



# Borough of Oadby & Wigston

Policy Committee

18 November 2008

## Core Strategy Regulation 25 Consultation

Report of: Director of Community Services    Report Number: 5(c)  
Author: Jamie Carr (Forward Planning Officer)

### NON-EXEMPT

This report is likely to be considered while the meeting is open to press & public

### Summary:

The Core Strategy is the first of the new Development Plan Documents that make up the emerging Local Development Framework. The Core Strategy sets out a strategic vision for the Borough of Oadby and Wigston and will be available from Friday 28 November 2008 for formal Regulation 25 Consultation over an 8 week period to Friday 23 January 2008.

### Recommendations:

The Core Strategy Regulation 25 further consultation paper is approved for the purposes of public consultation.

Level of delegation: Policy Committee.

Wards affected: All

### Comments of Statutory Officers:

Head of Paid Service: None Received  
Proper Officer for Financial Affairs: None Received  
Monitoring Officer: None Received

**Appendices Attached:** None.

### Impact Assessments:

Health: The LDF process will have regard to other plans, policies and programmes and will act as the enabling mechanism for health related strategy where this has a land use implication.

Environment: The LDF process will have regard to other plans, policies and programmes and will act as the enabling mechanism for environmental strategy where this has a land use implication.

Community Safety: The LDF process will have regard to other plans, policies and programmes and will act as the enabling mechanism for community safety related strategy where this has a land use implication.

Human Rights: The LDF process aims to ensure that everyone's human rights are taken into account through the drafting of spatial policies. In addition, anyone who wishes to get involved and comment on the draft document will have the opportunity to do so within the 8 week period of engagement.

**Equal Opportunities:** The LDF process aims to ensure that everyone has equal rights through the drafting of spatial policies. In addition, anyone who wishes to get involved and comment on the draft document will have the opportunity to do so within the 8 week period of engagement.

**Risk Assessment:** The LDF consultation process aims to ensure that everyone who wishes to make representations on this document will have the opportunity to do so. Without this period of consultation, we run the risk of not allowing all members of the public, developers and key stakeholders the opportunity to make representations.

### Commentary:

#### **What is the Local Development Framework?**

The Borough Council is currently in the process of preparing a Local Development Framework which is to replace the existing Borough Local Plan. During 2004 the planning system was reviewed under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) and existing Local and Structure Plans were replaced by the Local Development Framework in full.

At a meeting of Council on 24 June 2008 members approved the preparation of the Core Strategy Development Plan Document to a fast tracked timetable. This document and the forthcoming consultation represent the first stage in the implementation of the 'fast tracked' work programme.

The Core Strategy Further Consultation paper and associated papers, including:-

- Local Development Framework Core Strategy Preferred Options Consultation Respondent Analysis
- (Local Development Framework Core Strategy – Supplemental Issues and Options Consultee Response Analysis

are available for inspection in the Members Room, at the Council Offices, Wigston.

#### **What is the Core Strategy?**

The Core Strategy is a strategic document that sets out the vision, objectives and spatial strategies of the Borough along with current policies that will aid and facilitate sustainable developments in the future. It will identify the amount of major new development proposed within the Borough from the period 2006 to 2026 in order to be in line with the plan period of the Regional Spatial Strategy.

The Core Strategy will;

- Contain a clear spatial vision from which spatial objectives, strategic policies, monitoring and implementation frameworks flow.
- Illustrate proposals spatially on a Key Diagram.
- Be guided by sustainable development principles.
- Be linked to the sustainable communities' agenda, helping determine the broad location of new housing and employment land necessary to meet the requirements and targets of the Draft East Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy and the Three Cities Sub Regional Strategy.
- Be in general conformity with the Draft East Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy.
- Articulate national policy objectives into the Borough's local context, and
- Be monitored and kept under regular review.

The Core Strategy Regulation 25 Further Consultation Paper sets out the Borough Council's preferred option approaches for future built development within the local area. Such options emerged from the original Issues and Options paper (July 2005). The preferred policy options should be considered in terms of their conformity with both National and Regional planning

policy, deliverability and local accessibility. Such a report will be accompanied by a Sustainability Appraisal Report and will assess the Council's preferred options in relation to sustainable development.

It should be noted that the explanatory text of this document may be subject to minor changes prior to the start of public consultation. This is a result of the fact that the document is being prepared to a 'fast tracked' timetable and to ensure that it is as up to date as possible at the start of the public consultation.

### **What happens next?**

Once the formal 8 week consultation period has expired, the Borough Council will carefully consider all comments and representations put forward and if deemed appropriate will seek to resolve any arising issues. This amended document will then be developed into a 'Draft Core Strategy' and submitted to the Secretary of State. Once approved the aforementioned will be made available for a further statutory 6 week period in accordance with the Boroughs Statement of Community Involvement, in which formal comments can be put forward. It is intended that the consultation will take place in May / June 2009.

If any representations or comments are received they will be considered at an examination conducted by an Independent Planning Inspector, during which the Inspector will test the 'soundness' of the document. It is intended that this will take place in November 2009. The Inspectors Report will then be binding on the Borough Council.