

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Local Development Framework Working Party

21st January 2010

Redditch Growth

Responsible Portfolio Holder	Councillor Mrs J Dyer
Responsible Head of Service	Dave Hammond, Head of Planning & Environment Services
Non-Key Decision	

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Members on progress regarding the joint working that has taken place on the Redditch Growth issue and to present the joint consultation leaflet which has been produced.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Members note progress on made on joint working between Redditch Borough Council (RBC) and Bromsgrove District Council (BDC).
- 2.1 That Members approve the Redditch Growth leaflet and arrangements for consultation as suggested in this report.
- 2.3 That delegated authority be given to the Responsible Portfolio holder in conjunction with the Responsible Head of Service to endorse any necessary changes be made to the leaflet to enable consultation to commence on the 1st February 2010.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Members will recall that at the meeting on 15th October the findings of the Panel Report on the Examination in Public into the Regional Spatial Strategy Phase 2 Revision were reported to you and in particular the findings in relation to the accommodation of Redditch Growth. In relation to this issue the main findings are that the overall figure for housing increased to 7000 units, although the level to be provided in Bromsgrove decreased to 3000. The figure that RBC had to provide within their own boundary increased to 4000.
- 3.2 It was also significant that the Panel agreed with Bromsgrove Council on the process of determination of the location of the growth and stated;

'We agree, however, with Bromsgrove Council that the choice of locality around the boundary of Redditch should be locally determined whether at or adjacent to the Webheath/Foxlydiate or Brockhill ADRs or in the Bordesley Park area or in some combination of these possibilities or elsewhere. Once the volume of development and its location has been defined it will be essential

for the authorities to work together on cross-boundary implementation. We welcome the indications from the authorities that this would be the case.'

- 3.3 This made it clear that it was left up to the Council working alongside RBC to determine where the growth should go adjacent to the boundary of Redditch.
- 3.4 It was also reported at this meeting that it was intended to conduct a joint consultation event, detailing various options for the location of potential Redditch growth, both within the Borough and adjacent to its boundary within Bromsgrove. It was envisaged that a leaflet would be prepared and that joint consultation would take place early in the New Year.

4. UPDATE

- 4.1 In the meantime joint working between Redditch Borough Council and Bromsgrove District Council has been taking place to progress this issue at both Member and Officer levels.
- 4.2 The outcome of this work is the production of a draft leaflet which outlines proposed options for development both within Redditch Borough and on its periphery in Bromsgrove. A copy of the draft leaflet will be available at the meeting for your consideration.
- 4.3 A meeting of the Joint Planning Advisory Panel took place on the 20th January 2010 comprising representatives of both councils. At this well attended meeting the purpose of the consultation was discussed and it was explained that the two Councils are effectively at different stages in the Core Strategy process in relation to the Redditch Growth issue. Redditch do not consider it has any options where their development for 4000 houses can go, so have identified these locations which needed to be supported by a background paper. Whereas this growth in Bromsgrove District is much more open to debate at this stage and the consultation invites interested parties to present their preferences for consideration. Bromsgrove therefore has not prepared a background paper in the same way as Redditch as it is at the fact finding stage rather than attempting to justify a preferred location.
- 4.4 It was agreed at the meeting that comments on the leaflet would be fed back to relevant officers by next Thursday 28th January and a further meeting would be held on 25th February at Bromsgrove in the evening.
- 4.5 Arrangements for the process of consultation were discussed. It was agreed that arrangements for consultation in Bromsgrove would be discussed and finalised at meeting of the Local Development Framework Working Party on 21st January.

5. NEXT STEPS

- 5.1 Subject to approval it is proposed to commence joint consultation on this leaflet on 1st February 2010 for a period of 6 weeks ending on the 15th March 2010.
- 5.2 Drop in days in Redditch are provisionally booked for:
- 11th Feb – Town Hall (2-9pm)
 - 13th Feb – Kingfisher Centre (all day)
 - 24th Feb – Palace Theatre (eve)
- 5.3 It is suggested that in Bromsgrove, in this instance, targeted consultation would be more appropriate, for example, in local Parish's such as Alvechurch, Beoley, Bentley and Tutnall and Copley,
- 5.4 Publicity material will be prepared and displayed at appropriate locations around Bromsgrove such as the Customer Service Centre, Alvechurch library and so on.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no external financial implications of receiving this report. The production of the leaflet has been carried out in-house.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Development Plan for the District required by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, and prepared in accordance with The Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Amendment Regulations 2008.

8. COUNCIL OBJECTIVES

8.1 Objective 1 Economic Development

The Draft Core Strategy identifies the long term spatial vision for the district and this includes key areas such as economic development, The principle of sustainable development is central to the core strategy which involves the development of balanced communities with a mix of uses including for example employment. Therefore, in accordance with this theme options put forward in the leaflet include the development of employment in conjunction with housing development.

8.2 Objective 4 One Community

This consultation leaflet discusses the potential locations for Redditch growth, including new housing and employment in the future. It forms part of the extensive consultation which has been carried out as part of the development of the Core Strategy process. This consultation will be made widely accessible to Bromsgrove and Redditch communities alike.

8.3 Objective 5 Housing

A key component of the Redditch Growth issue being discussed in this leaflet is housing. However, this housing is to meet the growth needs of Redditch Borough rather than Bromsgrove.

9. RISK MANAGEMENT INCLUDING HEALTH AND SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

9.1 The main risks associated with the details included in this report are:

- Inability to produce development plan document which is judged to be sound by the planning inspectorate and therefore resulting in non legally compliant Strategic planning service

9.2 These risks are being managed as follows:

Risk Register: Planning and Environment

Key Objective Ref No: 6

Key Objective: Effective, efficient, and legally compliant Strategic planning Service

10. CUSTOMER IMPLICATIONS

10.1 This leaflet forms part of the process for the development of the Core Strategy. The Core Strategy itself will have an impact on many different aspects of people's lives including living, working, shopping, leisure and education. Public consultation has been and will be extensively undertaken throughout the process.

11. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

11.1 An equalities impact assessment will be carried out on the final submission version of the strategy, although attempts will be made to consult with all sections of society as the plan progresses towards completion.

12. VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

12.1 This work is being produced in-house and is a joint exercise with Redditch Borough Council and therefore this method of production represents a value for money approach.

13. CLIMATE CHANGE AND CARBON IMPLICATIONS

13.1 The issue of climate change is a central theme in the Core Strategy. Many of the policies have the potential to have a significant impact on mitigating and adapting to the effects of climate change and contributing to a reduction in carbon emissions.

14. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Procurement Issues	None
Personnel Implications	None

Governance/Performance Management	None
Community Safety including Section 17 of Crime and Disorder Act 1998	None
Policy	The core strategy forms an essential part of the LDF and the policies contained within the core strategy will shape future development.
Environmental	Draft Core strategy contains policies which directly impact on the environment.

15. OTHERS CONSULTED ON THE REPORT

Portfolio Holder	No
Chief Executive	No
Executive Director - Partnerships and Projects	No
Executive Director - Services	No
Assistant Chief Executive	No
Head of Service	Yes
Head of Financial Services	No
Head of Legal, Equalities & Democratic Services	No
Head of Organisational Development & HR	No
Corporate Procurement Team	No

16. WARDS AFFECTED

All wards.

CONTACT OFFICER

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