

LDF Project Management Board Workshop 17, 'Plan text authorisation, Sustainability and Appropriate Assessments, Saved policies and Equalities Analysis' 15.06.2012

Notes of meeting

Members present: Cllr Sue Steele, Cllr Ric Pallister, Cllr Tim Carroll.

Officers present: Rina Singh, Keith Lane, Andy Foyne, Helen Rutter, Martin Woods, Dave Norris, Jo Wilkins (items 3 and 4), Nick Cardnell (items 6-10).

1. Notes of last meetings and matters arising

Notes agreed.

2. Redrafted text and inset maps

MW highlighted concerns raised by Cllr Gina Seaton in a meeting that the redrafted text was too much to consider in a short space of time (which included two bank holidays). The Board considered that the time given was adequate given the exposure to the issues that Members had previously had.

Query raised as to whether letters submitted "ad hoc" over the past year or so will be considered by the Inspector? Explained that reps need to be made in the statutory consultation period in order to be considered by the Inspector at the examination. However, the letters can be made available to the Inspector if he/she wishes.

Each comment in the Appendix 1 table was discussed, and the following changes to this were agreed:

ACTIONS:

- Para 4.129, partially agree with point made, and therefore delete text in brackets in bullet point 2, para 4.129.
- Para 12.41-42; check if there should be consistency in reference to the biodiversity studies.
- Yeovil town centre map to be reviewed for clarity/potential errors.

PMB agreed the recommendations subject to the above amendments.

3. Saved policies review

Approach to reviewing the 'saved policies' was explained; and that para 215 of the NPPF applies to SSDC.

Discussion on whether to continue to save policy EH10 'No development areas', but agreed that NPPF para 74 provides sufficient coverage on this issue.

Concern that the distributor road at Chard strategic site is not clear on the new draft Proposals Map.

ACTION: A label stating "indicative road line" to be added to Chard inset map north of the A30.

PMB agreed the recommendations. The above amendment will be made to the Chard inset map.

4. Equalities Analysis revisited

Approach to carrying out Equalities Analysis was explained and **PMB agreed** the recommendations.

5. Sustainability Appraisal update report

Importance of SA in developing the plan was highlighted. **PMB agreed** the recommendations, but if they had any detailed comments to make on the SA report these would be needed in the next week in order to meet printing deadlines.

6. Appropriate Assessment update report

Approach to the Habitats Regulations Assessment of the plan was outlined. Some discussion on the need to provide further explanation to the wording of Policy HG7 – e.g. what is a “sustainable location”?; what are “essential services”?; what is “well related” to schools and other community facilities?

ACTION: A Development Management note will be produced to provide further explanation on the terms in Policy HG7, using case law to guide the content.

PMB agreed the recommendations.

7. Consultation on Proposed Submission Local Plan and progress on next stages of plan process

8. Option for plan modification at Examination

Items 7 and 8 were taken together as oral reports by AF, who explained that there is potential for the Inspector to make modifications to the plan during the inquiry process, but these would likely require an additional 6 week consultation period.

9. AOB

Would be useful to have a meeting to “rehearse” the key issues in the plan.

ACTION: Meeting to be arranged to rehearse/discuss the key issues in the Local Plan.

10. Next meetings

ACTION: Arrange next PMB meeting to take place early after the end of consultation on the ‘proposed submission’ Local Plan.