

PLANNING AND NEW COMMUNITIES JOINT PORTFOLIO HOLDERS' MEETING

TUESDAY, 26 JANUARY 2010

DECISIONS

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the Planning and New Communities Joint Portfolio Holders' Meeting held on Tuesday, 26 January 2010. The wording used does not necessarily reflect the actual wording that will appear in the minutes.

If you have any queries about any matters referred to in this decision sheet please contact Ian Senior.

1. SECTION 106 ADMINISTRATION FEES

The Planning Portfolio Holder and New Communities Portfolio Holder agreed that South Cambridgeshire District Council should, with effect from 1 January 2010, increase the level of legal fees charged in association with the additional administration work necessitated by the completion of a section 106 agreement. Such fee will be applied at a level appropriate to the degree of complexity involved (subject to a maximum charge of £250 for each Agreement and review on an annual basis).

Other Options Considered:

- To approve a process whereby any contributions, passed on to Parish Councils or other third-party infrastructure providers, are debited an amount to cover the cost of administration
- To recharge the recipient providers, as a separate process, to cover the cost of administration
- To increase the Councils legal costs, in relation to the approval, completion and registration of planning obligations requiring contributions, thereby applying any fee to land owners/developers
- To Include this charge as a supplemental fee to the previously approved Section 106 monitoring charge, thereby applying this fee to land owners/developers
- To note this report

Reason For Decision: The District Council requires additional funding with which to continue securing the timely delivery of planning obligations in the public interest. Without an administration fee, the Council may be in a situation whereby resource pressures mean future planning obligations are not negotiated successfully, or contributions distributed among Parish Councils or other providers as quickly as they are presently

2. ADOPTION OF STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Planning Portfolio Holder and New Communities Portfolio Holder agreed that South Cambridgeshire District Council should adopt the Statement of Community Involvement, as contained in Appendix 1, subject to the addition to that document of an Appendix clarifying the process for consultation with parish councils.

Other Options Considered: None specified

Reason For Decision: None specified

3. DRAFT ADVISORY HEAVY COMMERCIAL VEHICLES ROUTE MAP

The Planning Portfolio Holder agreed that, in response to consultation from Cambridgeshire County Council about the draft advisory HCV route map, South

Cambridgeshire District Council supported the strategic routes identified as being the most appropriate through routes for HCV traffic, and strongly supported the downgrading of the A1123 from a strategic to local route. However, the Council would urge the County Council to monitor the impact before deciding whether to make the downgrade of the A1123 permanent to make sure that HCV traffic would not seek alternative routes and thus impact on local communities in South Cambridgeshire. South Cambridgeshire District Council would expect continued involvement, together with local communities, in addressing local concerns particularly in areas close to where new development is proposed to ensure appropriate measures are put in place to mitigate any impact from HCV traffic on local communities.

Other Options Considered: None specified

Reason For Decision: To agree the Council's response to Cambridgeshire County Council on the draft advisory Heavy Commercial Vehicles (HCV) route map.

4. **JOINING THE NATIONAL "10:10" CARBON EMISSIONS REDUCTION CAMPAIGN**
The New Communities Portfolio Holder agreed that South Cambridgeshire District Council should formally join the national "10:10" carbon emissions reduction campaign.

Other Options Considered: None specified

Reason For Decision:

- An outward facing public commitment: joining over 100 other local authorities in a unified display of community leadership to reduce carbon emissions.
- Providing a clear target for national performance indicator NI 185 - from which the setting of subsequent targets can be assessed.
- Offering a strong and recognisable profile for internal carbon reduction work – there would be no need to invent an initiative. Promotional approaches and materials have already been developed as part of the national campaign.
- A positive position from which to promote it to other organisations and businesses across the district via previously established workstreams such as the South Cambs Sustainable Parish Energy Partnership, the Cambridge Climate Change Charter and other communicative channels (e.g. economic development news, local strategic partnership and the South Cambs Magazine).
- Fully supporting the Council Action for 2010/11 of reducing CO₂ emissions from the Council's operations by 10%. This in turn provides a core aim and delivery objective for the internal organisational elements of carbon reduction within: a.) the forthcoming Climate Change Action Plan; b.) the newly established Internal Sustainability Delivery Group, and; c.) measures to improve the South Cambridgeshire Hall's DEC rating.