

Item No: 6
Date: 12th June 2012

**WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
JOINT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK
JOINT STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Updated West Northamptonshire Local Development Scheme (LDS) – June 2012

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF THE JOINT PLANNING UNIT

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is three fold:
- Firstly to seek the Committee's approval to publish the updated West Northamptonshire Local Development Scheme (LDS) as the Committee's approved Scheme (draft attached at Appendix 1); and
 - Secondly, to seek approval to send the updated LDS to Government for their records; and
 - Thirdly, to agree a draft press release relating to the publication of the updated LDS (to be circulated at the meeting).

2. Context

- 2.1 The February 2010 edition of the West Northamptonshire Local Development Scheme has been updated to reflect changed circumstances and priorities. The document reflects partner's development plan making priorities. In the light of these changes, it's necessary to update the Local Development Scheme (LDS) for West Northamptonshire and publish the updated version ahead of the submission of the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy to the Secretary of State for its public examination, as this is a statutory requirement. It is anticipated that later this year the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy will be at that stage in its preparation, hence it is important that an up to date Local Development Scheme is prepared.

Next Steps

- 2.4 In terms of next steps for the draft LDS; following the Committee's approval the updated LDS will be published as the Committee's approved Scheme and sent to the Government for their records.

- 2.5 Critically, it is essential that an up to date approved LDS is in place before the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy is submitted to the Secretary of State for public examination. This is a statutory requirement and therefore the earlier this is done the better.
- 2.6 It is important that as many stakeholders as possible understand the Committee's up to date work programme as set out in the updated LDS. For this reason a simple press release about the publication of the updated LDS has been drafted and is circulated at the meeting for consideration.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 That Committee approve the updated LDS for publication as the Committee's approved Scheme.
- 3.2 That the updated LDS be sent to the Government for their records.
- 3.3 That the press release circulated at the meeting relating to the publication of the updated LDS, be approved for release.

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