
Preferred Options Report – Core Strategy For North Northamptonshire

Synopsis

To advise members of progress on the Joint Planning Committee's Preferred Options Report

1. Relevant Background Details

Progress on the Options paper for Core Strategy for North Northamptonshire was reported to members in July 2005. This report updates members as we arrive at the 'Preferred Options' stage, which will go out on full consultation over the December 2005 to January 2006 period (10 weeks).

2. Report

Following discussion at the Local Plan Committee on 13th July 2005, Corby responded to the draft paper with a number of detailed comments that would ensure that Corby's profile and its active regeneration remained paramount in the overall Core Spatial Strategy. All consultations were analysed by the Joint Planning Unit and they produced a summary report in September 2005 and a draft 'Preferred Options' in October 2005. This was reported to the Joint board members on 20th September 2005 and again on the 13th October 2005 at which further amendments were suggested. Corby members and officers have made significant contributions and amendments to the Preferred Options document in order to maintain Corby's regeneration thrust in the whole process. A copy of the briefing note to our Joint Planning Committee is attached. The revised preferred options report goes to a special meeting of the Joint board on Monday 7th November and members will be advised of the latest position verbally at the Local Plan Committee meeting on 9th November 2005. Copies of the Reports referred to above are available in the Members Room.

3. Options to be considered (if any)

The progress towards final Preferred Options for North Northamptonshire has required vigilance to maintain Corby's position as a key player in the Regeneration and Growth of North Northamptonshire. The document is generally very supportive of Corby's aims and should be welcomed. However members should note this report is for consultation. The Council, along with all other bodies and the general public, will have a further chance to comment on the Preferred Options over the next three months.

4. Issues to be taken into account:-

Policy Priorities

This overall Core Strategy is an essential document form which the Corby LFD will develop, and is therefore an important step.

Performance Information / Financial

Keeping to the time scales set out in our approved LDS is an important consideration in future calculations of the Planning Delivery Grant, approval of Preferred Options is a key stage.

Sustainability / Equalities

The LDF process embraces sustainability at all stages – the preferred options is key to a successful plan. This is the opportunity to test it with the whole community before we move on to more detailed plans.

Legal / Best Value / Community Safety / Human Rights

Not directly from this report but will be commented further as the LDF progresses.

5. Conclusion

The Preferred Options Paper and Public Consultation on it is a key stage in the Planning Strategy for North Northamptonshire. The need for Corby's Regeneration is now highlighted in the paper and it should be welcomed.

6. Recommendations

It is recommended that this report be noted.

Background Papers

Options for North Northamptonshire Towards a Joint Core Spatial Strategy – June 2005

Options for North Northamptonshire Summary of Consultation Response – September 2005

Preferred Options Report – November 2005

External Consultations

Full JPU Consultation – summer 2005

Wards

All

Officer to Contact

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