

**WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE JOINT LOCAL  
DEVELOPMENT DOCUMENT/LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN  
STEERING GROUP**

Meeting Date	14 <sup>th</sup> December 2006
Title	Programme Director's Progress Report

1. Recommendations

- a) To note the resolutions of respective Councils regarding the draft Local Development Scheme and agree the amendments be incorporated into the formal submission to GOEM.
- b) Consider the branding/logo options circulated, giving guidance to the Programme Board on which option/s to refine for formal agreement.

2. Purpose of Report

To summarise progress, activity and issues not covered elsewhere on the Agenda.

3. Report Background

a) Joint Planning Team Manager

The programme dates included in November's Reports are currently on target. Application closing date is 14<sup>th</sup> December 2006. The North Northamptonshire Planning Unit Manager has had to decline the invitation to be part of the selection process due to prior commitments.

b) Joint Planning Team Office Location

The geographic search has currently not identified a suitable opportunity. Prior to commissioning a local agent, a further focussed search is being undertaken to explore under-utilised voluntary/public sector accommodation. If this fails to identify suitable options, a local agent will be commissioned at the beginning of January.

c) Resource Plan

The next stage of development and refinement of the Resource Plan will depend upon the outcome of Government Office's consideration of the submitted LDS. However, it will be important each respective authority has made adequate provision in current and future year's budgets to adequately resource the Local Development Scheme to ensure it achieves its milestone dates.

d) Brand/Identity

Northampton Borough Council Print Services has produced a broad range of branding ideas, based around a "One Vision – Three Councils" strap line.

The Steering Group is invited to provide guidance to the Programme Board on which option or options to refine.

Three options are drawn to the Steering Group's attention as options for refinement (colours, size, font etc).

e) Submission of LDS and GOEM's Consideration

Each respective Plan Making Council has now considered the draft LDS as the basis for submission to GOEM. The Steering Group will receive verbal up-dates from each Council on the outcome of their consideration. The Steering Group should, in the light of this, determine the formal submission to GOEM.

Subject to this agreement, the LDS will be formally submitted to GOEM on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2006.

As part of GOEM's consideration of the LDS, the following key issues will be scrutinised (this is not exhaustive)

- "Soundness" in the light of recent DCLG guidance;
- Speed of achieving adopted documents;
- The justification for the number of documents provided;
- Whether adequate resources are being provided by individual Councils;
- Views of the Planning Inspectorate.

GOEM have agreed to target a formal response by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2007.