

## Planning Committee

18 June 2008



### **Easington Local Development Framework: Core Strategy and Development Management Preferred Options**

---

#### **Report of Rod Lugg, Head of Environment and Planning**

---

##### **Purpose of the Report**

- 1 To advise the Committee of Easington District Council's Local Development Framework (LDF): Core Strategy and Development Management Preferred Options. Members are asked to endorse the attached schedule of comments (Appendix 2). A copy of the document has been placed in the Members' Resource Centre.

##### **Background**

- 2 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 introduced a new style of Local Development Framework (LDF) for local planning authorities which, in this case, would replace the District of Easington Local Plan adopted in December 2001. The LDF comprises a number of documents for which the Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD) provides strategic focus by outlining the District's vision, spatial strategy and core policies for meeting known and anticipated development over the next 10-15 years. Easington have now combined Core Strategy preparation with Development Management policies, having previously consulted separately about issues and options for both. The Planning Committee considered a report on the Core Strategy and Development Control policies on 20 September 2006 and endorsed comments on the Issues and Options.
- 3 The Government's introduction of further changes to simplify the way plans are prepared come into force on 27 June 2008. These new regulations, combined with local government reorganisation in the County, mean work on Easington's LDF will now change and separate Easington DPDs will not be submitted to the Secretary of State. Instead, the District Council's intention is that any representations on the Preferred Options will be considered as part of the evaluation of options to be taken forward by the new planning authority for County Durham in the context of a county-wide Local Development Framework.

##### **Recommendations and Reasons**

- 4 The Committee is recommended to endorse the comments at Appendix 2 as the County Council's formal response to Easington District Council's Preferred Options Core Strategy and Development Management report.

**Background Papers:** Planning the Future of Easington District: Core Strategy and Development Management Development Plan Document, Preferred Options, May 2008

---

## **Appendix 1: Implications**

---

### **Local Government Reorganisation (Does the decision impact upon a future Unitary Council?)**

The report and consultation comments contribute to preparation of an existing, statutory District Local Development Framework (LDF) which will be absorbed into the delivery of planning policy on a county-wide basis.

#### **Finance**

None.

#### **Staffing**

None.

#### **Equality and Diversity**

The Preferred Options spatial vision describes an area where the economy provides equality of opportunity, and a diverse population enjoys an improved quality of life.

#### **Accommodation**

None.

#### **Crime and Disorder**

The Preferred Options spatial vision anticipates safe communities.

#### **Sustainability**

The Core Strategy's strategic objectives include the aim of creating attractive sustainable communities.

#### **Human Rights**

None.

#### **Localities and Rurality**

The Preferred Options set a strategic and broad indication of where development and the future use of land will occur in Easington and the role of development management in determining specific planning applications as they arise.

#### **Young People**

The planning system and (some) policies in the Preferred Options document address the needs of young people and their participation in the planning process is encouraged through community involvement and consultations.

#### **Consultation**

The District of Easington requires a response on its Preferred Options from the County Council by 27 June, 2008.

#### **Health**

The health of residents in Easington is both an explicit and implicit concern of many of the strategic objectives and specific policies in the report.