

Amesbury Area Board 23 February 2012 Chairman's Announcement

Draft Wiltshire Core Strategy Pre-submission document

The Wiltshire Core Strategy pre-submission document is to be published for consultation on 20th February 2012. The six week statutory consultation period will continue until 2nd April 2012. The Wiltshire Core Strategy details a spatial strategy for Wiltshire and related polices to deliver that strategy. The core strategy incorporates a strategy for each community area which identifies specific development sites where appropriate and highlights specific considerations in each area.

At this stage the Council are inviting comments on the 'soundness' of the plan and whether the correct legal processes have been followed. To be sound the core strategy policies must be based on clear, robust, up-to-date information. Copies of the core strategy can be viewed in all local libraries and there will be a display about the document in Amesbury library. All the consultation documents are available on the Council's web site and at the Council offices at Bradley Road and County Hall, Trowbridge; Browfort, Devizes; Monkton Park, Chippenham and Milford Street, Salisbury. Comments can be submitted on line or in writing but must be received by Monday 2nd April 2012.

Policies and supporting text has been incorporated into Wiltshire Core Strategy from the adopted South Wiltshire Core Strategy (SWCS). There have been some minor changes made to ensure the effective amalgamation into the wider document. However the amended text is a reflection of the SWCS and the binding inspectors report and for this reason it is unlikely that a subsequent inspector would re-open debate on this policy area, which has already been found sound. You are, however free to make comment, on the policy or supporting text. Also there are a suite of new Wiltshire-wide policies in Chapter 6 of the document, which will be new to South Wiltshire and views on these would be welcomed.

The Council, subject to no fundamental issues being raised on the soundness of the core strategy, intend to submit the Wiltshire core strategy to the Secretary of State in July. At this stage formal examination of the plan will begin leading to an Examination in Public into the soundness of the document.

Further information:

- Core strategy will be available for inspection in all local libraries. The summary display is available in only one location within the community area unless requests for additional copies from other organisations have been received.
- Documents which form part of the consultation are Wiltshire Core Strategy, Sustainability Appraisal Report, Habitats Regulations Assessment.

- All evidence prepared to support the production of the core strategy will be available from 20 February on the planning pages of the web site.
- Where an area board meeting takes place within the consultation period spatial plans officers will attend on request.
- Workshops have been arranged for rural parish councils to outline the approach in identifying large and small villages within the core strategy and to discuss the relationship between the core strategy and neighbourhood plans. Rural parishes will receive an invitation to attend closer to the start of the consultation. Dates are:
 - Biddestone Village Hall, Wednesday 7th March, 6.30 for a 7 pm start
 - Michael Herbert Hall, Wilton, Thursday 15th March, 6.30 for a 7pm start
 - Bouverie Hall, Pewsey, Monday 19th March, 6.30 for a 7 pm start