

## **AGENDA ITEM NO.**

CABINET  
COUNCIL

19 NOVEMBER 2009  
2 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. Cabinet are asked to endorse the document prior to its publication and recommend that Council approve it.

#### **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 FUTURE 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.
- 3.3 Once the Proposed Submission document is published, it will be available for comment for a 6 week period although representations 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 period and will be submitted to the Secretary of State together with any representations. In accordance with the scheme of delegation, the document is brought to Council at this Proposed Submission stage for approval.

### **4 CABINET RECOMMENDATION**

- 4.1 That Cabinet endorse the Proposed Submission document and recommend that Council on 2 December 2009 approves the Huntingdon West Area Action Plan Proposed Submission.
- 4.2 That Cabinet delegates to the Head of Planning Services after consultation with the Executive Member for Planning Strategy the making of any minor amendments to the Huntingdon West Area Action Plan Proposed Submission, and approval of the Statement of Consultation, Sustainability Appraisal, Habitat Regulations Assessment and Equality Impact Assessment prior to publication.
- 4.3 That Cabinet delegates to the Head of Planning Services after consultation with the Executive Member for Planning Strategy, completion of the Final Submission Huntingdon West Area Action Plan and associated documents including a summary of the main issues raised in final representations and submission to the Secretary of State.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Available on website:

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

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Attached:

1. Draft Proposed Submission
2. Draft Statement of Consultation