

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY(Environmental Well-Being)	10 NOVEMBER 2009
DM PANEL	16 NOVEMBER 2009
CABINET	19 NOVEMBER 2009
COUNCIL	02 DECEMBER 2009

**HUNTINGDON WEST AREA ACTION PLAN
PROPOSED SUBMISSION
(Report by HEAD OF PLANNING SERVICES)**

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Following consultation on Issues and Options (June 2007), Options (May 2008) and the Preferred Approach (May 2009) the draft Proposed Submission Huntingdon West Area Action Plan has been prepared.
- 1.2 The Proposed Submission document will be published and available for comment for a 6 week period although comments at this stage will be limited to whether the area action plan is either sound or unsound. The document should not be significantly changed after this stage. In accordance with the Local Development Scheme, the document will be brought to Council at this stage for approval.

2 CONTENT OF THE PROPOSED SUBMISSION

- 2.1 The area action plan seeks to set a framework for the area west of Huntingdon town centre to help deliver planned growth and regeneration. The text and maps for the Proposed Submission document is essentially taken from the Preferred Approach with the only amendments relating to changed source documents and in response to views put forward during the consultation period May-July 2009.
- 2.2 The Proposed Submission document:
- Supports the A14 proposals, the West of Town Centre Link Road, pedestrian and cycle linkages, and enhancement of the railway station.
 - Allocates a 7.8ha part of the George St/Ermine St area for mixed use, in particular in terms of retail development that is complementary to the town centre, approximately 170-230 homes, office activities and an additional long-stay public car park.

- Allocates two parcels totalling 2.5ha for business use in the Hinchingsbrooke area, with reference to the potential of the hospital site to bring forward further land and to the existing permissions for the Regional College and Water Tower conversion.
- Allocates some 45ha for open space in order to extend Hinchingsbrooke Country Park (much of this already being identified in the current Local Plan).
- Allocates 1.8ha of land currently used to support the A14 viaduct over Views Common for open space.
- Provides information and policies to support good design, improved infrastructure and appropriate phasing together with details on how the plan will be monitored.

3 SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AND TIMETABLE

- 3.1 The 'audit trail' of how the document has been prepared through the various consultation rounds is being detailed in a separate document entitled the Statement of Consultation. A draft of this document is attached.
- 3.2 A 'sustainability appraisal', 'equalities assessment' and a 'habitat regulations assessment' will also accompany the document. The 'habitat regulations assessment' is being carried out by external consultants and requires the input of English Nature.

4 RECOMMENDATION


- 4.1 That the Panel consider the attached documents and report their comments to Cabinet.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Available on website:

<http://www.huntsdc.gov.uk/Environment+and+Planning/Planning/Planning+Policy/Huntingdon+West+Area+Action+Plan.htm>

Contact Officer: Richard Probyn, Planning Service Manager (Policy)

 **01480 388 430**