

Royal Wootton Bassett & Cricklade Area Board – Wednesday 25 January 2012

Chairman's Announcements

Draft Wiltshire Core Strategy Submission Document January 2012

Subject to formal Cabinet approval, Full Council will be asked on 7 February 2012 to approve the Draft Wiltshire Core Strategy for publication for a final six week statutory consultation period commencing on or around 20 February 2012.

Subject to no fundamental issues being raised on the soundness of the Strategy, Full Council will also be asked to approve the document for the purpose of Submission to the Secretary of State.

The Draft Wiltshire Core Strategy details a spatial strategy for Wiltshire and related polices. The Draft Strategy also incorporates Area Strategies, including for the Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Community Area.

The Area Strategy for the Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Community Area includes, but is not limited to, recognition of the following:

- No strategic housing sites to be allocated in the community area over the plan period (2006-2016) (Core Policy 19 – Spatial Strategy for Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Community Area);
- Priority for the long established policy of protecting the distinct character and identity of the villages and settlements, particularly to the parts of the community area adjoining the administrative area of Swindon Borough Council;
- That the open countryside should be maintained to protect the character and identity of the area in accordance with the appropriate Core Policy relating to landscape (Core Policy 51) and the further consideration of protection for this area in any future community-led Neighbourhood Plan;
- A requirement for a transport assessment for any major development proportionate to the scale of the proposal.

In addition, on Planning for Swindon, the Draft Wiltshire Core Strategy recognises the conclusion of the emerging Swindon Core Strategy that development to the west of Swindon, including within the Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Community Area is unnecessary and does not represent the most sustainable option for future growth in Swindon.

Strategic Transport Network

Core policy 66 provides for the development and/or improvement of a number of railway stations including Royal Wootton Bassett rail station.

The Draft Core Strategy Document

Access to the full documentation will be made available on the council website and in public libraries during the consultation period.