

**WEST OF STUKELEY ROAD, HUNTINGDON
URBAN DESIGN FRAMEWORK
(Report by HEAD OF PLANNING SERVICES)**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Cabinet is asked to approve the Urban Design Framework for its use in the potential re-development of this part of the town.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 A draft version of this document was released for public consultation by Cabinet on 28th May 2005 and the consultation period extended until 13th June. It has been advertised locally and affected properties have been leafleted.
- 2.2 As a result of comments received in writing, a number of revisions have been made to the document.
- 2.3 The adoption of the Framework as Interim Planning Guidance will be an important step towards achieving the most appropriate form of re-development for this area. It will help to ensure that forthcoming schemes are of a high architectural and urban design quality, and are well integrated with existing developments.

3. THE CONSULTATION RESPONSE

- 3.1 6 written responses have been received from statutory agencies, local organisations and members of the public, containing 30 separate comments for consideration. A summary of the respondents, their comments and the Council's response is contained within Annex 1.
- 3.2 Most comments have given rise to minor text or graphic changes. The most significant concern related to the Council's promotion of comprehensive development.
- 3.3 *Comprehensive development* is a fundamental part of the Council's role as Local Planning Authority to ensure that development is managed in a sustainable manner. This is the thrust of Planning Policy Statement 1. The production of guidance documents such as Urban Design Frameworks is considered best practice in promoting high quality and sustainable planning outcomes, not least to give direction and integration to areas of land that might otherwise be developed in piecemeal fashion. It is for this reason that the Council

is promoting comprehensive development of this area but, as a result of comments received, the wording in the document will allow for a 'phasing' of the overall scheme to enable parcels to come forward in stages.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The revised document incorporates a number of changes as a result of the public consultation process. The promotion of appropriate site analysis and a comprehensive design strategy is unchanged.

5. RECOMMENDATION

- 5.1 That the Cabinet considers the responses to comments presented in Annex 1 and agrees to adopt the revised Urban Design Framework, incorporating the specified changes, as Interim Planning Guidance.
- 4.2 That the Cabinet authorizes the Head of Planning Services to make any minor consequential amendments to the text and illustrations necessary as a result of these changes, after consultation with the Executive Member for Planning Strategy.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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