

**FORM 1**

**NOTICE OF DELEGATION OF DECISION TO CABINET MEMBER BY STRONG LEADER**

Section 15(4) of the Local Government Act 2000, the senior executive member may discharge any of the functions that are the responsibility of the Cabinet or may arrange for them to be discharged by another member of the Cabinet or Officer. On 1<sup>st</sup> December 2010, the Council adopted the Strong Leader Model for Corporate Governance 2011 as required under Part 3 of The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (The 2007 Act).

I, Cllr Graham Ballinger, as Strong Leader, delegate the decision South Staffordshire Spatial Housing Strategy and Infrastructure Delivery Consultation as detailed in the Local Plan to the Cabinet Member detailed below

Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration, Planning & Capital Investments: Cllr Fran Oborski  
MBE

Dated:

3/12/19

Signed:



Leader of the Council



**FORM 2**


**NOTICE OF DECISION OF CABINET MEMBER**

Pursuant Section 15(4) of the Local Government Act 2000, as amended by section 63 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, the senior executive member may discharge any of the functions that are the responsibility of the Cabinet or may arrange for them to be discharged by another member of the Cabinet or Officer. On 1<sup>st</sup> December 2010, the Council adopted the Strong Leader Model for Corporate Governance 2011 as required under Part 3 of The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (The 2007 Act).

In accordance with the authority delegated to me by the Leader (delete as appropriate), I have made the following decision:

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Decision</b>	<b>Reason for decision</b>	<b>Date for Decision to be taken</b>
South Staffordshire Local Plan Review Spatial Housing Strategy and Infrastructure Delivery Consultation	To agree the consultation comments to be submitted to South Staffordshire District Council in response to the Spatial Housing Strategy and Infrastructure Delivery Consultation	As a neighbouring local authority, Wyre Forest District Council has been invited by South Staffordshire District Council to comment on the Spatial Housing Strategy and Infrastructure Delivery Consultation and Local Plan	12 <sup>th</sup> December 2019

**I confirm that the appropriate statutory officer consultation has taken place with regard to this decision.**

Dated: 03-12-19  
Signed:   
Councillor: Fran Oborski MBE  
Cabinet Member



## WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

### Strong Leader Report

#### South Staffordshire Local Plan Review Spatial Housing Strategy and Infrastructure Delivery Consultation

<b>OPEN</b>	
<b>DIRECTOR:</b>	Mike Parker
<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	Gill Portmann
<b>APPENDICES:</b>	Wyre Forest District Council response to South Staffordshire Local Plan Review Spatial Housing Strategy and Infrastructure Delivery Consultation

#### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To agree the consultation comments to be submitted to South Staffordshire Council in response to their Local Plan Review Spatial Housing Strategy and Infrastructure Delivery Consultation.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATION**

The Cabinet Member is asked to DECIDE that:

The consultation comments in Appendix 1 are approved.

#### **3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 South Staffordshire Council is at the second stage of public consultation on the Local Plan. This consultation period runs from 17<sup>th</sup> October 2019 to 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019.
- 3.2 As a neighbouring Local Authority to South Staffordshire, Wyre Forest District Council has been invited to respond to the consultation to meet Duty to Cooperate requirements.
- 3.3 The Spatial Housing Strategy and Infrastructure Delivery Consultation focuses on housing growth in the district, looking at broad locations for growth and infrastructure that will be delivered.
- 3.4 The consultation sets out a number of different ways in which housing could be distributed across South Staffordshire. However, having considered all of these options South Staffordshire Council considers that an infrastructure-led strategy, Spatial Option G, would be the most sound and sustainable strategy for providing the required amount of housing.

4. **KEY ISSUES**

4.1 The policy specific comments are set out in the consultation response in Appendix 1.

4.2 The key issues include the following:

- Future housing allocation within the South Staffordshire Local Plan Review – Spatial Housing Strategy and Infrastructure Delivery and the potential increased demand on infrastructure within Wyre Forest District.
- Future employment allocation and the potential increased demand on infrastructure within Wyre Forest District.
- Discussion of the West Midlands Green Belt.

5. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no direct financial implications for the Local Authority arising from this response.

6. **LEGAL AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 WFDC is being consulted under the Duty to Cooperate Statement which may in turn lead to a Statement of Common Ground. This is consistent with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) Section 33A and Part 2 of The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, which requires local planning authorities to cooperate with other planning authorities on strategic planning matters. In addition the revised National Planning Policy Framework (February 2019, paragraph 35) requires a Statement of Common Ground on cross boundary strategic matters for a plan to be considered sound.

7. **EQUALITY IMPACT NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

7.1 Not applicable

8. **RISK MANAGEMENT**

8.1 If the Council fails to respond to this consultation it runs the risk of not engaging in the process to shape the future of the South Staffordshire Local Plan and any potential impact it may have on the Wyre Forest District.

**9. CONCLUSION**

9.1 Wyre Forest District Council has been invited to comment on the South Staffordshire Local Plan Review – Spatial Housing Strategy and Infrastructure Delivery Consultation. Appendix 1 sets out Wyre Forest District Council's response.

**10. CONSULTEES**

10.1 Corporate Leadership Team.

**11. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

11.1 South Staffordshire Local Plan Review Spatial Housing Strategy and Infrastructure Delivery Consultation.

<https://www.sstaffs.gov.uk/planning/spatial-housing-strategy-infrastructure-delivery.cfm>

**12. APPENDIX 1.**

Wyre Forest District Council consultation response to the South Staffordshire Local Plan Review Spatial Housing Strategy and Infrastructure Delivery Consultation.

Wyre Forest District Council response to South Staffordshire Council Local Plan Review – Spatial Housing Strategy and Infrastructure Delivery.

1. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the South Staffordshire Council Local Plan review – Spatial Housing Strategy and Infrastructure Delivery Consultation Document.
2. Wyre Forest District Council welcomes the discussion of housing and employment needs within South Staffordshire and is happy to contribute to the consultation on a strategic approach to new housing development, which includes broad locations but which is not site specific as yet.
3. Having reviewed the proposed seven Spatial Housing Options, Wyre Forest District Council notes that the preferred Spatial Housing Strategy is Option G. This option would meet the preferred housing target of 8,845 dwellings between 2018 and 2037. It would include a new settlement to be delivered beyond the plan period and would be established along the A449 corridor.
4. Wyre Forest District Council considers favourably the strategy of Spatial Option G which South Staffordshire Council believe would provide a sustainable pattern of development whilst also ensuring Green Belt release is minimised wherever possible.
5. The Council notes that the local plan sets its focus on housing growth which will be closely aligned to greater levels of access to services and employment.
6. Wyre Forest District Council appreciates that the employment growth options will be discussed in greater detail in the next consultation. The Council is in agreement that employment land should be located within sustainable locations with access to strategic road networks.
7. The Council acknowledges that the needs of the Gypsy and Traveller Community will be documented at the next stage of consultation in the summer of 2020.
8. Wyre Forest strongly supports the protection of the South Staffordshire Green Belt, as part of the wider West Midlands Green Belt. The fundamental aim of Green Belt policy within the NPPF is to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open. There is a need to make as much use as possible of suitable Brownfield sites and underutilised land. We understand that Green Belt and Landscape studies have been completed and have informed the reasoning behind the options. These published reports should help to avoid housing development in areas of Green Belt where the greatest harm would be caused.
9. Wyre Forest District Council welcomes the opportunity for further discussion with South Staffordshire Council through the Duty to Co-operate process, including examining the impact of any proposals on the infrastructure and services within Wyre Forest district. Wyre Forest wishes to continue to be consulted on subsequent stages of the South Staffordshire Council Local Plan Review Spatial Housing Strategy and Infrastructure Delivery.