

**LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK MANAGEMENT GROUP held at
COUNCIL OFFICES LONDON ROAD SAFFRON WALDEN at 10.00 am on
15 JANUARY 2007**

Present:- Councillors C A Cant, E J Godwin, A J Ketteridge, J I Loughlin
and A R Thawley.

Officers in attendance:- R Harborough, M Jones, S Nicholas and
M T Purkiss.

LDF28 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN FOR THE MEETING

RESOLVED that Councillor E J Godwin be appointed Chairman for the
meeting.

LDF29 APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was received from Councillor S C Jones.

LDF30 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 4 December 2006 were approved as a
correct record and signed by the Chairman.

LDF31 BUSINESS ARISING

Councillor Ketteridge expressed concern that there did not appear to be any
progress with the live/work units in Thaxted Road, Saffron Walden and
questioned whether there was demand for this type of facility. Councillor Cant
also felt that as home working could be achieved in most residential units the
need for specific live/work units was questionable and she had some
concerns that residential uses were being allowed on sites which had been
allocated for commercial activities in the District Plan. Officers confirmed that
the use of commercial land would be one of the issues on which there would
be consultation in the Local Development Framework.

The Group also expressed concern that the Council no longer appeared to
have involvement in health services. Officers undertook to ascertain the
current position when it was discussed at the Strategic Partnership Reference
Group meeting and advise Members accordingly.

**LDF32 UPDATE ON CORE STRATEGY – ISSUES AND OPTIONS FURTHER
CONSULTATION**

Officers reported that the document was being finalised and a number of the
changes suggested at the last meeting had been incorporated. The statutory
consultation period would start at the end of January and there would also be

a facility to enable comments to be made on line. Presentations were being made to town and parish councils and business and other groups to raise awareness and parish councils had been asked to include an article in village magazines. It was suggested that district councillors could be asked to draw the matter to the attention of their town or parish council and suggest that a special meeting be held if there was not a normal meeting before the end of the consultation period.

LDF33

RESPONSE TO EAST OF ENGLAND PLAN – PROPOSED CHANGES

The Planning Policy and Conservation Manager outlined the Secretary of State's proposed changes to the East of England Plan which had been made in the light of the Panel's report. He added that a Member Workshop would be held on this issue on 5 February and a report would be submitted to the Council Meeting on 15 February 2007.

In relation to sustainable development he reported that the Secretary of State had endorsed the Panel's recommendations in the Plan on making a stronger contribution to sustainable development.

It was noted that the proposed job growth had been increased from 440,000 to 452,000. He pointed out that there was no indication on how this job growth would be achieved. Also, Harlow had an additional 11,000 jobs related to a second runway at Stansted. In relation to housing there was a proposed increase from the Panel's 505,500 to 508,000 and this further increase was mainly additional growth in the Harlow area. There was no change to the Uttlesford figures but there were implications in relation to PPS3 which stated that unidentified sites could not be taken into account.

The Planning Policy and Conservation Manager outlined the review table which would commence in 2007 and finish by 2010. With regard to the spatial strategy the Secretary of State had endorsed EERA's general approach of concentrating development on urban areas with a stronger emphasis on Harlow as a major growth location.

The Secretary of State had endorsed the Panel's recommendations to retain only four sub regions and the need for strategic reviews of green belt around specific areas.

On the Regional Transport Strategy, the thrust of the Panel's recommendations was accepted but the aim of an absolute reduction in traffic in the Plan period had been rejected as unrealistic. Overall, there was very little specificity regarding the nature of measures that might be promoted over and above those already approved through other processes and there was no commitment to fund any schemes. In relation to the airport it was stated that the RSS does not have a role in determining the rate of air traffic growth or runway provision and it was proposed that the policy on airport only covered managing access to them and other associated impacts. The Planning Policy and Conservation Manager said that Policy E8 would restrict commercial development around the airport.

It was proposed to introduce a commitment to match development with water efficiencies. EERA needed to set a per capita per day consumption target to monitor but the policy had not included the Panel's recommendation for a 25% water efficiency requirement. However, a policy had been added on water resource development.

In conclusion the Planning Policy and Conservation Manager drew attention to a number of points which were noted in relation to the Stansted Appeal.

LDF34

NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday, 27 February 2007 at 10.00 am.

The meeting ended at 10.30 am.