



Cabinet 24 September 2013

Recommendations from the Sustainable Development Working Party: 18 September 2013 (Sep13/15)

(Report E118 has been amended following the meeting of the Sustainable Development Working Party on 18 September 2013. Amendments are shown in bold, italics, underlined or strikethrough.)

Cabinet Members:

*Cllrs Terry Clements;
and Alaric Pugh*

Chairman of the Working Party:

Cllr Karen Richardson

1. Bury St Edmunds Vision 2031, Haverhill Vision 2031 and Rural Vision 2031: Submission (Report E113) (Sep13/15)

RECOMMENDED:

That, subject to the approval of full Council, the submission versions of the Bury St Edmunds Vision 2031, Haverhill Vision 2031 and Rural Vision 2031 documents and supporting documentation as contained in Reports D370, D368 and D367 respectively, as amended as minuted in Minute 15 (B) (3) and Appendix A of the minutes of full Council on 16 May 2013, and as consulted upon between 18 June and 9 August 2013, be approved for submission to the Secretary of State and subsequent examination by the Planning Inspectorate.

Report E113 updates and reports on the latest stage of the three Vision 2031 documents, following the most recent 'submission version' consultation which took place between June and August 2013. This consultation sought comment on matters of 'soundness' and 'legal compliance'.

The next stage in preparing the Vision 2031 documents is to consider submitting them to the Secretary of State. Should the Council agree to this, it is anticipated that the documents will formally be submitted to the Secretary of State by the end of November 2013. Following this an

Examination in Public will be held by a Planning Inspector, including hearings on dates to be determined, but currently anticipated to be early spring 2014, with adoption to follow receipt of the Inspector's report.

A table setting out the total number of respondents and the number of representations received to each document is set out below.

	NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS	TOTAL RESPONSES RECEIVED	OBJECT	SUPPORT
Rural Vision 2031		236	155	81
Rural supporting documents		9	6	3
TOTAL	128	245	161	84
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Haverhill Vision 2031		172	128	44
Haverhill supporting documents		5	2	3
TOTAL	45	177	130	47
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Bury St Edmunds vision 2031		388	305	83
Bury supporting documents		7	6	1
TOTAL	150	395	311	84

Attached as Appendices 1,2 and 3 to Report E113 were summaries of key objections raised in consultation responses during June to August 2013 on the Bury St Edmunds Vision 2031 Submission, Haverhill Vision 2031 Submission and Rural Vision 2031 Submission documents.

Section 4.5 of Report E113 contained the responses of the statutory consultees in relation to all three Vision 2031 documents.

2. Draft Cambridgeshire and South Cambridgeshire Transport Strategy – Consultation (Report E115)

RECOMMENDED: That

- (1) Cambridgeshire County Council be thanked for consulting the Borough Council on the Draft Transport Strategy for Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire; and***
- (2) the content of paragraphs 4.1 – 4.20 of Report E115 form the basis of the Borough Council's response to the consultation, subject to the following amendments:***

(a) Paragraphs 4.7 to 4.13: Haverhill to Cambridge Corridor

The last sentence in paragraph 4.12 be deleted and the following views be expressed in robust terms:

(i) the strategy should include recognition of the need to effect improvements to the A1307;

(ii) a holistic approach is needed to formulate a realistic and achievable plan to meet travel requirements between Haverhill and Cambridge and vice-versa;

(iii) it is considered that the current car parking charging regime in Cambridge is punitive to persons from outside the town, including those from St Edmundsbury, who have an essential need to travel into Cambridge by car and this matter should be reappraised; and

(iv) it is felt that the proposed enhanced bus route for this corridor, whilst laudable, will not in itself overcome the current travel problems and that the proposed reopening of the railway line between the two towns is not considerably feasible in view of the extensive practical problems in reopening the route and the major investment involved;

(b) Paragraphs 4.14 to 4.20: Newmarket to Cambridge Corridor

The view be expressed that whilst proposals to improve the Cambridge to Newmarket railway line are welcome, any scheme to electrify this line should also provide dual lines for sections of the line which are currently single track or to provide passing loops along these sections; and

(3) consideration be given to the proposal to make part of the A14 west of Cambridge a Toll Road and if feasible with the consultation timescale this be the subject of a report to the Sustainable Development Working Party.

Cambridgeshire County Council has published, for consultation, a draft Transport Strategy for Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire. Consultation closes on 30 September 2013. Neighbouring local authorities have been invited to comment on the draft Strategy.

The draft Strategy, including appendices, amounts to over 100 pages and is available to view at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/transport/strategies/transport-plans/Transport+Strategy+for+Cambridge+and+South+Cambridgeshire.htm

A copy of the Executive Summary was attached as Appendix A to Report E115.

Report E115 summarises the content of the draft Strategy in relation to West Suffolk and seeks agreement to forward proposed comments to Cambridgeshire County Council. This will complement a planned piece of scrutiny in December 2013.

3. South Cambridgeshire Local Plan - Consultation (Report E116)

RECOMMENDED: That

- (1) South Cambridgeshire District Council be thanked for consulting the Borough Council on the Submission Draft South Cambridgeshire Local Plan document; and***
- (2) the content of paragraphs 4.1 – 4.8 of Report E116 form the basis of the Borough Council's response to the consultation; and***
- (3) the Council's views in relation to the Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire Transport Strategy as contained in Section 2 of Report E118 (Amended) be reiterated in connection with this consultation in view of their relevance to the Travel Section contained within the Local Plan.***

Report E116 was considered and this explained that the Borough Council, as a neighbouring authority, has been consulted on the Submission Draft South Cambridgeshire Local Plan. Under the Duty to Cooperate provisions of the Localism Act 2011, local planning authorities are required to demonstrate that they have liaised across borders on planning matters that are of wider significance. The consultation closes on 30 September 2013. The Working Party had previously considered a paper on the Issues and Options consultation document (Paper D137 refers).

The Report considers the content of the consultation document and potential impact on St Edmundsbury of the relevant matters in the document.