



## **West Northamptonshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee**

Your attendance is requested at a meeting to be held at the Jeffery Room,  
Guildhall, Northampton on Tuesday, 30 March 2010 at 6:00 pm.

**D. Kennedy**  
**Chief Executive**

Contact: Frazer McGown, Democratic Services Manager  
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### **Agenda**

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
2. MINUTES  
(Copy of minutes of the meeting held on 17 December 2009 attached)
3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
  - Personal
  - Prejudicial
4. MATTERS OF URGENCY  
To consider any issues that the Chairman is of the opinion are Matters of Urgency.
5. WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE JOINT PLANNING UNIT  
FORECAST BUDGET OUTTURN 2009/10  
(Report attached)
6. WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE JOINT PLANNING UNIT  
BUDGET 2010/11  
(Report attached)
7. EMERGENT JOINT CORE STRATEGY CONSULTATION  
(Report attached)
8. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION- PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO  
SUPPLEMENTARY PROCEDURE RULES  
(Report attached)
9. THE CHAIRMAN TO MOVE:

“THAT THE PUBLIC BE EXCLUDED FROM THE REMAINDER OF THE MEETING ON THE GROUNDS THAT THERE IS LIKELY TO BE DISCLOSURE TO THEM OF SUCH CATEGORIES OF EXEMPT INFORMATION AS DEFINED BY SECTION 100(1) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AS ARE LISTED AGAINST SUCH ITEM OR ITEMS OF BUSINESS BY REFERENCE TO THE APPROPRIATE PARAGRAPH OF SCHEDULE 12A TO SUCH ACT.”

# Agenda Item 2

## WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE JOINT STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Thursday, 17 December 2009 at Daventry (18.00 hours)

**PRESENT:** Councillor Tony Woods (Chair); Councillor Chris Millar (Deputy Chair); Councillors Wendy Amos, Sandra Barnes, Catherine Boardman, Steven Clarke, Richard Church, Robin Brown, Keith Davies, Brian Hoare, Brian Markham, Chris Over, John Townsend and Mr David Dickinson.

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from County Councillor Andre Gonzales de Savage.

### 2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20 OCTOBER 2009

Subject to the correction of the spelling of Councillor Steven Clarke's name and the addition of Councillor John Townsend to the list of attendees, the minutes of the meeting held on 20 October 2009 were signed by the Chair.

### 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

1. Councillors Sandra Barnes, Richard Church, Chris Millar, Tony Woods and Mr David Dickinson declared personal interests as Members of the WNDC Board.
2. Councillor Steven Clarke and County Councillor Robin Brown declared personal interests as Members of the East Midlands Regional Assembly.

### 4. MATTERS OF URGENCY

None.

### 5. REVISED LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

The Interim Head of the JPU submitted a report and elaborated upon the reasons for the revision to the Local Development Scheme and the Government Office for the East Midlands' (GOEM) recognition of the those issues. She commented that there was now a better appreciation of the effects of the recession on delivery of the Joint Core Strategy. She also noted that it was important for the LDS to be agreed as soon as practicable to avoid problems such as speculative planning applications from developers and any resulting appeals. She referred to the Development Plan Documents (DPDs) and the split of the Affordable Housing and Developer Contributions DPD detailed in the report. She corrected the proposed LDS set out as an appendix, in respect of page 7 to amend the date from "2008 to 2011" to "2010 to 2012" and also to note that South Northamptonshire Council's Rural Settlements DPD should be included on page 8.

The Interim Head of the JPU commented that there was now a better understanding of the gaps in infrastructure provision and the effect of the recession on build rates, which therefore particularly affected the annualised build targets in the early years of the plan. She made reference to page 4 of the report and recent meetings with the Highways Agency and Northamptonshire County Council to agree a programme and timetable. She noted that

a study of the behaviour of the Golden Plover had been agreed with Natural England. The Interim Head of the JPU concluded that with the support of the County Council, Natural England and Highways Agency amongst others, it was believed that the programme was robust and achievable. It was also believed that the construction industry would note that progress was being made, although there was a risk that some might try to force the issue before the framework was in place.

Mr Hawkins, Chairman of the Great Houghton Action Group (GHAG), stated:

“That the Local Development Scheme and the Local Development Framework, which it will establish, are the responsibility of the Joint Strategic Planning Committee. Given the experience with the Emergent Joint Core Strategy consultation undertaken earlier this year, GHAG ask members to satisfy themselves that this scheme can be delivered as proposed.

In particular, GHAG asked the Committee to satisfy itself:

- That those agencies on whose work the JPU is relying, such as the Highways Agency and the Environment Agency, have confirmed, in writing that they will deliver to the schedule necessary to activate the dates committed in the Local Development Scheme;
- That the risk register fully recognises the risks associated with the dependencies of the JPU on other agencies, particularly the Highways Agency and the Environment Agency, and that mitigations and/or contingencies are in place should they not deliver as planned (these risks don't appear to be in the register published with the agenda to this meeting);
- That it is able to commit to fully funding and resourcing the programme.

GHAG also ask that the Committee asks the JPU to publish the detailed critical path plans on which the Scheme timeline is based, and, more specifically, to publish a detailed schedule for all documents, including those containing supporting evidence. We are delighted to hear that work has progressed since the Emergent Joint Core Strategy was published, but the evidence base available through the JPU website does not seem to be very much broader than it was in July.

In addition, GHAG asked that the Committee committed itself to:

- Publish the consolidated findings from this year's consultation at the earliest opportunity and in any case in good time for their implications to be properly considered in preparing the Joint Core Strategy;
- Not to seek to deliver housing growth for its own sake and, given the Committee's clearly expressed concerns with the existing housing targets in the Regional Plan, not to consider any provision for housing beyond the existing targets or beyond 2026, pending any changes to the Regional Plan;
- Fully consider the agricultural implications of the Local Development Framework during the preparation of all documents, particularly in the light of the increasing importance of food security;
- Ensure that the evidence base is fully in place before publishing the Joint Core Strategy and before commencing any consultation on such a document;
- Keep all stakeholders, particularly their electorates, informed and involved throughout

the process;

- And that before publishing any Joint Core Strategy it will ensure that it:
  - fully addresses the issues raised through the consultation earlier this year;
  - is properly integrated into a coherent Strategy in which all components clearly support one another; and
  - is demonstrably affordable.

Finally, given the significant disruption caused by the publication of the Emergent Joint Core Strategy in July in a state that was ill prepared and lacking in supporting evidence – and which members of the Committee seemed to publicly disavow after its publication – we ask that the Committee satisfies itself that it has the time and resources to properly assure the quality of the Joint Core Strategy before its publication. This is your document and the public will not allow the Committee to hide behind its officers a second time.”

In answer to a question, Mr Hawkins indicated that he had not given prior notice of his statement to the JPU.

In answer to a question, the Interim Head of the JPU commented that the JCS would set a hierarchy of settlements for development and that those listed on page 33 of the Appendix were the village design statements from Daventry District Council, which had been adopted so far, it being recognised that as others were adopted they would be added to that list.

The Interim Head of the JPU, in answer to a question, commented that there had been over 6,000 responses to the consultation on the Emergent JCS from over 4,000 different respondents. Logistically, this represented a great deal of work, which was being logged before being analysed. It was anticipated that the analysis would be completed by the end of March 2010 and reported to the Joint Planning Committee thereafter. This information would be used to inform the JCS. The process required all the responses to be notified to the Secretary or State along with the reaction to them. It was noted that many responses may have concerned the proposals for South East Northampton and that a dedicated Member workshop could be arranged to examine this particular aspect. It was also noted that MS Project was being used as a tool to design the programme. There had been no substantive changes to the programme since the last report to the Joint Committee and once all the dates had been fixed Councillors would receive a schedule early in January 2010.

In answer to a question, the Interim Head of the JPU commented that a workshop on the Rural Settlement Hierarchy would be arranged to take place probably during the period April to July 2010, but Members were welcome to put forward suggestions for the content of those workshops. She also noted that the criteria for developing a Rural Settlement Hierarchy were being created through joint working with officers from each of the partner authorities. It would be possible for summaries of the Member workshops to be circulated to all Members of the Joint Committee. Some flexibility in the programme may be required when the General Election was called and in respect of the Local Elections in Daventry in May. In answer to a question from Councillor Steven Clarke, the Interim Head of the JPU commented that an Infrastructure DPD was being drawn up and would be presented to the Partners for their comments. This would sit alongside the Delivery Plan and the Developer Contributions DPD. It was also noted that Developer Contributions could only relate to the future situations and not be used as a mechanism to rectify existing deficiencies. The JCS would include practical site boundaries, capacities and infrastructure for the larger urban extensions and this would be considered against annualised build figures. This was not

likely to go beyond 2026. Key sites that were strategic on which the whole delivery plan would hinge would be included but these would not necessarily include all the large housing sites per se. Workshops would revisit strategic land use strategy and transportation issues, rural land use and issues that Members wished to discuss. In answer to a question she noted that in terms of Northampton, a new urban capacity study would be produced drawing from the Employment Land Study and Strategic Housing Land Availability Study. She also noted that it was intended to submit the new annualised housing build figures to GOEM early in January 2010. The Director of Planning and Regeneration noted that GOEM had in previous discussions accepted the principle of a revision of the annualised targets.

A discussion ensued in respect of the County Council's budget proposals. Councillor Chris Millar commented that he had spoken to the Leader of the County Council on this matter. County Councillor Robin Brown, as a County Council Cabinet Member, commented that he would advise his Cabinet colleagues of the comments made by Joint Committee members.

The Director of Planning and Regeneration commented that in respect of this year's budget there was anticipated to be a small under spend, which would be reported to the Business Sub-Group. He commented that for 2009/10 there would be an intensive programme of work and that the budget for the Joint Planning Committee would be agreed early in 2010 and would be robust. He noted that Councils would confirm their budget contributions as part of their normal budgetary processes early in 2010.

The Interim Head of the JPU, in responding to some of the other points raised by Mr Hawkins, noted that the Environment Agency and Highways Agency had responded by e-mail and had agreed to the programme as proposed. Evidence was being added to the website as quickly as practicable; and agriculture and food security was an issue that was being taken into account. The evidence base would need to be completed before the pre-submission document was submitted to the Secretary of State; and the milestones and project plan would be publicly available; and Members could have access to a more detailed project plan, it being noted that this would change week by week.

- RESOLVED:**
- (1) That approval be given to the revised Local Development Scheme as amended to go forward for submission to the Government Office for the East Midlands for its consideration.
  - (2) That the Local Development Scheme be brought into effect following agreement by the Government Office for the East Midlands.
  - (3) That it be noted that this Local Development Scheme predicated on the full funding of the programme is agreed at its meeting on 16 December 2008 and a full compliment of staff also agreed at that meeting and that in this respect the Head of the Joint Planning Unit write to the County Council expressing the Joint Committee's concerns at their budget proposal to cut £37,000 from their contribution.
  - (4) That the progress to date and the recognition of this by the Government Office for the East Midlands be noted.

## **6. RISK REGISTER**

The Interim Head of the JPU submitted a report that set out the current risks on the risk register, which included control measures and mitigating actions. Councillor Chris Miller noted that the input of the Environment Agency and the Highways Agency were important elements. The Interim Head of the JPU commented that they were working closely with both agencies to agree a programme that would meet their respective concerns.

**RESOLVED:** That the report be noted.

The Chair commented that this was the last meeting of the Joint Planning Committee that K Moore, the Interim Head of the JPU, would be attending. He thanked her for her excellent work in bringing forward planning policy for West Northamptonshire and leading the JPU. He presented her with a bouquet of flowers.

The meeting concluded at 19.30 hours

Item No:
Date: 30 March 2010

**WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**  
**JOINT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK**  
**JOINT STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE**

<b>West Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit</b> <b>Budget Forecast Out Turn: 2009/10</b>
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## REPORT OF THE HEAD OF THE JOINT PLANNING UNIT

### 1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To update the Committee on the forecast out turn of the West Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit's budget for financial year 2009/10.

### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To note the forecast budget out turn for financial year 2009/10; which illustrates an active and dynamic year for the West Northamptonshire JPU.
- 2.2 To note that £135,000 is to be carried forward to financial year 2010/11 to enable the Joint Core Strategy work programme to remain on track and on target, as this amount is "committed expenditure" as set out in paragraph 36 of the Fifth Schedule to the recently approved Legal Agreement between partners.

### 3. Context

- 3.1 It has been a busy year for the Joint Planning Unit and this means that the budget available to the Unit to progress its work programme has been used to best effect in order to ensure full value for money in terms of progressing essential work whilst also getting the work done.

- 3.2 The latest financial monitoring reveals that:

- at the end of January 2010 the actual expenditure to date was **£439k**;
- the committed expenditure for which orders have been raised comes to **£742k**;
- the expected expenditure, for which no specific orders have yet been raised but it is anticipated they will be before 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010 amounts to **£14K**; and



- The unspent budget to be carried forward into 2010/11, as allowed for as “committed expenditure” in paragraph 36 of the West Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit Finance and Procurement Protocol, amounts to **£135k**.
- 3.4 There are ongoing necessary projects relating to the preparation of the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy that will not be completed before 31<sup>st</sup> March and therefore, the expenditure relating to these projects will occur in financial year 2010/11. In the light of this the budget for these projects, which is contractually committed for the purposes of progressing the Joint Core Strategy, will be carried forward to next year 2010/11 so that the Joint Core Strategy Work Programme stays on track.
- 4. Future management of the West Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit Budget**
- 4.1 In time for the start of the next financial year on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010 our aim exists to firmly establish a more refined subdivision of the West Northamptonshire JPU budget heads. At the same time specific cost codes will be assigned to each of these refined budget heads. This approach will enable expenditure to be more closely monitored on a monthly basis.
- 4.2 In addition all expenditure in 2010/11 and subsequent years will continue to be closely monitored by the Programme Board reporting to the Business Sub Group to ensure value for money for all the partner authorities, and to seek out efficiency savings, either in 2010/11 or subsequent years, whilst maintaining the approved LDS programme.

Mandy Anderson  
Accountant to the JPU  
South Northamptonshire Council

Item No:

Date: 30 March 2010

**WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE  
JOINT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK  
JOINT STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**West Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit  
Budget 2010/11**

**REPORT OF THE HEAD OF THE JOINT PLANNING UNIT**

**1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1. To update the Committee on the budget of the West Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit for the financial year 2010-11.

**2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 To note the budget for financial year 2010-11 for the West Northamptonshire JPU and that all partners have confirmed their full contribution.
- 2.2 The Head of the Joint Planning Unit to write to partners to remind them of the financial management requirements set out in the West Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit – Finance and Procurement Protocol and to raise all invoices in a timely manner.

**3. Context**

- 3.1 The budget for 2010-11 was first set and agreed by partners in December 2008 when setting 2009-10 to 2011-12. **The total budget envelope for 2010-11 is £1,229,000.**

The breakdown of the contributions from the partner authorities is as follows:

	<b>No of Shares</b>	<b>Contribution</b>
Northamptonshire County Council (NCC)	2	£204,833
Northampton Borough Council (NBC)	4	£409,667
Daventry District Council (DDC)	3	£307,250
South Northants Council (SNC)	3	£307,250
	<hr/> 12	<hr/> £1,229,000 <hr/>

- 3.2 Each authority has been contacted through their section 151 officers and has confirmed the availability of the contributions within their 2010-11 budgets.
- 3.3 As agreed in the West Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit – Finance and Procurement Protocol, South Northamptonshire Council will issue invoices to the partners for the full year contributions by 30 September 2010.
- 3.4 The budget requirement for 2010-11 has been scrutinised by the Joint Planning Unit, the Programme Board and the Business Sub Group and has been assigned to work streams necessary to meet the requirements of the West Northamptonshire Local Development Scheme (LDS) without exceeding the overall agreed budget £1,229,000.

#### **4 Future management of the West Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit Budget**

- 4.1 In time for the start of the next financial year on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010 our aim exists to firmly establish a more refined subdivision of the West Northamptonshire JPU budget heads. At the same time specific cost codes will be assigned to each of these refined budget heads. This approach will enable expenditure to be more closely monitored on a monthly basis.
- 4.2 In addition all expenditure in 2010/11 and subsequent years will continue to be closely monitored by the Programme Board reporting to the Business Sub Group to ensure value for money for all the partner authorities, and to seek out efficiency savings, either in 2010/11 or subsequent years, whilst maintaining the approved LDS programme.
- 4.3 In order to reduce the level of committed spend as opposed to actual spend in the next financial year, it would help with the monitoring of the expenditure if partners would raise invoices to the unit in a timely fashion, as detailed in paragraphs 23 and 27 of the joint protocol agreed by the partners.

Mandy Anderson  
Accountant to the JPU  
South Northamptonshire Council

Item No:
Date: 30 March 2010

## WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

### JOINT STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

<b>West Northamptonshire Emergent Joint Core Strategy Consultation</b>
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#### REPORT OF THE HEAD OF THE JOINT PLANNING UNIT

#### 1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is:

- 1) To provide a summary of the consultation that was undertaken for the West Northamptonshire Emergent Joint Core Strategy;
- 2) To explain the approach that is being taken to analysing the consultation responses to the Emergent Joint Core Strategy and reporting the responses to the Joint Strategic Planning Committee; and
- 3) To provide details of the total number of responses, their geographical distribution, their form and the proportion of the responses in support, not in support, unspecified and do not know.

#### 2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Joint Strategic Planning Committee:

- 1) Notes the summary of the consultation that was undertaken for the West Northamptonshire Emergent Joint Core Strategy;
- 2) Agrees the approach that is being taken to analysing the consultation responses to the Emergent Joint Core Strategy and reporting the responses to the Joint Strategic Planning Committee; and
- 3) Notes the details of the total number of responses, their geographical distribution, their form and the proportion of the responses in support, not in support, unspecified and do not know.

### **3. Introduction to the Emergent Joint Core Strategy**

- 3.1 The approved West Northamptonshire Local Development Scheme (February 2010) sets out the content and timetable of the Local Development Framework for West Northamptonshire. The Joint Core Strategy is the priority document for preparation. It is the overarching document and all subsequent documents must reflect what it says.
- 3.2 The Joint Core Strategy will be the long term strategic plan for the development of West Northamptonshire – it deals with the big picture of what will happen in the future. It is a spatial policy document, which means it deals with places and the activities that happen within and between them.
- 3.3 Preparation of the Joint Core Strategy is a legal requirement and the partner authorities of Daventry District, Northampton Borough, South Northamptonshire and Northamptonshire County Councils have been required by Government to produce a Joint Core Strategy for their collective areas; an area referred to as West Northamptonshire. The partner authorities are working in close co-operation with West Northamptonshire Development Corporation to produce the Joint Core Strategy and ensure the delivery of development and infrastructure.
- 3.4 At its meeting on 6 July 2009 the West Northamptonshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee approved the publication of the West Northamptonshire Emergent Joint Core Strategy for consultation. The Emergent Joint Core Strategy was published on 31 July 2009 for a six week consultation period which was subsequently extended by 2 and half weeks to 30 September 2009 due to printing problems with the accompanying consultation questionnaire.
- 3.5 The content of the Emergent Joint Core Strategy was informed by the Joint Core Strategy Issues and Options and Regulation 25 consultations, the collection of a wide ranging evidence base and on-going work with technical bodies. The Emergent Joint Core Strategy marked a fundamental step towards the submission and approval of the Joint Core Strategy. The Emergent Joint Core Strategy set out current thinking with respect to the policy approach that should be taken in West Northamptonshire and was based on the evidence collected to date. It was not a draft plan or final strategy; it did not set out policies but it did set out the policy approach and the preferred options and rejected options for the locations of growth at each town in West Northamptonshire. It was emphasised in the Emergent Joint Core Strategy that at that time some parts of the evidence base were clearer than others. Where further work was needed this was noted in the text of the document.

- 3.6 The Emergent Joint Core Strategy sought to explain the current thinking of the Joint Strategic Planning Committee and offer a chance to comment. The Strategy was written for everyone with an interest in the future of the places that make up West Northamptonshire. It was noted in the Emergent Joint Core Strategy that it would have impacts on existing communities, businesses, landowners, developers and investors. It was also noted that it would increase the level of dialogue with bodies such as the Environment Agency, the Highways Agency and Natural England.
- 3.7 The Emergent Joint Core Strategy was subject to a sustainability appraisal and an appropriate assessment by independent environmental consultants Environ. Environ's reports were published alongside the Emergent Joint Core Strategy to allow respondents to the Emergent Joint Core Strategy to reflect on Environ's appraisal and assessment in preparing their responses.

#### **4. The Emergent Joint Core Strategy Consultation**

- 4.1 Under the Local Development Framework system each Council is required to prepare a Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) that sets out how the community will be involved in the preparation of Local Development Documents and in significant development control decisions. One of the tests of legal compliance is that a Development Plan Document has been prepared in compliance with the SCI. In the case of West Northamptonshire there are three SCIs – one for each Council. All three of the SCIs were adopted in 2006 and are available to view and download on each Council's website and the Joint Planning Unit website.
- 4.2 Reflecting the three Councils' SCIs a variety of formal and informal community involvement and consultation methods were used throughout the Emergent Joint Core Strategy consultation.
- 4.3 All three SCIs identify types of consultees and list the consultation methods that will, or may, be used for the Core Strategy by type of consultee.
- 4.4 Table 1 in Appendix 1 lists the types of consultation methods identified by the SCIs and the consultation methods that were used for the Emergent Joint Core Strategy. This table demonstrates that the Emergent Joint Core Strategy consultation has complied with the requirements of the SCIs.
- 4.5 The following paragraphs set out the details of the community involvement and consultation methods that were used for the Emergent Joint Core Strategy consultation.

## Emergent Joint Core Strategy and Consultation Questionnaire

- 4.6 The Emergent Joint Core Strategy document consultation was published for consultation on 31 July 2009 for a six-week period that was due to end on 11 September 2009. A consultation questionnaire was published alongside the Emergent Joint Core Strategy. The questionnaire enabled respondents to answer each of the consultation questions set within the Emergent Joint Core Strategy with the answer “Yes”, “No”, or “Don’t Know” and provide reasons for each response. Unfortunately due to printing problems six questions were incorrectly printed in the consultation questionnaire. Consequently a corrected consultation questionnaire was printed and re-distributed to consultees, both those who had already responded and those that had not, and the consultation period was extended by 2 and half weeks to 30 September 2009.
- 4.7 The Joint Planning Unit wrote to or e-mailed a total of 2,522 statutory and non-statutory organisations, agencies, groups and individuals providing details of the consultation and, as appropriate, providing copies of the Emergent Joint Core Strategy document or informing them of the documents’ availability and how to view or obtain copies. Table 1 below lists the number of consultees in each category that were contacted.

Table 1 - Number of Consultees in Each Category

<b>Consultee Category</b>	<b>Number</b>
Adjoining and Other Councils	41
Adjoining Libraries	15
Adjoining Town and Parish Councils	64
Neighbourhoods and Forums	19
Businesses, Developers, Landowners, Agents	613
Community Groups and Organisations	119
Councillors	187
Libraries	21
Local Strategic Partnerships	4
MPs/ MEPs	9
Private Individuals	828
Receptions for Public Inspection	66
Residents Associations	55
Service Providers	322
Town and Parish Councils	159
<b>Total</b>	<b>2522</b>

- 4.8 Town and Parish Councils and Residents’ Associations were sent multiple copies of the Emergent Joint Core Strategy together with leaflets and posters to advertise the exhibitions.

- 4.9 Copies of the Emergent Joint Core Strategy were also made available for public inspection at the principal offices of: Daventry District, Northampton Borough, Northamptonshire County and South Northamptonshire Councils, West Northamptonshire Development Corporation; and all the public libraries in West Northamptonshire and in the main settlements in the areas surrounding West Northamptonshire. A full list of these locations is included as Appendix 2.
- 4.10 The Joint Planning Unit also used the web-based Limehouse consultation system to enable individuals and organisations to view and download the Emergent Joint Core Strategy, the consultation questionnaire and the accompanying Sustainability Appraisal and Appropriate Assessment. Once registered on the Joint Planning Unit's consultation system respondents could also submit their responses electronically. The Partner Authorities' websites also provided links to the consultation system on their websites.
- 4.11 The Emergent Joint Core Strategy was also made available on request in large print, Braille and audio versions, and in other languages. As a result of requests the Emergent Joint Core Strategy was provided in large print and audio.
- 4.12 A total of 5,000 copies each of the Emergent Joint Core Strategy and the consultation questionnaire were printed and a total of 4,500 Emergent Joint Core Strategies and all of the consultation questionnaires were distributed.

#### Exhibitions

- 4.13 An exhibition based on the Emergent Joint Core Strategy document was prepared to raise awareness of the Emergent Joint Core Strategy. The exhibition visited 21 venues over a total of 19 days. A list of all the venues and recorded attendance at the exhibitions is set out in Appendix 3 to this report.
- 4.14 Where possible a record was taken of the number of people who visited the exhibition. In the cases where the exhibition was very busy or was unstaffed it may not have been possible to maintain an accurate record of the number of people who attended. However, the numbers listed in the table do give an indication of the levels of attendance at the exhibitions.



### Local Media

- 4.15 The local media played an important role in raising awareness and providing signposting for the consultation process and related activities. A press conference was held with local media on 26 June 2009. This was well attended by both print and radio media from across West Northamptonshire and interviews were carried out with Councillors.
- 4.16 Press releases were issued at the launch of the consultation and timed to coincide with the roll out of the exhibitions. Two press releases were sent to the following newspapers which are the main newspapers that cover West Northamptonshire:
- 1) Banbury Guardian;
  - 2) Brackley and Towcester Advertiser;
  - 3) Daventry Express;
  - 4) Harborough Mail;
  - 5) Herald and Post;
  - 6) Milton Keynes Citizen;
  - 7) Northampton Chronicle and Echo;
  - 8) Rugby Advertiser; and
  - 9) Rugby Observer.
- 4.17 Coverage was picked up by most of the local newspapers. Press releases were also sent to the following television and local radio stations that cover West Northamptonshire:
- 1) BBC radio/ television;
  - 2) Anglia television; and
  - 3) Heart FM.

### Council Newsletters

- 4.18 Both Daventry District and South Northamptonshire Councils produced awareness raising news pieces about the Emergent Joint Core Strategy for their Council newsletters: "Daventry Calling" and "SNC Review".

### Town and Parish Council Meetings

- 4.19 Officers of the Joint Planning Unit attended the following requested meetings:
- 1) Mid Northants Parishes – 23 July 2009
  - 2) Overstone Parish Council – 3 August 2009
  - 3) Wootton and East Hunsbury Parish Council – 5 August 2009
  - 4) Brixworth Parish Council – 8 September 2010

- 4.20 Representatives of other Parish Councils also attended the meetings with Overstone Parish Council and Wootton and East Hunsbury Parish Council.

#### Councillor Workshops

- 4.21 Workshops were held with the Joint Strategic Planning Committee members on the lead up to the publication and launch of the Emergent Joint Core Strategy. Briefing meetings were also made available to all Councillors across the partner authorities in advance of publishing the Emergent Joint Core Strategy.

#### Call Line

- 4.22 A call line was provided alongside the consultation information to allow people to call up to leave verbal feedback to the consultation, request copies of the consultation material or speak to an officer. The system allowed management of the calls coming in to the Joint Planning Unit about the consultation. In total 168 requests through the call line were fulfilled.

#### Workshops and Meetings

- 4.23 Workshops were held to raise awareness of the consultation and to gather early feedback with:
- 1) Service Managers from across Northampton Borough Council – 25 August 2009
  - 2) Representatives from the partner authorities' Local Strategic Partnerships – 28 September 2009
  - 3) The commercial sector – 28 September 2009
- 4.24 Officers from the Joint Planning Unit also attended Northamptonshire Enterprise Ltd's Board meeting on 16 September 2010 to explain the content of the Emergent Joint Core Strategy and the consultation process.

#### Other Activities and Events

- 4.25 The following activities and events also took place during the Emergent Joint Core Strategy consultation but were organised by other parties than the Joint Planning Unit:

### E-Petition

- 4.26 An e-petition was submitted to Number 10 Downing Street by Mr Michael Street which received 816 signatures. The petition asked: "We the undersigned petition the Prime Minister to put a stop to the rushed plans to build 40,000 new homes in rural Northamptonshire." The details of the petition were: "Plans are out for a very short consultation period to build 40,000 new homes in rural Northamptonshire, including 18,000 which will join up villages east of Northampton and put a dual carriageway through them. There is no clear evidence that these homes are required." All the signatures to the petition and the Government's response to the petition can be viewed on-line at [www.number10.gov.uk/Page20997](http://www.number10.gov.uk/Page20997).

### Parish Councils, Residents' Groups and Action Groups

- 4.27 Many of the communities and residents directly affected by the preferred options for growth identified in the Emergent Joint Core Strategy prepared their own leaflets, posters, website material and held meetings to discuss the proposals. A number of action groups were formed and existing groups, including Parish Councils and Residents Associations, grouped together.

### Protests and Marches

- 4.28 There were a total of four protests held against the content of the Emergent Joint Core Strategy. The Northants Residents Alliance held a protest at the Joint Strategic Planning Committee on 6 July 2009 in Towcester when the Emergent Joint Core Strategy was considered by the Committee for publication for public consultation. A protest was also held in Northampton Market Square on 15 August 2009. The Northants Residents Alliance held a protest at an Emergent Joint Core Strategy exhibition at the Wootton and East Hunsbury Community Centre on 2 September 2009. The same organisation held a further protest at the Joint Planning Unit's office in Northampton on 29 September 2009 which involved a march from outlying villages and Becketts' Park to the Joint Planning Unit.
- 4.29 The Towcester protest and the Northampton march to the Joint Planning Unit's office are both available to view on-line at [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com). All four protests received considerable media coverage both in the local newspapers and on the radio.

### Radio Debate

- 4.30 BBC Radio Northampton held a public debate at the University of Northampton on 9 September 2009 to discuss the Emergent Joint Core Strategy and the wider growth plans for Northamptonshire. The Deputy Chair of the Joint Strategic Planning Committee was part of the debating panel.

## **5. The Emergent Joint Core Strategy Consultation Responses**

- 5.1 As a result of the Emergent Joint Core Strategy consultation 4,781 individuals and organisations submitted 6,355 responses containing a total of 120,668 individual comments, also known as representations.
- 5.2 All the responses have been logged and an acknowledgement sent to each respondent. All the responses have been coded by the consultation questions set in the Emergent Joint Core Strategy and entered into a database. The Joint Planning Unit is currently summarising all the responses by the consultation questions set in the Emergent Joint Core Strategy. Once this is completed the summary of all responses by question and grouped by theme will be circulated to all members of the West Northamptonshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee as well as being published on the West Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit website. All respondents to the Emergent Joint Core Strategy will be notified of the publication of the responses, the timetable for the next stages and the nature of the next stages of the Joint Core Strategy preparation process. All responses to the Emergent Joint Core Strategy will be available to view on the Joint Planning Unit's website or at the Joint Planning Unit's office in Northampton. At its meeting on 26 July 2010 the West Northamptonshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee will formally receive the summary of the consultation responses to the Emergent Joint Core Strategy. At its meeting on 29 September 2010 the West Northamptonshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee will receive the officers' recommended response to the consultation responses to the Emergent Joint Core Strategy for the Committee's consideration.
- 5.3 The Head of the Joint Planning Unit has sought legal advice from Counsel that the approach to the reporting and consideration of the responses to the Emergent Joint Core Strategy, as set out above, is acceptable. Counsel has confirmed that this approach is acceptable.
- 5.4 In terms of geographical distribution of responses analysis has been undertaken of the distribution of responses by postcode sector and by postcode area.
- 5.5 Table 2 overleaf shows the number of responses by postcode area "NN". The majority of responses were from NN7, NN4 and NN6. NN7 is to the south east of Northampton. NN4 is to the west of Northampton. NN6 is the north of Northampton. The remainder of the responses, 713 responses, were from outside postcode area "NN" or the respondent did not provide their address. Maps illustrating the distribution of responses by postcode area are being prepared and will be tabled at the Committee meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2010.

Table 2 – Number of Responses by Postcode Area “NN”

<b>Postcode Area</b>	<b>Responses</b>
NN7	3,347
NN4	1,532
NN6	944
NN3	180
NN2	136
NN5	96
NN1	56
NN12	50
NN15	38
NN11	24
NN13	13
NN8	7
NN29	6
NN14	3
NN17	2
NN9	1
NN10	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,642</b>

- 5.6 In terms of the distribution of responses by postcode sector, i.e. focusing in to the smaller areas within the postcode area, Table 3 below shows the number of responses by postcode sector for those sectors from which there were 10 or more responses. NN7 2, NN7 1, NN4 7 and NN7 4 show significant numbers of responses. NN7 2 includes the villages of Hackleton, Hartwell, Horton, Piddington, Preston Deanery and Quinton. NN7 1 includes the villages of Brafield-on-the-Green, Cogenhoe, Denton, Little Houghton and Yardley Hastings. NN4 7 includes the village of Great Houghton. NN7 4 includes the villages of Harpole and Kislingbury.

Table 3 – Number of Responses by Postcode Sector (Sectors with 10 or more responses only)

<b>Postcode Sector</b>	<b>Responses</b>
NN7 2	1,591
NN7 1	1,071
NN4 7	771
NN7 4	620
NN4 6	398
NN6 0	113
NN2 8	89
NN7 3	56
NN5 6	52
NN3 7	50
NN4 9	50
NN3 5	49

NN1 57	36
NN1 5	26
NN5 4	25
NN2 6	23
NN3 3	22
NN3 6	20
NN3 9	18
NN4 5	18
NN2 7	17
NN1 27	17
NN3 2	15
NN4 8	14
NN1 26	14
NN6 9	14
NN1 3	11
NN6 7	11
NN1 4	10

- 5.7 In terms of the types of respondents, at this stage in the analysis of the responses it is not possible to provide details of the number of respondents by type of respondent e.g. statutory bodies, Councillors, individuals, agents, developers, etc. This information will be available along with the summary of all responses later this year.
- 5.8 In terms of the format of the representations the majority of representations, comprising a total of 98,402 individual comments or representations, were submitted in standardised formats, i.e. in the form of one of 22 “standard” formats. 1,470 individual comments or representations were submitted electronically through the Limehouse consultation system. The remaining 20,118 individual comments or representations were submitted in the form of “non-standard” letters, emails or consultation questionnaire responses. It should be noted that at this stage in the analysis of the responses it has not been possible to check for duplicated responses and so there may be a small element of double-counting in the above numbers. Further and final information about the form in which responses were submitted will be available along with the summary of all responses later this year.
- 5.9 The table in Appendix 4 to this report sets out the total number of representations made to each of the consultation questions set in the Emergent Joint Core Strategy. The table details the number of representations that were in support, not in support, did not know and unspecified. For reference purposes Appendix 5 to this report lists all the consultation questions set in the Emergent Joint Core Strategy.

**Appendix 1 - Conformity of the West Northamptonshire Emergent Joint Core Strategy Consultation with the Requirements of the Statements of Community Involvement for West Northamptonshire**

**Table 1 – Consultation Methods**

<b>Types of Consultation Methods Identified by Statements of Community Involvement (in alphabetical order)</b>	<b>Consultation Methods Used to Engage the Community at the Emergent Joint Core Strategy Stage</b>
Area Parish Meetings for Groups of Parishes, as required	No
Area Partnerships	Yes, Letter
Cabinet/ Strategy Group/ LDF Steering Group	Yes, Officer Reports
Council Newspapers	Yes, Daventry Calling and SNC Review
Council Websites	Yes, and the JPU Website
E-mail Copies available in Large Print	Yes
Exhibitions/ Roadshows	Yes, Exhibitions
Focus Group	Not Included at this Stage
Leaflet Drops	Not Included at this Stage
Mailing List	Yes, JPU Consultation Database
Media Coverage	Yes, Press Articles & Radio
Hard Copies/ E-mail Copies on Request	Yes
Hard Copies available in Various Formats	Yes, on request
Individual Meetings, as required	Yes, Mid Northants Parishes, Overstone Parish Council, Wootton and East Hunsbury Parish Council, Brixworth Parish Council (requested)
Internal Briefings/ Newsletters, as required	Yes, Northampton Borough Council Service Managers Workshop
Parish Meetings, as required	Yes, Overstone Parish Council, Wootton & East Hunsbury Parish Council, Brixworth Parish Council (requested)
Public Inspection at Council Offices, Libraries and Other Locations	Yes, see list in Appendix 2
Public Meetings, as required	Not Included at this Stage
Press Releases and Adverts in Local Newspapers	Press Releases – Yes Adverts – Not included at this Stage
Stakeholder Workshop	Yes, Local Strategic Partnerships Workshop, Commercial sector Workshop

## **Appendix 2 - List of Public Inspection Locations**

### **Partner Local Authorities' Offices**

Daventry District Council – One Stop Shop at Lodge Road  
Northampton Borough Council – One Stop Shop at the Guildhall  
Northampton Borough Council – Cliftonville House  
Northamptonshire County Council – County Hall  
South Northamptonshire Council – Springfields  
West Northamptonshire Development Corporation – Franklin's Gardens

### **West Northamptonshire Libraries**

Northamptonshire Central Library, Northampton  
Abington Library, Northampton  
Brackley Library  
Brixworth Library  
Daventry Library  
Deanshanger Library  
Duston Library, Northampton  
Far Cotton Library, Northampton  
Hunsbury Library, Northampton  
Kingsthorpe Library, Northampton  
Long Buckby Library  
Middleton Cheney Library  
Moulton Library  
Roade Library  
St James Library, Northampton  
Towcester Library  
Weston Favell Library, Northampton  
Woodford Halse Library  
Wootton Fields Library, Wooldale Centre for Learning, Northampton

### **Adjoining Councils Libraries**

Banbury Library  
Buckingham Library  
Desborough Library  
Dunchurch Library and Information Centre  
Earls Barton Library  
Kettering Library  
Market Harborough Library  
Milton Keynes Central Library  
Newport Pagnell Library  
Olney Library  
Rothwell Library  
Rugby Library and Information Centre  
Stony Stratford Library  
Wellingborough Library  
Wolverton Library



**Appendix 3 - West Northamptonshire Emergent Joint Core Strategy Exhibition Dates, Times, Locations and Indicative Attendance Records**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Staffed or Unstaffed</b>	<b>Total Attendance All Day (Indicative)</b>
Tues 11 – Weds 12 August	9.00 am – 4.30 pm	Northampton	Unstaffed	Attendance Not Recorded
		Northampton Borough Council Offices - Cliftonville House		
Tues 11 August	9.30 am – 6.30 pm	Daventry	Staffed	38
Weds 12 August	9.30 am – 6.30 pm	Daventry	Staffed	34
Tues 11 – Thurs 13 August	9.00 am – 4.30 pm	Towcester	Unstaffed	Attendance Not Recorded
		South Northamptonshire Council Offices		
Thurs 13 August	10.00 am – 4.00 pm	Northampton	Staffed	86
Fri 14 August	10.00 am – 4.00 pm	Northampton	Staffed	78
Sat 15 August	10.00 am – 4.00 pm	Northampton	Staffed	106
Fri 14 August	9.30 am – 5.30 pm	Road	Unstaffed	Attendance Not Recorded
		Road Village Hall		
Mon 17 – Weds 19 August	9.00 am – 4.30 pm	Daventry	Unstaffed	Attendance Not Recorded
		Daventry District Council Offices		
Mon 17 August	9.30 am – 5.30 pm	Boothville	Staffed	49
Tues 18 August	9.30 am – 5.30 pm	Boothville	Staffed	50

Mon 17 August	9.30 am – 5.30 pm	Brackley	“Space” exhibition venue	Staffed	27
Tues 18 August	9.30 am – 5.30 pm	Brackley	“Space” exhibition venue	Staffed	21
Weds 19 August	9.30 am – 5.30 pm	Brackley	“Space” exhibition venue	Staffed	32
Weds 19 August	9.30 am – 5.30 pm	Brafield-on-the-Green	Village Hall	Staffed	107
Thurs 20 August	9.30 am – 5.30 pm	Brafield-on-the-Green	Village Hall	Staffed	89
Thurs 20 – Fri 21 August	9.00 am – 4.30 pm	Northampton	Northampton Borough Council Offices – The Guildhall	Unstaffed	Attendance Not Recorded
Fri 21 August	9.30 am – 6.30 pm	Weston Favell	Weston Favell Shopping Centre	Staffed	197
Mon 24 August	9.30 am – 5.30 pm	Woodford Halse	Woodford Halse Memorial Hall	Staffed	9
Mon 24 August	12.30 – 7.00 pm	Moulton	Moulton Village Hall	Staffed	60
Tues 25 August	9.30 am – 6.00 pm	Moulton	Moulton Village Hall	Staffed	106
Mon 24 August	9.30 am – 6.30 pm	Towcester	The Town Hall	Staffed	37
Tues 25 August	9.30 am – 6.30 pm	Towcester	The Town Hall	Staffed	40
Weds 26 August	9.30 am – 6.30 pm	Towcester	The Town Hall	Staffed	46

Tues 25 – Weds 26 August	Tues. 9.00 am – 6.30 pm Weds. 9.00 am – 5.00 pm	Naseby	Naseby Village Hall	Unstaffed	Attendance Not Recorded
Weds 26 August	9.30 am – 6.30 pm	Harpole	Old School Hall	Staffed	170
Thurs 27 August	9.30 am – 6.30 pm	Harpole	Old School Hall	Staffed	107
Tues 1 September	9.30 am – 5.30 pm	Kingsthorpe	Kingsthorpe Library	Staffed	24
Weds 2 September	9.30 am – 5.30 pm	Kingsthorpe	Kingsthorpe Library	Staffed	30
Weds 2 September	12.30 – 7.30 pm	Wootton	Wootton Community and Sports Centre	Staffed	238
Thurs 3 September	1.00 – 7.00 pm	Overstone	Overstone Primary School	Unstaffed	94
Tues 22 September	4.00 – 8.00 pm	Southfields	Southfields Community Centre	Staffed	35
Thurs 1 October	5.00 pm – 8.30 pm	Great Houghton	Parson's Memorial Hall	Staffed	124

## **Appendix 4 - Emergent Joint Core Strategy Consultation Responses Analysis**

### **Summary Table of Representations by Consultation Question Set in the Emergent Joint Core Strategy**

Question	Yes		No		Don't Know		No Response		Total	
	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No
Q1	4%	123	86%	2416	1%	23	9%	260	100.00%	2822
Q2	5%	135	64%	1610	1%	15	30%	745	100.00%	2505
Q3	37%	811	60%	1327	1%	19	3%	62	100.00%	2219
Q4	11%	163	84%	1308	1%	15	4%	65	100.00%	1551
Q5	32%	502	62%	979	1%	17	5%	73	100.00%	1571
Q6	7%	140	88%	1725	1%	24	3%	63	100.00%	1952
Q7	69%	821	24%	291	1%	11	6%	67	100.00%	1190
Q8	7%	186	89%	2246	1%	19	3%	65	100.00%	2516
Q9	56%	1109	40%	788	0%	6	3%	67	100.00%	1970
Q10	59%	844	37%	525	0%	7	4%	53	100.00%	1429
Q11	61%	1748	36%	1037	0%	3	2%	59	100.00%	2847
Q12	68%	1775	29%	768	0%	3	3%	70	100.00%	2616
Q13	70%	1461	26%	540	1%	12	3%	66	100.00%	2079
Q14	13%	524	57%	2357	0%	15	30%	1228	100.00%	4124
Q15	48%	451	2%	23	42%	390	7%	66	100.00%	930
Q16	8%	155	88%	1744	1%	15	4%	70	100.00%	1984
Q17	71%	843	23%	268	1%	12	5%	62	100.00%	1185
Q18	10%	156	80%	1231	1%	14	9%	137	100.00%	1538
Q19	4%	87	90%	1768	2%	40	3%	60	100.00%	1955
Q20	2%	105	32%	2206	0%	32	66%	4611	100.00%	6954
Q21	5%	87	82%	1532	2%	29	11%	210	100.00%	1858
Q22	5%	80	84%	1335	3%	43	8%	132	100.00%	1590
Q23	20%	59	29%	87	26%	80	25%	76	100.00%	302
Q24	4%	104	77%	1811	3%	61	16%	373	100.00%	2349
Q25	4%	116	89%	2322	2%	44	4%	116	100.00%	2598
Q26	5%	130	61%	1496	2%	38	32%	781	100.00%	2445
Q27	7%	82	63%	717	5%	53	25%	289	100.00%	1141
Q28	1%	89	38%	5789	1%	80	61%	9453	100.00%	15411
Q29	10%	73	50%	356	11%	80	28%	199	100.00%	708
Q30	2%	73	21%	698	2%	63	74%	2422	100.00%	3256
Q31	4%	86	56%	1094	4%	73	36%	711	100.00%	1964
Q32	6%	58	36%	333	48%	443	9%	85	100.00%	919
Q33	6%	52	36%	331	48%	441	10%	87	100.00%	911
Q34	6%	58	36%	324	48%	440	10%	87	100.00%	909
Q35	8%	75	35%	321	47%	432	10%	89	100.00%	917
Q36	40%	360	3%	29	48%	430	9%	78	100.00%	897
Q37	6%	55	36%	325	49%	444	8%	75	100.00%	899
Q38	40%	357	3%	26	49%	440	8%	76	100.00%	899
Q39	11%	107	37%	343	43%	397	9%	85	100.00%	932
Q40	5%	112	26%	607	17%	396	53%	1238	100.00%	2353
Q41	10%	100	73%	711	3%	31	14%	137	100.00%	979
Q42	9%	107	49%	586	33%	399	9%	107	100.00%	1199
Q43	86%	795	2%	23	2%	19	9%	84	100.00%	921

Q44	9%	132	83%	1201	1%	18	6%	93	100.00%	1444
Q45	15%	139	72%	681	2%	18	12%	113	100.00%	951
Q46	7%	121	84%	1478	1%	23	7%	131	100.00%	1753
Q47	5%	113	79%	1945	1%	18	16%	388	100.00%	2464
Q48	2%	119	58%	2821	0%	17	39%	1917	100.00%	4874
Q49	14%	127	73%	686	2%	15	11%	107	100.00%	935
Q50	2%	71	90%	2959	1%	32	7%	244	100.00%	3306
Q51	3%	73	58%	1247	2%	46	36%	768	100.00%	2134
Q52	11%	776	12%	801	0%	8	77%	5359	100.00%	6944
Q53	43%	391	3%	31	44%	403	10%	92	100.00%	917
Q54	42%	370	2%	19	48%	427	8%	74	100.00%	890
Q55	42%	368	1%	13	49%	430	8%	71	100.00%	882
Q56	41%	361	2%	19	49%	428	8%	72	100.00%	880
<b>Total</b>		<b>18515</b>		<b>60254</b>		<b>7531</b>		<b>34368</b>		<b>120668</b>

## **Appendix 5 - Emergent Joint Core Strategy Consultation Set Questions**

### Question 1

Do you support the vision?

### Question 2

Do you support Objective 1: 'To deliver the planned growth in West Northamptonshire as required through East Midlands Regional Plan and the Milton Keynes and South Midlands Sub Regional Strategy, through the provision of managed growth and necessary infrastructure principally focused on Northampton, but also Daventry, Towcester and Brackley'.

### Question 3

Do you support Objective 2? 'To exploit West Northamptonshire's position internationally for economic advantage by facilitating significant employment growth and opportunities for knowledge based industries and environmental technologies'.

### Question 4

Do you support Objective 3? 'To support existing and new communities through the provision of education, health, community, leisure, cultural and social facilities, linking new and existing communities physically and socially'.

### Question 5

Do you support Objective 4? 'To direct retail development to the most appropriate locations that support regeneration of the town centres'.

### Question 6

Do you support Objective 5? 'To complete, enhance and safeguard the connections in the existing strategic Green Infrastructure Network, extending these into new urban extensions and creating connections between neighbourhoods'.

### Question 7

Do you support Objective 6? 'To encourage key rural communities to become more sustainable places to live and work'.

### Question 8

Do you support Objective 7? 'To ensure future development is based upon sustainable development principles'.

### Question 9

Do you support Objective 8? 'To protect and enhance the built and cultural assets of West Northamptonshire, the character of its towns and settlements and foster the development of West Northamptonshire as a destination for heritage and cultural tourism'.

### Question 10

Do you support Objective 9? 'To contribute towards raising educational achievement and the skills base of our communities through supporting schools, colleges and the University in their provision and development'.

#### Question 11

Do you support Objective 10? 'To protect the environment by minimising the risk of flooding and the effects of climate change and facilitating improvements in air quality'.

#### Question 12

Do you support Objective 11? 'To involve the community in the decisions about the future planning of West Northamptonshire so they can influence and shape such decisions'.

#### Question 13

Do you support Objective 12? 'To provide quality housing to meet current and future needs of all sectors of our communities'.

#### Question 14

Do you support Objective 13? 'To foster the regeneration of Northampton to enable it to fulfil a greater role within West Northampton and the Region'.

#### Question 15

Do you support Objective 14? 'To foster the regeneration of Daventry, Towcester and Brackley'.

#### Question 16

Do you support Objective 15? 'To enable and support the delivery of co-ordinated transport improvements with an emphasis on non-car modes; improving connections within and around West Northamptonshire including links to the wider network'.

#### Question 17

Do you support Objective 16? 'To achieve high quality design that takes account of character and local distinctiveness, enables access and promotes community safety'.

#### Question 18

Do you support Objective 17? 'To provide a mechanism for the delivery of infrastructure (including health, education, transport, community, leisure and recreational facilities) in tandem with development'.

#### Question 19

Do you consider the Objectives to be specific to local circumstances?

#### Question 20

Do you support the overall principle of Option B – focusing growth in a small number of larger development areas?

#### Question 21

Do you support the combined choice of urban extensions?

#### Question 22

Do you support the policy approach for Affordable Housing and particularly the provisions suggested in table 6.1 'Levels of Affordable Housing - from Affordable Housing SPD sites of 15 or more dwellings'?

Question 23

Do you support the policy approach for Gypsies and Travellers accommodation? In particular do you support the criteria defined?

Question 24

Do you support the policy approach to employment demand and supply?

Question 25

Do you support the policy approach for locations of employment growth?

Question 26

Do you support the policy approach to Sustainable Transport?

Question 27

Do you support the development of the Preferred Option 'Northampton North'?

Question 28

Do you support the development of the Preferred Option 'Northampton South East'?

Question 29

Do you support the development of the Preferred Option 'Northampton Junction 16'?

Question 30

Do you support the development of the Preferred Option 'Northampton West'?

Question 31

Do you support the development of the Preferred Option 'Northampton South'?

Question 32

Do you support the development of the Preferred Option 'Daventry South East'?

Question 33

Do you support the development of the Preferred Option 'Daventry North'?

Question 34

Do you support the development of the Preferred Option 'Daventry North East'?

Question 35

Do you support the development of the Preferred Option 'Towcester South'?

Question 36

Do you support the development of the Preferred Option 'Towcester Moat Lane'?

Question 37

Do you support the development of the Preferred Option 'Brackley North'?

Question 38

Do you support the development of the Preferred Option 'Brackley East'?

Question 39

Do you support the policy approach for the hierarchy of centres?



Question 40

Do you support the policy approach for the existing and future neighbourhoods?

Question 41

Do you support the policy approach for the rural settlement pattern for West Northamptonshire?

Question 42

Do you support the policy approach for the regeneration of communities across West Northamptonshire?

Question 43

Do you support the policy approach for Designing in Quality into new and existing developments?

Question 44

Do you support the policy approach in relation to Green Infrastructure?

Question 45

Do you support the policy approach in relation to Culture and Cultural Heritage?

Question 46

Do you support the policy approach in relation to Landscape and Biodiversity?

Question 47

Do you support the policy approach in relation to Climate Change?

Question 48

Do you support the policy approach in relation to Flood Risk?

Question 49

Do you support the policy approach in relation to Health and Wellbeing and Leisure, Sport and Recreation?

Question 50

Do you support the policy approach in relation to the phasing of growth across West Northamptonshire?

Question 51

Do you support the policy approach in relation to Funding and Delivery?

Question 52

Are there any other comments that you would like to make regarding the Emergent Joint Core Strategy?

Question 53

Do you support the rejection of Northampton Option 2 (Northampton East) and Northampton Option 5 (South of the M1 and South-west)?

Question 54

Do you support the rejection of 'Daventry Option 1 (Daventry East)', Daventry Option 2 (Daventry West), Daventry Option 3 (Daventry North West) and Daventry Option 7 (Daventry South)?

Question 55

Do you support the rejection of 'Towcester Option 2 (Towcester West), Towcester Option 3 (Towcester Northwest), Towcester Option 5 (Towcester Racecourse), Towcester Option 6 (Towcester North), Towcester Option 7 (Towcester to Silverstone Lung) and Towcester Option 8 (East of Silverstone Lung)?

Question 56

Do you support the rejection of 'Brackley Option 1' (Brackley South) and 'Brackley Option 2 (Brackley North West)?

Item No:
Date: 30 March 2010

**WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**  
**JOINT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK**  
**JOINT STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE**

<b>Public Participation – Proposed Amendments to Supplementary Procedure Rules</b>
--

**REPORT OF THE HEAD OF CORPORATE SERVICES (SNC)**

**1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1. To amend the JSPC's public participation procedures to clarify and agree that:-
- in relation to the right to speak in relation to a specific agenda item at a meeting it is made clear that the speaker's contribution is duly listened to and minuted but that, as with petitions and questions, no debate ensues;
  - public participation rights are extended to all members of the public and not just electors for the West Northamptonshire area; and
  - a standing agenda item called "Public Participation (if any)" is included for future meetings of the JSPC to make clear that there is a clear separation between public participation and the JSPC's consideration and debate of substantive agenda items.

**2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 That rule 2 of the JSPC's Supplementary Procedure Rules be amended as shown in the Appendix, with immediate effect.
- 2.2 That any public participation at future meetings of the JSPC pursuant to rule 2 of the Supplementary Procedure Rules (appended to this report) is dealt with as a specific agenda item prior to the substantive agenda items.

**3. Relevant Information**

- 3.1 At its meeting in October 2008 the JSPC adopted Supplementary Procedure Rules to augment those contained in the West Northamptonshire Joint Committee Order 2008. Included among these were public participation

provisions relating to petitions, questions and the right to speak in relation to a specific agenda item at a particular meeting.

- 3.2 While petitions and questions lend themselves to the giving of notice of their details prior to the relevant JSPC meeting, this is not so with the right to speak on a specific agenda item. The deadline for submitting such a request is noon on the day of the meeting.
- 3.3 In the light of experience with public participation requests to date it is recommended that rule 2 of the Supplementary Procedure Rules is amended as shown in the Appendix to make clear that, while the speaker in relation to an agenda item is heard by the JSPC, his/her comments minuted and any questions of clarification dealt with, there is no debate on the speaker's contribution at that stage and there is no right for the speaker to participate in the debate on the relevant agenda item itself.
- 3.4 It is further recommended that the right of public participation is extended to members of the public generally and not just electors for the West Northamptonshire area. This is at the suggestion of the Business Sub Group and will maximise the scope for democratic engagement with the JSPC via the public participation route as well as recognising that the voices of those other than electors (e.g. business owners) have an equal right to be heard.
- 3.5 It is also proposed that JSPC agendas have a specific standing item called "Public Participation (if any)" near the commencement of the meeting when all requests for public participation, be they petitions, questions or representations relating to an agenda item, are dealt with. This will reinforce the clear separation between public participation rights and the substantive JSPC business in respect of which members of the public have no right to participate.

Kevin Lane  
Head of Corporate Services  
South Northamptonshire Council  
15 March 2010

Contact Officer: Kevin Lane, Head of Corporate Services, SNC

Background Papers: None

## APPENDIX

### 2. Public Participation

- 2.1 Members of the public may present petitions to the Joint Committee, ask questions of Members of the Joint Committee or address the Joint Committee on any substantive agenda item at ordinary meetings subject to the restrictions set out below. There shall be a specific agenda item near the start of each meeting of the Joint Committee to permit such public participation to take place.
- 2.2 Petitions and questions shall be directly relevant to some matter in relation to which the Joint Committee has powers and duties and which directly affects the area of West Northamptonshire.
- 2.3 Any member of the public shall be entitled to present a petition containing a minimum of 50 signatures to an ordinary meeting of the Joint Committee. He or she must notify the Chief Executive of one of the partner authorities in writing or by email at least three clear days before the meeting (i.e. not counting the day of the meeting or the day of receipt) to which the petition is to be presented. In the event that the receiving Chief Executive is from a partner authority other than South Northamptonshire Council he or she shall forward the petition to that Council's Chief Executive forthwith. A representative of the petitioners may speak at the meeting in support of the petition for up to three minutes. The petition shall then be referred without discussion to the next meeting of the Joint Committee for consideration.
- 2.4 Any member of the public wishing to ask a question of a Joint Committee Member may do so at an ordinary meeting of the Joint Committee. He or she shall give notice of the question in writing or by email to the Chief Executive of one of the partner authorities at least three clear days before the meeting (i.e. not counting the day of the meeting or the day of receipt). In the event that the receiving Chief

Executive is from a partner authority other than South Northamptonshire Council he or she shall forward the question to that Council's Chief Executive forthwith. The questioner may also nominate a Joint Committee Member to whom any question shall be put although the Chairman may nominate a different Joint Committee Member and the Chairman's decision shall be final in this regard. If no Joint Committee Member is nominated by the questioner the Chairman shall nominate the Joint Committee Member to answer a question. The questioner can speak in relation to the question for up to three minutes. No supplementary question may be asked unless it is to seek clarification of the answer given to a question. The answer may take the form of an oral statement by the relevant Joint Committee Member, or may be given subsequently in writing to the questioner with a written copy circulated to all Members of the Joint Committee with the agenda for the next ordinary meeting of the Joint Committee. No discussion shall take place on any question or answer.

- 2.5 The Chief Executive of South Northamptonshire Council may, in consultation with the Chairman of the Joint Committee, refuse to submit a petition or question to the meeting if he or she considers it to be offensive, defamatory, frivolous or vexatious.
- 2.6 Any member of the public may address the Joint Committee on any substantive agenda item for the relevant meeting. Such address shall be for up to three minutes. The speaker shall give notice of their wish to address the Joint Committee by email or in writing no later than 12 noon on the day of the meeting to one of the Chief Executives of the participating authorities. In the event that the receiving Chief Executive is from a partner authority other than South Northamptonshire Council he or she shall forward the notification to that Council's Chief Executive forthwith. Once the member of the public has spoken and, with the leave of the Chairman, any questions of clarification asked of the speaker by Joint Committee members duly answered, the Joint

Committee shall proceed to the next item of business with no debate on the representations made.

- 2.7 No more than five petitions and/or questions shall be presented/submitted to any one meeting. Those submitted shall be dealt with in the order of receipt by the Chief Executive of South Northamptonshire Council. No more than five members of the public may address the Joint Committee on a substantive agenda item. The Chairman, in his or her discretion, can agree to permit the maximum of five to be exceeded by a defined number at a particular meeting.
- 2.8 The Chief Executive of South Northamptonshire Council shall notify the Chairman of any petitions, questions or notifications received in accordance with this Rule as soon as is practicable.