

**REPORT OF THE TEAM LEADER SPATIAL PLANNING TO THE CORSHAM
AREA (4) COMMITTEE – 11TH JULY 2006**

THE SPATIAL PLANNING ADVISORY GROUP

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To request nominees for two representatives of this Area Committee to attend the Spatial Planning Advisory Group.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That the Area Committee put forward the names of two Members of this Committee to join the Spatial Planning Advisory Group.

3. Background

- 3.1 On the 11th of May, the Executive agreed to delegate authority for its responsibilities for the preparation of the Local Development Framework to an Authorised Officer (minute E235). The decision stated:

“Resolved that

- (1) *The Spatial Plans Team Leader be given delegated powers for all Local Development Framework responsibilities of the Executive, subject to consultation with a Spatial Planning Advisory Group as constituted by the Executive.*
- (2) *The Scheme of Delegation be amended accordingly.*
- (3) *That the operation of the delegation is subject to the approval and formal constitution and terms of reference of the Advisory Group by the Executive.”*

- 3.2 On the 15th of June 2006, the Executive then resolved to set up the Advisory Group:

“Resolved that

- (1) *A Working Group be set up comprising 12 Members of the Council and 5 Stakeholders invited from the North Wiltshire Community by the Authorised Officer.*
- (2) *In respect of Members, one shall be a Member of the Executive, one a Member of the Development Control Committee and the remainder comprising two Members from each of the group of wards within the five Community Areas of North Wiltshire.*
- (3) *In respect of Stakeholders, the Authorised Officer shall endeavour to include at least one Member of the Local Strategic Partnership at each meeting of the Working Group.”*

5 The Purpose of the Spatial Planning Advisory Group

- 5.1 The principal purpose of the Advisory Group is to provide a forum for the discussion of issues pertinent to the Council's interests in Spatial Planning. In particular, it will provide advice to the Authorised Officer (currently the Spatial Planning Team Leader) on matters pertaining to the production of the North Wiltshire Local Development Framework.
- 5.2 The Advisory Group replaces the Public Spaces and Local Plans Panel. Its membership will be greater (17 members) than the old Panel. It will be of a similar constitution to that of a Council Working Group and will operate in a similar manner. The Advisory Group does not report to the Executive, but it is the Authorised Officer's responsibility to ensure that the advice of the Group is taken into account and that any consequential decision taken under the Delegated Authority is properly recorded.
- 5.3 The Advisory Group will comprise 12 Members of the Council and 5 Stakeholders invited from the North Wiltshire Community by the Authorised Officer. In respect of Members, one must be a Member of the Executive, one a Member of the Development Control Committee and the remainder comprising two Members from each of the group of wards within the five Community Areas of North Wiltshire. In respect of Stakeholders, the Authorised Officer will endeavour to include at least one Member of the Local Strategic Partnership at each meeting of the Advisory Group.
- 5.4 This Area Committee is being asked to put forward two members from its Committee to become members of the Advisory Group. The Executive has stated that this need not reflect political balance. This is an opportunity for a range of Member's interests across the District to be reflected in the future direction of planning and sustainable growth.
- 5.5 It is expected that the Advisory Group will need to meet on approximately 4 occasions during any one year, at intervals related to the programme for the delivery of Local Development Framework documents. It is anticipated that the first meeting of the group will occur in early August 2006 to consider a response to the emerging Regional Spatial Strategy 2006 – 2026 issued recently by the South West Regional Assembly. This timing is due to the fact that the formal consultation period will end at the end of August.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 None in respect of this Area Committee.

7. Human Resources Implications

- 7.1 The arrangements for the administration of the Advisory Group would be broadly similar to that previously undertaken for the Public Spaces and Local Plans Panel.

8. Environmental Implications

- 8.1 There are no Environmental implications arising directly from this report, though the subject matter will have a considerable impact on the environment of North Wiltshire.

9. Community Implications

- 9.1 There are community implications arising directly from this report in that the arrangements will directly influence the ability of this Council to respond to the community on planning matters and for the continued involvement of the community themselves on influencing the direction of spatial planning within North Wiltshire.

11. Corporate Priority

- 11.1 The report is directly related to the Corporate Business Plan in respect of the: delivery of the Spatial Planning priority area.

Documents Used: Previous Committee Reports on Executive, dated 11th May and 15th June 2006 .

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