

O&S PANEL (ENV. WELL-BEING)
CABINET
COUNCIL

9 FEBRUARY 2010
11 FEBRUARY 2010
17 FEBRUARY 2010

**DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT DPD –
PROPOSED SUBMISSION
(Report by HEAD OF PLANNING SERVICES)**

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 A Proposed Submission Development Management DPD has been prepared following consultation on the development of options between 30 January and 30 March 2009, and key stakeholder consultation between 18 December 2009 and 11 January 2010 on a draft proposed submission document. Cabinet are asked to endorse the document prior to its publication and recommend that Council approve it.

2 CONTENT OF THE DPD

- 2.1 The policies within the Proposed Submission Development Management DPD are intended to provide detailed guidance for the determination of planning applications. The DPD is structured into 5 main sections:
- Mitigating and adapting to climate change
 - Protecting and enhancing the environment
 - Delivering housing
 - Supporting prosperous communities
 - Contributing to successful development
- 2.2 The following paragraphs identify the main changes since Cabinet last considered the Development of Options document in December 2008.
- 2.3 An enhanced profile has been given to policies addressing climate change as this was a significant point of concern raised in the consultation representations. National guidance and information on this topic is continually advancing with some of the previous aspects already obsolete since the announcement of mandatory rating against the Code for Sustainable Homes for all new dwellings.
- 2.4 The greatest number of representations in the consultation was generated by the proposed policy on development in the countryside. Coupled with concerns arising during the Core Strategy examination, these have led to the preparation of a separate policy defining built-up

areas and what constitutes the built form of a settlement. This is intended to aid interpretation of several other policies so it is set out in the Protecting and Enhancing the Environment section near the beginning of the document.

- 2.5 Employment policies have been refocused from the type of business to reflect the proposed scale of development. These reflect concerns over potential impact and the desirability of promoting job growth in smaller settlements to encourage opportunities for people to work close to home.
- 2.6 Policies about developer contributions have been collated into a separate section to provide a clear bridge between Policy CS10 of the Core Strategy and the forthcoming Planning Obligations SPD. This group of policies draws on the Local Investment Framework (2008) and documents such as the Sports Facilities Strategy (2009) and indicates the investment in infrastructure necessary to deliver successful new development.

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 should be limited to whether the DPD is either sound or unsound. Once published the Proposed Submission document will replace the Huntingdonshire Interim Planning Policy Statement (HIPPS).
- 3.4 Prior to being submitted to the Secretary of State together with any representations there is an opportunity to make changes to the document. Changes should be minor, addressing points of clarification and factual updates. 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 17 February 2010 approves the

Development Management Development Plan Document 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 Development Management Development Plan Document 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 Development Management Development Plan Document and associated documents including a summary of the main issues raised in final representations and submission to the Secretary of State.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Core Strategy 2009

Development Control Policies DPD Issues and Options Report 2007

Development Management DPD: Development of Options 2009

Strategic Housing Land Availability Study 2008

Employment Land Review 2007

Huntingdonshire Retail Study Update 2007

Huntingdonshire Strategic Flood Risk Assessment 2009

Local Investment Framework 2008

Open Space, Sport and Recreation Needs Assessment and Audit 2006

Sports Facilities Strategy for Huntingdonshire 2009

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