

Cabinet



Forest Heath
District Council

Title of Report:	Single Issue Review (SIR) of Core Strategy Policy CS7 and Site Specific Allocations (SSA) Local Plan - Consultation Documents	
Report No:	CAB/FH/15/029	
Report to and date:	Cabinet	14 July 2015
Portfolio holder:	James Waters Portfolio Holder for Planning and Growth Tel: 07771 621038 Email: james.waters@forest-heath.gov.uk	
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Purpose of report:	On 30 June 2015, the Local Plan Working Group considered the following substantive items of business: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To endorse progress made on the Core Strategy Single Issue Review (CS SIR) and Site Allocations (SSA) Issues and Options Local Plan Documents for consultation.2. To inform the final draft Core Strategy Single Issue Review (SIR) and Site Allocations Local Plan (SALP) Issues and Options documents for consultation	
Recommendation:	It is <u>RECOMMENDED</u> that: <ol style="list-style-type: none">(1) Progress made to the Core Strategy Single Issue Review (CS SIR) and Site Allocations (SSA) Issues and Options Local Plan Documents be endorsed; and(2) The Core Strategy Single Issue Review (SIR) (Working Paper 1) and the Site Specific Allocations (SSA) Issues and	

	<p>Options (Working Paper 2) Local Plan Documents, Tables of Proposed Material Amendments (Working Papers 3 and 4) and accompanying Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)/Sustainability Appraisal (SA), together with supporting documents, be approved for public consultation.</p> <p>(3) The Head of Planning and Growth, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Growth, be authorised to make any minor typographical, factual, spelling and grammatical changes to these documents, provided that it does not materially affect the substance or meaning.</p>		
<p>Key Decision: <i>(Check the appropriate box and delete all those that do not apply.)</i></p>	<p><i>Is this a Key Decision and, if so, under which definition?</i> Yes, it is a Key Decision - <input type="checkbox"/> No, it is not a Key Decision - <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>		
<p><i>The decisions made as a result of this report will usually be published within 48 hours and cannot be actioned until five clear working days of the publication of the decision have elapsed. This item is included on the Decisions Plan.</i></p>			
<p>Consultation:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Report No: LOP/FH/15/005 		
<p>Alternative option(s):</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Report No: LOP/FH/15/005 		
<p>Implications:</p>			
<p><i>Are there any financial implications? If yes, please give details</i></p>	<p>See Report No: LOP/FH/15/005</p>		
<p><i>Are there any staffing implications? If yes, please give details</i></p>	<p>See Report No: LOP/FH/15/005</p>		
<p><i>Are there any ICT implications? If yes, please give details</i></p>	<p>See Report No: LOP/FH/15/005</p>		
<p><i>Are there any legal and/or policy implications? If yes, please give details</i></p>	<p>See Report No: LOP/FH/15/005</p>		
<p><i>Are there any equality implications? If yes, please give details</i></p>	<p>See Report No: LOP/FH/15/005</p>		
<p>Risk/opportunity assessment:</p>			
<p>Risk area</p>	<p>Inherent level of risk (before controls)</p>	<p>Controls</p>	<p>Residual risk (after controls)</p>
<p>See Report No: LOP/FH/15/005</p>			

Ward(s) affected:	All Wards in the District.
Background papers: <i>(all background papers are to be published on the website and a link included)</i>	(Agenda Papers - Local Plan Working Group: 30 June 2015)
Documents attached:	<p><u>Working Paper 1:</u> Policy CS7 - Single Issue Review for Overall Housing Provision and Distribution 2011 – 2031 (Regulation 18: Issues and Options consultation)</p> <p><u>Working Paper 2:</u> Site Allocations Local Plan (Regulation 18: Issues and Options consultation) <i>(as presented to the Local Plan Working Group on 30 June 2015)</i> <i>(Working Paper 2 not attached, but can be viewed by accessing the links below:)</i></p> <p>(Report No LOP/FH/15/005: Working Paper 2)</p> <p>(Report No LOP/FH/15/005: Working Paper 2: Amended Site Allocations Plan - Brandon)</p> <p><u>Working Paper 3:</u> Table of proposed material amendments to the Core Strategy SIR document <i>(in relation to Working Paper 1 above)</i></p> <p><u>Working Paper 4:</u> Table of proposed material amendments to the Site Allocations Local Plan document <i>(in relation to Working Paper 2 above)</i></p>

1. Key issues and reasons for recommendation(s)

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 The Forest Heath Core Strategy was adopted in May 2010. Following a successful High Court Challenge in May 2011, parts of policy CS7 detailing how the overall housing need would be distributed between the settlements over a 20 year period (to 2031) were quashed (removed from the Strategy). Consequential amendments were also made to policies CS1 (Spatial Strategy) and CS13 (Infrastructure and Developer Contributions).
- 1.1.2 The Site Allocations Local Plan (SALP) will identify which sites should be developed, in order to achieve the visions and objectives of the Core Strategy, including the outcomes of the Single Issue Review process which is specifically considering the quantum and distribution of housing growth. This Local Plan will provide a planning framework for the allocation of sites in Forest Heath district up to 2031.
- 1.1.3 **Working Paper 1** is the second 'Issues and Options' (Regulation 18) consultation document for the Core Strategy Single Issue Review. This document considers two options for the level of housing to be provided within the district from 2011 to 2031 and four reasonable alternative options for its distribution between towns and villages.
- 1.1.4 The Working Group considered the content of Working Paper 1 and Members expressed their general support for the options contained within the consultation document.
- 1.1.5 A table of proposed amendments to the draft Single Issue Review document was presented to the Working Group (attached as Working Paper 3) and Members expressed their support for the changes. In addition, three further changes to the document were proposed by the Working Group, which are included in the attached table of amendments.
- 1.1.6 **Working Paper 2** is the Site Allocations Issues and Options Local Plan (SALP) consultation document; it updates and supersedes the issues and options consultation undertaken in 2006.
- 1.1.7 The Working Group considered the content of Working Paper 2 and Members expressed their general support for the options contained within the consultation document.
- 1.1.8 A table of proposed amendments to the SALP document were presented to the Working Group (attached as Working Paper 4) and Members expressed their support for the changes. In addition, two further changes to the document were proposed by the Working Group, which are included in the attached table of amendments.

1.2 Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

- 1.2.1 A Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is a tool for appraising policies to ensure they reflect sustainable development objectives. Sustainability Appraisals are

required for all local development documents. Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is a procedure (set out in the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004) which requires the formal environmental assessment of certain plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.

1.2.2 Consultants have been appointed to undertake the SA and SEA work in relation to the emerging Core Strategy SIR and SALP consultation documents. A full report setting out the findings of the SA and SEA will accompany the documents for consultation.

1.2.3 **Infrastructure**

A draft Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) has also been prepared and accompanies the Core Strategy SIR and SALP documents. Following a workshop with infrastructure providers on 13 April 2015, the document begins to set out the infrastructure issues and requirements for the district. Comments can also be made on the draft IDP.

2. The Next Steps

2.1 Following approval of the consultation documents by Cabinet, the design and printing of the documents will take a further three weeks. Therefore consultation is planned from 11 August 2015 for an eight week period (ending 6 October 2015).

2.2 The Local Development Scheme (timeline for preparation) anticipates the following timeline:

- Further Regulation 18 consultation for both the Site Allocations and Core Strategy Single Issue Review in February / March 2016 putting forward the Councils preferred approach to housing distribution sites and other land use allocations;
- Final version of Pre Submission (Regulation 19) consultation for both documents taking place in August/September 2016;
- Submission to the Secretary of state in November 2016;
- The Examination in Public in February 2016; and
- Adoption in August 2017.

2.3 The change in consultation date for the Issues and Options consultation has meant an update to the Local Development Scheme is required and will be published on the Council's website, alongside the consultation documents, in August 2015.