

CABINET – 27TH SEPTEMBER 2012

Report of the Overview Scrutiny Group

Part A

ITEM 6 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK POSITION REPORT AND WAY FORWARD

Purpose of Report

To consider the comments and recommendations of the Overview Scrutiny Group concerning providing a response to the comments made in relation to the local plan Core development strategy received since 2006 and seeking the identification by Cabinet of an emerging development strategy to enable its testing through traffic modelling using the Leicester and Leicestershire Integrated Transport Model, and providing necessary guidance for the preparation of a pre-submission draft Core Strategy for public consultation.

Recommendations of the Overview Scrutiny Group

1. that recommendations 1 to 3, 6, 7 (reflecting amendments to recommendations 4 and 5 as set out below) and 8 set out in the report of the Strategic Director of Housing, Planning and Regeneration and Regulatory Services be approved;
2. that recommendation 4 of the Strategic Director of Housing, Planning and Regeneration and Regulatory Services be approved subject to the addition of the words:

subject to consideration being given to the impact on the Birstall area of Leicester City Council's proposals for Traveller Sites and the impact of growth in both the Birstall and Rothley areas on facilities such as medical and education services;
3. that the following recommendation substitute recommendation 5 of the Strategic Director of Housing, Planning and Regeneration and Regulatory Services:

that in light of the evidence a direction for growth for North Charnwood adjoining Shepshed be approved, and this be included in the emerging development strategy for Charnwood to meet the objectively assessed needs in North Charnwood;
and
4. that further work be undertaken to reassess the evidence in relation to the Wymeswold Airfield option.

Reasons

1. To support the reasons (1 – 3 and 6 – 8) set out in the report of the Strategic Director of Housing, Planning and Regeneration and Regulatory Services.

2. To support reason 4 set out in the report of the Strategic Director of Housing, Planning and Regeneration and Regulatory Services. To acknowledge that current proposals within the Leicester City Core Strategy to locate Traveller Sites near Birstall may have an impact on the local infrastructure in Charnwood and that additional housing in the North Birstall area may impact on overstretched local services, which would need to be addressed.
3. To recognise the impact of the South Loughborough option on biodiversity, the green wedge and Charnwood Forest as a local attraction, amenity and open space. To recognise the importance of avoiding the coalescence of Loughborough, Woodthorpe and Quorn.
4. To fully explore the potential for developing Wymeswold Airfield for housing, which was supported by many members of the public and would be a more viable option should east Loughborough become more accessible through transport network developments and if the requirements set out in the Regional Plan, for housing to be prioritised on the edge of existing urban areas, was abolished.

Policy Justification and Previous Decisions

Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 8(d) sets out the procedure by which a report of a scrutiny committee should be considered by Cabinet.

Implementation Timetable including Future Decisions and Scrutiny

There are no implications concerning the implementation timetable, as a result of the recommendation in this report.

Report Implications

The following implications have been identified for this report.

Financial Implications

There are no further financial implications associated with these recommendations.

Risk Management

There are no specific risks associated with these recommendations.

Key Decision: Yes

Background Papers: No additional background papers.

Officer to Contact: Darren Tilley – Team Leader – Democratic Services and Mayoralty

Telephone: (01509) 634781

Email: darren.tilley@charnwood.gov.uk_