

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

CABINET

TUESDAY 16th NOVEMBER 2010

**Recommendations from Community and Regeneration Scrutiny
Committee, Thursday 4th November 2010**

Wyre Forest District Local Development Framework Core Strategy - Adoption

Members considered a report from the Policy and Regeneration Manager which outlined to Members the contents of the Local Development Framework Core Strategy Development Plan Document Inspector's Report.

Members were advised that the Council was now in receipt of an Independent Inspector's report which concluded that the Core Strategy was sound subject to some minor changes.

The Core Strategy was submitted on 8th April 2010 and independent Inspector Mr Philip Goodman BA (Hons) DMS MRTPI was appointed by the Secretary of State to undertake the Examination in Public. A pre-hearing meeting was held on 7th June 2010 at which the Inspector set out the procedural matters relating to the Examination. The hearing sessions took place between 19th and 29th July 2010.

The Inspector's report was received on 5th October 2010 and the Council were given two weeks to 'fact check' the report before the final report was prepared and received on 19th October 2010 and conclude that the Core Strategy was 'sound'.

The Core Strategy is the first document to be developed within the Local Development Framework. Achieving a 'sound' verdict has put the authority in a strong position to manage development within the District and to continue with the development of the Site Allocations and Policies and Kidderminster Central Area Action Plan DPDs. It is anticipated that both of these DPDs will undergo a preferred options consultation commencing in May 2011.

Members were reminded that the Inspector's Report in its entirety is binding upon the Local Planning Authority. Unlike the previous Local Plan system, the Council can not be selective about which parts of the report it chooses to accept and there is no scope for further modification to the document. Therefore, in order to adopt the Core Strategy, the Council must make all of those minor changes set out within the Inspector's Report.

Upon adoption of the Core Strategy, a number of policies within the Adopted Local Plan will be replaced and consequently will no longer be part of the Development Plan for Wyre Forest District.

Recommended to Cabinet: that the Inspector's Report is accepted in its entirety and to recommend to Council the Core Strategy is adopted, with it then commencing as of the 9th December 2010.