
Strong & Diverse Economy	The number of local jobs	74,000	75,000	% of targets for Strong and Diverse Economy forecast to be met	80%	83% 	12 measures currently 10 are green –83% 2 amber –17%
Accessible Services and Transport Choices	% who feel they have good access to services	56%	60%	% of targets for Accessible Services & Transport Choices forecast to be met	80%	71% 	21 measures currently 15 green –71% 3 amber –14 % 2 red – 10% 1 grey –5%

Housing that meets Local Leads – dropped from 78% in Ort 2

Internal process we must excel at:

Outcome	Lag or end of year Measure	Actual 2004/05	Target for 2005/06	Lead or interim Measure	Target 2005/06	Actual Oct to Dec	Comments
Effective community leadership	% who believe we have clear direction and priorities	53%	70%	% of employees who believe we have clear direction and priorities (Staff survey July 05)	90%	50.6%	Lead measure will be changed as it less frequent than end of year measure
High quality service delivery	% of customers rating service quality as good or better	67%	65%	% of service delivery targets achieved	65%	62.5% 	24 measures currently 15 green – 62.5% 8 amber – 33.5% 1 grey – 4%
Effective partnerships	% of partnership targets achieved		80%	% of partnerships which comply with the council's framework	90%		Development of framework complete by 4th quarter 2005/06 & Data available 1 st Qrt 2006/07
Effective management	Revenue expenditure as a percentage of budget	86%	95%	Forecast outturn	90%	95%	
	Capital expenditure as a percentage of budget	77%	95% +/- 5%	Forecast outturn	95% +/- 5%	61%	
	% of effective management outcomes in resource strategies achieved		85%	% of effective management actions on track	85%		Development of framework underway. Data available following appraisals (2006)
Managing Expectations	% of people with an accurate understanding of our service standards	73%	80%	% of services for which we have defined and communicated service standards	100%		Development of service standards underway. Data available 3rd quarter 2005

What do our people think and do they have the right skills:

Outcome	Lag Measure	Actual 2004/05	End of year/Lag Target		Lead Measure	Interim/Lead Target	Actual Oct to Dec	Comments
			Revised 2005/06	2005/06				
Employees and Members with the right skills	% of employees with appropriate skills		80%		% of training & development plans completed	80%		Data available 1 st quarter 2006/07 . . . measured at six monthly and annual appraisals.
	% of Members who have attended appropriate courses		80%		% of Members for whom training requirements has been identified	100%		Changed measure (Survey in June 06)
Innovation and improvement	% of staff who feel we have a culture of innovation	34.8%	60%		No. of suggestions made per quarter	20	23	
	% of staff who feel that key behaviours are valued		70%		No. of innovation awards made per quarter	2		Data available after 1 st Feb 06
Share & Use Knowledge	% of staff who feel we are a learning organisation	70%	80%		% of employees demonstrating key behaviours	80%		Organisational values adopted. Data available following appraisals (2006).
					% of completed projects for which post-project appraisals have been completed and published	90%		Development of project appraisal methodology underway.
					No. of examples of knowledge sharing per month	20		System for recording knowledge sharing being developed

Additional Information- Comments on Red measures

Accessible services and Transport choices	Act	Targ	Int
Leisure Centres			
<i>% of lost calls</i>	15.6%	8%	10%
5546 calls received in quarter, 870 calls lost NB Includes calls lost while Centre closed over Xmas			
Leisure Centres			
<i>% of calls answered within 15 seconds</i>	73%	85%	75%
The target is aspirational as it has not previously been measured. Consequently, it may have been set too high. The target is to achieve 80% in due course. There has been a 7% improvement compared to previous quarter (68% to 73%)			

Clean, green and attractive environment			
Operations			
<i>% of missed collections collected by the end of the next working day</i>	70%	85%	70%
The main reason for the temporary decline in performance of missed bin recovery time is due to delays caused in the settling down period between Ops and the Call centre			
Planning			
<i>% of major planning applications accompanied by design statements</i>	47%	90%	80%
A number of applications related to old consents and renewals of earlier consents which do not require design statements.			

Healthy Population	Act	Targ	Int
Transportation			
<i>% of Local Transport Plan road safety targets on track</i>	0%	80%	60%
It may not be possible to report quarterly on these targets – info comes from County			
Parks Management			
<i>Proportion of priory park pavilion programme completed</i>	40%	70%	50%
Grant Application submitted - awaiting response			
Environmental Health			
<i>Number of cases of food poisoning/food borne illness reported</i>	60	48	51
Only 5% contracted from commercial premises within Huntingdonshire. We will need to develop a new strategy to address this issue in our service plan for 2006-7.			
Environmental Health			
<i>Number of Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR) reports of accidents received</i>	31	14.7	15
We cannot control receipts but this indicator shows more effort is still being expended on reactive accident investigations than was planned, at the expense of planned preventative work. The last 3 quarters have shown a significant increase on reports that does not follow the previous trend. When four quarters' results are available there should be sufficient data to analysis in an attempt to determine a cause for this shift.			

% of planned sampling carried out	80%	100%	90%
Unable to reach target because of Officer sickness.			
Leisure Centres			
Number of Advantage members (pre paid subscription)	3940	4200	4100
Advantage membership fell for the first time ever in the quarter Oct-Dec. More aggressive marketing will be introduced in January in order to achieve the annual target. Overall Impressions income, however, remains ahead of budget target			
Housing that meets local needs			
Environmental Health			
Number of complaints of disrepair, unfitness and overcrowding	60	53	58
We cannot control receipts but this indicator shows more effort is being expended on reactive investigations than was planned. The last 3 quarters together have shown a significant increase on reports that does not follow the previous trend. When four quarters' results are available there should be sufficient data to analysis in an attempt to determine a cause for this shift. This area of work is being affected by fundamental legislative changes that are in the process of being implemented			
Housing Services			
Projected % of annual housing need met	14%	100%	80%
This target will never be met, because there will never be sufficient eligible sites coming through the planning system, nor sufficient capital funding, should this ever be possible. This indicator is to keep Members aware of the real housing need in the district, not just what can be achieved, and will therefore always be red.			
Safe and Active Communities			
Operations			
% of Racist graffiti removed within 24 hours	67	100	80
6 calls regarding racist graffiti. 4 of which removed within 24 hours			

ANNEX B

CPA IMPROVEMENT PLAN – PROGRESS REPORT UP TO 31st DECEMBER 2005

Subject	Proposed Action	Ort 3
Access and Accommodation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete accommodation review • Complete DDA compliance survey and works • Deliver Customer First programme 	
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Processes for developing and changing local procedures. • Management checks of benefit assessments. • Improvements in processing time. • Revising documentation. • Vetting arrangements for new staff • Fraud investigation and recovery of over-payments 	
Capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review spending and resource allocation plans to ensure delivery of priorities. • Delivery of People Strategy 	
Children and Young People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt “Here by Right” standard. • Develop corporate protection policies 	
Corporate Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achievement of Corporate Governance framework. 	
Diversity and user focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revise equality and inclusion strategy. • Complete “Mapping Diversity” project. • Use research and consultation data to plan and improve services. • Complete race assessments and implementation of actions. • Promote compliance with Disability Discrimination Act. • Completion of programmed improvements. 	
Financial Management		
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of BVR – Balancing Housing Need – which incorporates improvements identified during the CPA • BME survey • Traveller Needs Survey • Conduct stock condition survey 	
Learning & Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt systematic approaches to learning and sharing knowledge. • Mapping Diversity Project, Traveller Needs Survey, Housing Survey. “Here by Right” programme. 	

Overview & Scrutiny	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement overview and scrutiny development plan. • Integrate corporate performance management framework with scrutiny process 	
Partnership Working	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop Partnership framework • Monitoring and evaluation of partnership success • Implement “Next Steps” and performance management system for Huntingdonshire Strategic Partnership. • Contribute to the development and achievement of Local Public Service Agreements 	
Performance Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete project plan to implement comprehensive performance management framework, including publication of service standards 	
Priorities and Vision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate strategic choices. • Initiate review programme, including external challenge, based on priorities and informed by CPMF. • Prepare and implement communications plans. 	
Procurement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review procurement strategy in relation to Gershon report, national procurement strategy and principles of sustainability 	
Risk Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete risk registers • Link to new service planning framework. • Complete business continuity plans 	

CABINET

16TH MARCH 2006

**REQUEST FOR A LOAN TO
SIBSON-CUM-STIBBINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
(Report by Head of Financial Services)**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Sibson-cum-Stibbington Parish Council levied a precept to raise £3,500 in 2006/07, but it has recently become apparent that there will be a deficit of up to £3,000. The Parish Council has requested that this Council provides a loan to cover the deficit.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 A new Clerk was appointed recently and she has identified that the budget did not include expenditure for election costs, training of new Councillors, increased costs of the Clerk (following the new appointment), and commitments for minor road improvements and parish paths. The Parish Council will endeavour to reduce expenditure wherever possible, but there will be an estimated deficit of £2,500 to £3,000 in 2006/07.

- 2.2 The precept for 2005/06 was £4,000 which was £20 at Band D; the precept for 2006/07 has been reduced to £3,500 which is £17.33.

- 2.3 This Council could provide a loan and it is recommended that the following terms apply:

- a) Interest is charged at 1% above the base rate at the time when the loan commences; base rate is currently 4.5%
- b) The Parish Council levies a precept in 2007/08 of an amount sufficient to repay the loan plus interest

It should be noted that a loan of £3,000 taken for one year would result in an additional precept of approximately £15.60 at Band D.

3. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended:

**that Cabinet approves a loan of a maximum of £3,000 to
Sibson-cum-Stibbington Parish Council during 2006/07, on
the terms given in paragraph 2.3.**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Council Tax Resolution 2006/07 report to Council 22nd February 2006

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 **01480 388157**

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