

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT TO: New Communities Portfolio Holder 10 March 2009
AUTHOR/S: Executive Director / Corporate Manager (Planning and Sustainable Communities)

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is to agree the Local Development Scheme which will set out the timetable for plan preparation for the 3 year period April 2009 – March 2011.

Background

2. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires all local planning authorities to maintain a local development scheme which specify set out its timetable for preparing Development Plan Documents over the forthcoming 3 year period. That last scheme covered the preparation of the first round of Development Plan Documents which have now largely been completed. A new scheme is now required to cover the extended period for the completions of the Site Specific Policies DPD, the North West Cambridge AAP and the Gypsy & Travellers DPD. A review of the Core Strategy is also necessary to enable the Council to demonstrate a 15 year supply of deliverable housing land. The adopted Core Strategy currently provides for 7 years to the March 2016 albeit that a number of adopted plans do include provision beyond 2016. The Local Development Scheme must be submitted to and approved by the Secretary of State.
3. The Local Development Scheme is an important tool in programme managing the preparation of Development Plan Documents and enables the public to know when and how they will be consulted in plan preparation. The content of schemes was changed by the Planning Act 2008 to exclude Supplementary Planning Documents and the Statement of Community Involvement.
4. Delivery of the Development Plan Documents against the timetable in the Local Development Scheme has been one of the factors upon which Council's have been judged for the award of planning delivery grant.
5. The Local Development Scheme includes for completeness the Supplementary Planning Documents and the Statement of Community Involvement which will be prepared as well as the Development Plan Documents and Supplementary Planning Documents that have already been adopted and therefore comprise the Local Development Framework.

Implications

6.	Financial	The Local Development Scheme provides the basis for the Planning Policy Service Plan for the period 2009-2011 and for budget estimate for those 3 years.
	Legal	None
	Staffing	None
	Risk Management	None

Equal Opportunities	The publication of the Local Development Scheme will enable the public and other stakeholder to know when and how they can become involved in plan-making.
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Consultations

- 7. None.

Effect on Corporate Objectives and Service Priorities

8.	Work in partnership to manage growth to benefit everyone in South Cambridgeshire now and in the future
	The publication of the Local Development Scheme will enable the public and other stakeholder to know when and how they can become involved in plan-making
	Deliver high quality services that represent best value and are accessible to all our community
	The timetable for plan preparation in the Local Development Scheme will provide the basis for project planning and budgetary control for the planning policy service.
	Enhance quality of life and build a sustainable South Cambridgeshire where everyone is proud to live and work
	Sustainable development is at the heart of the planning process.

Recommendations

- 9. It is recommended that the New Communities Portfolio Holder agrees the Local Development Scheme attached at Appendix 1.

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