

Update on studies

LDF Working Group, 3 February 2012, item 5

**Committee:** LDF Working Group

**Agenda Item**

**Date:** 3 February 2012

**5**

**Title:** Update on studies

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Item for noting

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### Summary

1. This report updates members on the status of commissioned reports and gives expected reporting dates.

### Recommendations

2. For noting

### Financial Implications

3. None

### Background Papers

4. None

### Impact

- 5.

Communication/Consultation	Documents are published on the website when received.
Community Safety	None
Equalities	None
Health and Safety	None
Human Rights/Legal Implications	None
Sustainability	None
Ward-specific impacts	Effects all wards equally
Workforce/Workplace	None

### Situation

6. This report seeks to update members on the range of studies which the Council has commissioned and the status of each piece of work.

Population Forecasts Study (Essex Planning Officers Association)

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This work has been commissioned by Essex Planning Officers Association on behalf of a variety of District Councils. We received a draft for fact checking in early December 2011. We were informed this week that the final document should be ready for publication during February 2012. A report will be prepared for the next available LDF WG.

#### Retail Study (Savills)

This study was received by the Council on 18 January 2012 although not all the Appendices have been received. This study is the subject of another report on the Agenda.

#### Open Space, Sport Facility and Playing Pitch Strategy (The Landscape Partnership and PLConsulting)

This report has been received and published on the website. A draft version was reported to the LDF WG previously.

#### Sustainability Appraisal (Essex County Council)

The Sustainability Appraisal commissioned by UDC from Essex County Council contains a number of phases. The Appraisal considers the policies developed by the Council as part of the Development Management consultation as well as potential sites for development. The first phase has been received and has been published on the website. Further phases will be required as policies develop and there is more certainty about which sites will be proposed for allocation.

#### Rural Lanes (Essex County Council)

This study was commissioned following support from the LDF WG and Cabinet. Essex County Council are currently working on the report and are due to submit a final version at the end of March 2012.

#### Stage 2 Water Cycle Study (Hyder Consulting)

This work has not yet been commissioned. Hyder Consulting carries out the Stage 1 Water Cycle Study and we are in discussions with them about the Second Stage which will need to be commissioned shortly. This will assess the impact of proposed development on the water environment of the District.

## Risk Analysis

7.

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
Studies will not report in sufficient time to input into the LDF process	2 - Some risk or impact	3 – Significant impact	Continuous monitoring of report progress and liaison with commissioned bodies.

1 = Little or no risk or impact

2 = Some risk or impact – action may be necessary.

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3 = Significant risk or impact – action required

4 = Near certainty of risk occurring, catastrophic effect or failure of project.