



Cabinet 28 July 2010

Recommendations from Sustainable Development Panel: 6 July 2010 (Aug10/05)

Cabinet Members: Terry Clements *Chairman of the Panel:*
Peter Stevens Cllr Richard Rout

1. 6th Corporate Environmental Performance Report: 2009/2010 (Report B105)

RECOMMENDED:-

That the revisions to Corporate Environmental Targets, as detailed in paragraph 3.1 of Report B105, be adopted.

Since 2003, the Council has managed its environmental performance using an Environmental Management System (EMS). This approach is an effective way that can deliver real environmental and cost-saving benefits for the Council, the community and the environment alike. The Council's EMS meets the international environmental standard BS EN ISO 14001:2004.

2. Ixworth Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan (Report B53)

(This report was also considered by the Rural Area Working Party on 17 June 2010.)

RECOMMENDED:- That

- (1) the Ixworth Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan, attached as Appendix B to Report B53 be adopted as planning guidance;***
- (2) the revised boundary of the Conservation Area attached as Appendix C, as amended to remove the property known as Mere View, to Report B53 be adopted as the new boundary for the Ixworth Conservation Area; and***
- (3) any minor typographical, factual and/or grammatical changes to the final document be agreed by the Head of Planning and Economic Development in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Planning.***

The draft Ixworth Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan, which included proposed revisions to the Conservation Area boundary, was approved for consultation by the Rural Area Working Party on 12 November 2009. Consultation on the draft document took place between 15 February and 15 March 2010. A total of 9 responses were received in respect of the Appraisal. As a consequence of the comments received amendments were proposed to the draft document. The key changes being as follows:-

- (i) in response to comments from Suffolk County Council Archaeological Unit and English Heritage, the archaeological area to the south of the river, which contains the site of the Roman fort and associated settlement, is to be included within the Conservation Area;
- (ii) in response to a comment from Pakenham Parish Council, the area between the river and the A143 is to be included in the Conservation Area as the link between the village of Ixworth and Micklemere; and
- (iii) a map is to be included in the Appraisal to incorporate important features, buildings, views etc. as referred to in the character area text.

3. St Edmundsbury Local Development Framework Core Strategy: Housing Provision in St Edmundsbury to 2031 (Report B106)

RECOMMENDED:- That

- (1) the locally derived housing requirement to identify sites for a further 9,200 homes in St Edmundsbury between 2009 and 2031 as evidenced in Report B106 and planned for in the Core Strategy be noted; and***
- (2) the Planning Inspector examining the Core Strategy be advised of the above position in response to his consultation on the Government's intention to remove the housing numbers in the Regional Spatial Strategy.***

The Coalition Government signalled its intention to abolish Regional Spatial Strategies and officers announced that they had formally been abolished on 6 July 2010. There are a number of implications for the planning of the Borough arising from this intention. Report B106 considered those implications and the need to determine an appropriate level of housing provision locally. The Local Development Framework Core Strategy was originally required to conform to the content of national and regional planning policy, including the housing requirement set out in the Regional Spatial Strategy.

The Planning Inspector's examination into the Core Strategy commenced in January 2010 and hearing sessions were held in April and May 2010. The Planning Inspector presiding over the examination of the Core Strategy asked the Borough Council to consult on the implications of this announcement on the Core Strategy and has also asked for the Borough Council's views.