

**ROTHERHAM LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK STEERING GROUP**  
**Friday, 28th January, 2005**

Present:- Councillor Smith (in the Chair); Councillors Boyes, Burke, Hall, Pickering and Walker.

together with:-

Phil Turnidge	Senior Planner
Andy Duncan	Strategic Planner
Steve Holmes	Community Involvement Manager
Helen Sleigh	Planner - Pathfinder
Phil Gill	Greenspaces Manager
Tom Bell	Principal Strategy Officer, Housing Services
Ken Macdonald	Service Solicitor
Joanne Wherle	External Funding

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from the following:-

Councillor Ellis	Cabinet Member, Housing & Environmental Services
Phil Rogers	Strategic Leader, Culture, Leisure and Lifelong Learning

**2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 29TH NOVEMBER, 2004**

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2004 be approved as a correct record.

**3. MATTERS ARISING.**

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes not covered on the agenda.

**4. PLANNING AND COMPULSORY PURCHASE ACT 2004 AND THE NEW REGIONAL SPATIAL STRATEGY (RSS)**

The Strategic Planner presented a report relating to the above Act which put regional planning on a statutory footing.

It was reported that the new arrangements also required the Regional Planning Body (Yorkshire and Humber Assembly) to seek the advice of strategic planning authorities in the region, including Rotherham MBC, in preparing the Regional Spatial Strategy.

In essence this meant that the Yorkshire and Humberside Assembly must

ask the Council whether it wished to prepare those parts of the Regional Spatial Strategy that related to the administrative area of Rotherham.

Reference was made to staffing, costs, timescales, current arrangements and joint working etc.

Resolved:- (1) That the Steering Group supports the Yorkshire and Humberside Assembly being informed informally that the Council's view was that the requirements of the Act were already being met through the current arrangements with planning authorities.

(2) That the Steering Groups' view be that when formally asked by the Yorkshire and Humberside Assembly the Council formally decline the offer of preparing part of the Regional Spatial Strategy in favour of continuing with the current working arrangements.

## **5. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME**

The Senior Planner gave a brief resume of the LDF process and of the proposed content of the draft Local Development Scheme. He emphasised that the LDF would comprise a portfolio of different planning documents rather than one plan.

He reported that the proposed Local Development Scheme for submission to the Government Office had been produced following informal consultations carried out during December 2004/January 2005 and a schedule analysing specific comments received during the informal consultation period on the draft Local Development Scheme was attached to the report. From preliminary analysis it was reported that 69% of respondents felt the Council's initial LDS programme was realistic.

Reference was made to the following specific comments that had been received and which required some amendment to the LDS:-

- need to give waste more priority
- inclusion of Waverley as an Area Action Plan
- inclusion of leisure (in the context of PPG6) within priority topics to be covered in the proposed Policies and Allocations documents
- more emphasis on the requirements of PPG17 in the evidence gathering section
- non-compliance of UDP Opencast Coal policies with MPG3. It was proposed that LDS Appendix 2 be deleted in favour of "saving" all policies as advised by GOYH

A list of established agencies that it was proposed to contact in future consultations was given in the report.

Members were advised that Government Office Yorkshire and the Humber were reasonably happy with the proposed LDS. However a

number of comments had been made and these were set out in the report. It was reported that the indications were that the timescales might be adjusted and that there may be some phasing of the components of the LDF.

The consultation and discussion to date with the Local Strategic Partnership was outlined. However, the need for the involvement of the Rotherham Partnership and for wider corporate recognition of the importance of the LDF process was highlighted.

It was pointed out that the current budget allocation was insufficient to cover the LDF process and Members discussed the future resourcing and funding for LDF work.

Members discussed the relationship between the Housing Pathfinder Masterplanning and the LDF. It was reported that the Master Plans would be incorporated as Area Action Plans.

It was pointed out that there was a requirement to produce an annual monitoring report.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be referred to the Cabinet for approval of the amended Local Development Scheme for submission to Government Office.

(2) That further steps be taken to secure wider corporate involvement in the Local Development Framework process.

(3) That the Steering Group notes the insufficient budget allocation for LDF Work and supports the view that funding should be provided from the Planning Delivery Grant and the Corporate Management Team, the Cabinet and Council be asked to consider this Steering Groups' view that £100,000 of Planning Delivery Grant should be ring fenced to fund and resource the LDF process.

## **6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### **(i) Design Coding**

It was reported that a seminar would be held.

### **(ii) Rotherham Housing Market Renewal Pathfinder Progress Update**

The Planner (Pathfinder) presented a report relating to the formation of a Consortium to project manage consultants to undertake four baseline studies and the spatial master planning for the peripheral ADFs. Reference was made to some difficulties experienced with the consultants for the Rotherham West/Sheffield East ADF concerning interpretation of the study brief.

It was reported that the spatial master planning commission commenced on 23<sup>rd</sup> December, 2004 and an inception meeting had been held in January.

Reporting timescales were set out in the report.

It was pointed out that a report would be presented to the Steering Group in due course regarding the Interim Spatial master plans. Reference to the spatial plans had been included with the LDS.

Resolved:- That the recommendations within the report be noted.

(iii) BVPI 106

It was reported that this indicator related to how the Local Authority achieved the target of giving priority to the development of previously brown field land and to the national target of 60% for housing.

Details of current performance against this target were given.

Members discussed the under performance on this indicator, how the target had been conceived and how planning applications and permission for housing would be treated between the UDP and the LDF changes.

Resolved:- That an overview of policy be reported to a future meeting of the Steering Group.

(iv) Statement of Community Involvement

It was reported that this would be the next document to be produced for the Steering Group to consider.

## **7. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

Resolved:- That the next meeting of this Steering Group be held on FRIDAY, 4<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2005 at 10.00 a.m. at the Town Hall (and not Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2005 as previously scheduled).