

**LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK WORKING GROUP held at
COUNCIL OFFICES LONDON ROAD SAFFRON WALDEN at 9.30am
on 5 APRIL 2012**

Present: Councillor J Ketteridge – Chairman.
Councillors S Barker, C Cant, J Cheetham, E Godwin, E
Oliver and H Rolfe.

Also present Councillors R Chambers, E Parr and J Redfern.

Officers in attendance: M Cox (Democratic Services Officer), A Taylor
(Assistant Director Planning and Building Control), M
Jones (Principal Planning Officer), J Mitchell (Chief
Executive), A Storah (Planning Officer) and R Harborough
(Director of Public Services)

LDF67 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D Crome, V
Ranger and D Watson.

Councillors Barker and Chambers declared a personal interest as
members of Essex County Council.

LDF68 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 April 2012 were received and
signed by the Chairman as a correct record subject to including
Councillor Loughlin in the list of apologies for the meeting.

LDF69 LDF CONSULTATION REPORT

The working group received the initial report on the recent consultation.
At this stage it was a factual report summarising all the comments that
had been processed so far. Members noted the key issues that had been
raised.

Although a significant percentage of the responses had been entered
directly on-line, Members commented they had not found the system
particularly easy to use. Officers took this on board and said that
although it was not possible to change the system, easier access to the
site and clearer instructions would be provided for the next consultation.

Once all the comments had been entered on the system a detailed
response to each question would be compiled.

LDF70 INFRASTRUCTURE DELIVERY PLAN

The working group considered the initial report on the infrastructure delivery plan. This was the first such report; other reports would follow in conjunction with the preparation of the Local Plan.

The report had been prepared in the context of guidance relevant to infrastructure in the new National Planning Policy Framework. It explained the use of an infrastructure plan to coordinate the provision of infrastructure to support the delivery of development and discussed how this could be paid for including the prospect of an infrastructure levy.

The report then outlined the current situation with regard to the following areas:- water and waste water provision, the capacity for passenger travel by rail, road capacity and education provision for both secondary and primary schools. This information would influence the content of the Local Plan, helping to ensure that the delivery of development was matched with the provision of appropriate infrastructure.

The working group noted the report.

LDF71 DISTRIBUTION STRATEGY

The working group considered options for a distribution strategy for the Local Plan. It was advised of the historical background, the changing circumstances since the current strategy and the key aspects of the evidence base to be used to establish options. After discussing the report it was

RECOMMENDED that the Council prepare a plan based on a strategy of dispersed development reflecting the existing hierarchy of settlements.

LDF72 ALLOCATION STRATEGY

The working group received a presentation on the potential allocation of housing and employment sites.

LDF73 NPPF UPDATE

The Assistant Director Planning and Building Control highlighted the key issues in the recently published National Planning Policy Framework.

The meeting ended at 12.30 pm.