

CABINET (LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK) COMMITTEE

7 February 2007

WINCHESTER DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK - CORE STRATEGY

REPORT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE

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RECENT REFERENCES:

CAB 1328 - Winchester District Local Development Framework – Core Strategy – 11th
October 2006

CAB 1346 – Establishment of Cabinet (Local Development Framework) Committee – 15th
November 2006

CAB 1376 – Statement of Community Involvement – receipt of Inspectors Report

CAB 1389 – Local Development Scheme – revised 2007

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the report be noted.

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DETAIL:

1 Introduction

1.1 This report provides Members with information of the 'Front Loading' campaign programmed for the Core Strategy in conjunction with the Council's Community Strategy. CAB1359(LDF) highlighted the importance of community involvement and preparation of the Core Strategy will be based upon the various mechanisms and techniques set out in the recently adopted Statement of Community Involvement (CAB 1376).

1.2 CAB1359(LDF) indicated that a series of 'front loading' events would occur early in 2007. However, due to the need to ensure sufficient notice was given to stakeholders and the wider community, including parish councils, it was considered pertinent to commence this part of the front loading in February. The following sections of this report set out in detail the programme of community involvement, plus a brief up date of the technical reports being prepared as part of the evidence base.

2 Community Involvement

2.1 CAB1359 para 4.4 indicated that 6-8 events would be held across the District. To ensure that the District is adequately covered, including the city of Winchester itself, 9 events are planned based in the following locations: Alresford, Bishops Waltham, Denmead, Kings Worthy, Otterbourne, Wickham, Winchester, Whiteley. Winchester will host two events to ensure that the whole of the urban area is covered.

2.2 Appendix 1 details the dates and venues. All the community events will occur in the evenings and will follow a workshop style format.

2.3 In addition to these community events a questionnaire will be available both online and in paper form for those who may not be able to attend, to complete and return to us.

2.4 Promotion of this consultation will utilise a number of methods, including: press releases, exhibition banners, posters, flyers and an e bulletin under the campaign heading of "Live for the Future... A Sustainable Winchester District".

2.5 To assist City and Parish Councillors understand the purpose and key messages of the campaign, a 'crib sheet' has been prepared and circulated to all councillors, so that they can assist with the promotion of the campaign, to enable as much engagement with the communities of the District as possible. This has also been circulated to Parish Councils, County Councillors covering the District and the local MP. As referred to in CAB 1359 (LDF) it is proposed

that Members will attend and host/chair these events, by welcoming and introducing the evening and then closing at the end of the evening.

- 2.6 In addition to these events, which are focussed on engaging with the whole of the Winchester community, it will also be necessary to seek the views of stakeholders and other interested parties. Consequently, a stakeholder event has been provisionally booked for March 22nd in the Guildhall. This will take a similar form to the community workshops but with more focussed questions. To ensure compliance with the Statement of Community Involvement, young people and BME representatives will also need to be given the opportunity to contribute to this process. At the time of writing this report the means of engaging with these groups was still being explored and an update will be given at the meeting.

3 Evidence Base

- 3.1 Appendix 2 to this report lists the various technical reports being undertaken to inform the LDF and summarises their current status. A significant area of progress from the last report is the appointment of consultants to undertake the Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment of the LDF. This is covered in more detail under a separate report on this agenda.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

4 CORPORATE STRATEGY (RELEVANCE TO):

- 4.1 The LDF is a key corporate priority and will contribute to achieving the Council's vision through the outcomes set out under providing better services.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

- 5.1 Meetings of the Committee can be serviced from within existing resources in the City Secretary and Solicitor's Directorate. The resources for undertaking work on the LDF documents are not in the current base budget and will require additional approval as part of the 07/08 budget process.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

None

APPENDICES:

Appendix 1 : Community Events

Appendix 2 : Evidence Base