

1 ROTHERHAM LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK STEERING GROUP - 18/03/11

ROTHERHAM LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK STEERING GROUP Friday, 18th March, 2011

Present:- Councillor Smith (in the Chair); Councillors Doyle, J. Hamilton, Jack, Pickering, St. John, Sharman, Whelbourn and Whysall.

together with:-

Andy Duncan	Strategic Policy Team Leader
Ryan Shepherd	Senior Planner
Ken MacDonald	Solicitor, Legal Services
Sumera Shabir	Law Clerk
Bronwen Peace	Planning Manager

7. INTRODUCTIONS/APOLOGIES

The Chairman welcomed those present and introductions were made.

Apologies for absence were received from:-

Councillor Austen	Chair, Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel – member of the Steering Group
Councillor Dodson	Vice-Chair, Planning Board – member of the Steering Group
Councillor R. S. Russell	Cabinet Member for Town Centres – member of the Steering Group

8. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 18TH FEBRUARY, 2011

Consideration was given to the minutes of the previous meeting held on 18th February, 2011.

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 18th February, 2011, be approved as a correct record.

9. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

10. SETTLEMENT AND GROWTH STRATEGY FOR ROTHERHAM BOROUGH

Consideration was given to a report, presented by the Strategic Policy Team Leader, relating to the emerging settlement and growth strategy for the Borough, based on capacity of preferred sites.

It was explained that the strategy had now been refined based on further work comparing settlement needs with capacity for growth and reflecting the proposed local housing target of 850 new homes a year.

Details of the overall requirement during the 15 year plan period were set out in the submitted report.

A summary of the variety of data considered was also set out in the report, and issues highlighted by the emerging settlement and growth strategy were listed.

Maps accompanying the report illustrated:-

- (i) proposed settlement hierarchy – main urban area, principal settlement and local service centres
- (ii) proposed housing and employment land distribution (2012 to 2027)

and tables within the report set out details of:-

- (i) settlement profile
- (ii) settlement ranking and needs assessment
- (iii) settlement housing and employment land distribution (2012 to 2027)

Members present raised and discussed the following:-

- zero employment land in the South of the Borough
- no commitment to improve rail services and the need for rural bus services
- lack of availability at Thorpe Hesley and Swinton
- the need for a break down of information on a Ward basis
- % impact on the greenbelt

Resolved:- That the refined settlement and growth strategy for the Borough be supported insofar as this Steering Group is concerned, for inclusion within the draft Core Strategy for public consultation.

11. LOCAL HOUSING TARGET

Consideration was given to a report, presented by the Strategic Policy Team Leader, relating to the setting of a Local Housing Target.

In anticipation of the final revocation of Regional Spatial Strategies, along with 'top down' housing targets, the report explained how Rotherham had determined a realistic local housing target to the end of the Local Development Framework period in 2027.

Reference was made to the various sources of evidence that had been explored and reported on in a previous report to steering group members in July 2010.

The submitted report summarised the findings and the reasoning behind the level of the proposed local housing target of 850 per year for Rotherham.

Members referred to the effect of an ageing population.

3 ROTHERHAM LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK STEERING GROUP - 18/03/11

Resolved:- That the contents of the report be noted.

12. DRAFT CORE STRATEGY POLICIES

Consideration was given to a report, presented by the Senior Planner, relating to the continued drafting of strategic policies for the LDF Core Strategy.

It was explained that the version that had been released to the consultants commissioned to carry out sustainability appraisal was attached to the submitted report for Members' information and comment.

It was pointed out that a final version would be brought to Members, as part of the draft Core Strategy document as a whole, for approval prior to consultation.

Members present referred to:-

- Churches Historic Environment work
- Member involvement in developing these policies
- informing the Members' Training and Development Panel
- CS16 Housing Mix and Affordability – new proposals would need review

Resolved:- That the content of the Draft Core Strategy policies be noted.

13. SOUTH YORKSHIRE RESIDENTIAL DESIGN GUIDE

Consideration was given to a report, presented by the Strategic Policy Team Leader, the purpose of which was to feed back the key findings of the public consultation on the South Yorkshire Residential Design Guide and the resulting changes made to the document.

It was explained that it was intended to use the document as a best practice guide pending future consideration of its adoption (all or in part) as a Supplementary Planning Document.

It was reported that the draft South Yorkshire Residential Design Guide was discussed at a seminar on 15th July, 2010. Also the Guide was approved for use as best practice guidance by Cabinet Member for Regeneration & Environment on 21st February 2011.

The content of the Cabinet Member report and proposed use of the Guide were noted by the Planning Board held on 24th February, 2011.

The document was available via the Council's website.

Resolved:- That the contents of the report and the proposed use of the Guide be noted.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no further items of business.

15. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved:- That the next meeting of the Local Development Framework Members' Steering Group be held on FRIDAY, 15TH APRIL, 2011 at 10.00 a.m.
- Town Hall, Moorgate Street, Rotherham.