

**AMENDMENT by the Conservative and Liberal & Independent Groups
to the LABOUR Motion to Council, Feb 25th 2015**

Council notes;

That one major area to be revised in the District Local Plan will be focused on Kidderminster town centre and that the use of land for housing may form a significant element in this revision as part of a wider mixed use to support the economic viability of the Town Centre, in addition to the £2m investment in public realm works by Worcestershire County Council and Wyre Forest District Council;

That, particularly, new use designations are likely to be necessary for the land from the Kidderminster Eastern Gateway through to Worcester Street;

That the “ReWyre – ReNewed” report was agreed by Cabinet in December 2014, including the actions contained within it.

That Wyre Forest District Council is a major landowner in this area of the town centre;

That Wyre Forest District Council is the Authority responsible for overall housing provision in the district, including the range of house types, social mix, and tenures;

That Wyre Forest is a low-waged area in which 55% of households do not earn enough to buy a house priced at £120,000;

That under the current Government, 223 Affordable houses were delivered between 2012 to 2014 as part of 378 new homes being built in the district, in comparison to 2008 to 2010 when only 144 affordable homes were delivered as part of 286 new homes being built;

Welcomes the administration’s budget proposals to fund the development work that support the redevelopment of “Worcester Street and the wider Kidderminster Eastern Gateway”;

And resolves, in principle,

that, at an early stage in the redevelopment of the Eastern Gateway, the council continues to aim to deliver its adopted standards of affordable housing provision including consideration of using a joint venture with a housing association or housing co-operative, to provide properties to rent at affordable, “social rent” levels.