

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

CABINET
19TH APRIL 2011

**Recommendation from Community and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee,
Thursday 7th April 2011**

**Wyre Forest District Local Development Framework Site Allocations and Policies
and Kidderminster Central Area Action Plan DPDs: Preferred Options Consultation**

The Community and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee considered a report from the Policy and Regeneration Manager that sought Members' views on the consultation papers which represented the next stages in the Local Development Framework's (LDF) preparation. These being the Site Allocations and Policies Development Plan Document Preferred Options Paper and the Kidderminster Central Area Action Plan (KCAAP) Development Plan Document (DPD) Preferred Options Paper. Members' views were also sought on the accompanying Consultation Plan.

Following the adoption of the Core Strategy DPD in December 2010, the next two LDF documents to be developed will be the Site Allocations and Policies DPD and the Kidderminster Central Area Action Plan DPD. Members may recall that the first stage of consultation on these documents, the Issues and Options, was carried out alongside the Preferred Options consultation on the Core Strategy DPD in January 2009.

Site Allocations and Policies DPD

The Site Allocations and Policies DPD builds upon the Core Strategy, providing more detailed development management policies to guide the future development of the District. The policies set out relate to a number of areas including:

- Residential Development and Locations
- Employment Development and Locations
- Transport
- Sustainable Development
- Safeguarding the Green Belt
- Providing a Green Infrastructure Network
- Safeguarding and Enhancing the Natural Environment
- Safeguarding the Historic Environment
- Quality Design and Local Distinctiveness
- Rural Development

Part B of the document sets out site specific policies for the development of those sites which will come forward for development during the plan period to meet the District's residential, employment, retail and office development requirements which are set out within the Adopted Core Strategy.

The full draft Site Allocations and Policies DPD is set out at Appendix 1 to this report.

Kidderminster Central Area Action Plan DPD

The Kidderminster Central Area Action Plan DPD will provide more detailed policies for guiding the regeneration of Kidderminster and will set out policies relating to the development of specific sites and areas within the Action Plan boundary. The document sets out development management policies which are applicable specifically within the Action Plan area boundary and these policies address the following areas:

- Residential Development and Locations
- Employment, Office and Retail Development and Locations
- Sustainable Transport
- Sustainable Development
- Urban Design and Place Making
- Ring Road Framework
- River and Canal

Part B of the document sets out site specific policies for the development of those sites which will come forward for development during the plan period to meet the element of the District's residential, employment, retail and office development requirements which are set out within the Adopted Core Strategy which will be accommodated within the Action Plan Area.

Consultation Plan

An important factor in demonstrating the soundness of a DPD relates to being able to show wide public engagement in its development. Public consultation is required by regulation 25 of The Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2008.

Consultation will be carried out in accordance with the District Council's Adopted Statement of Community Involvement (April 2006) and with specific and general consultation bodies as set out by The Town and Country Planning (Local Development) Regulations 2004 as amended.

A consultation plan has been developed which sets out the measures which will be taken in order to engage stakeholders and the wider community in the Preferred Options consultation. The consultation will take place between 26th May 2011 and 8th July 2011. The main elements of the consultation are:

- A feature or a leaflet will be placed in the Kidderminster Shuttle on 26th May 2011. Those households which do not receive the Kidderminster Shuttle will receive a leaflet.
- Contacts whose details are held within the database will be notified of the consultation.
- All material will be available on the District Council's web-site during the consultation period and the consultation portal will enable respondents to submit their representations on-line.
- Poster displays will be set up in the three libraries and the three hubs for the duration of the consultation.

- A Parish Meeting will be held.
- Four manned exhibitions will be held in the three towns, three of which will be on Saturdays.
- A Planning Policy Officer will be available at the Hub in Kidderminster during the normal Development Control Hub duty times throughout the consultation period.

Sustainability Appraisal

Both DPDs are subject to Sustainability Appraisal (SA). The purpose of SA is to promote sustainable development through the integration of social, environmental and economic considerations into the preparation of plans. The SA process tests the plans objectives and policies against an established SA Framework. All reasonable alternative policy options are tested to identify the differing sustainability implications of different policy approaches.

A draft Sustainability Appraisal Report has been prepared to inform the Preferred Options Papers. This will be published on the Council's website alongside the Preferred Options Papers.

Recommended to Cabinet to recommend to Council:

- 1. The following Local Development Framework Development Plan Documents be approved for the purposes of consultation in accordance with Regulation 25 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004, as amended by the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2008:**
 - **Site Allocations and Policies DPD: Preferred Options, (attached at Appendix 1 of the report to the Community and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee)**
 - **Kidderminster Central Area Action Plan DPD: Preferred Options, (attached at Appendix 2 of the report to the Community and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee);**
- 2. The Director of Planning and Regulatory Services be given delegated authority to determine the final format and presentation of the papers;**
- 3. The public consultation on the Development Plan Documents be undertaken in accordance with the Consultation Plan attached at Appendix 3 of the report to the Community and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee.**