

Meeting:	Strategic Planning Advisory Panel
Date:	29 th September 2005
Subject:	Consultation on the West London Sub-regional Development Framework (SRDF) – Harrow Council’s Response
Responsible Officer:	Graham Jones
Contact Officer:	Claire Codling/Dennis Varcoe
Portfolio Holder:	Keith Burchell
Key Decision:	Approval of the Response
Status:	Part 1

Section 1: Summary

Prior to the July 13th SPAP meeting, members were circulated with a report outlining the background to the development of the West London SRDF (Appendix 1)

Decision Required

Approval of the Harrow Response

Reason for report

The West London SRDF was launched by the Greater London Authority on the 4th July 2005 for formal consultation.

Whilst a detailed West London Partnership response is being prepared, there are however a few issues that warrant a separate Harrow response being also submitted.

Benefits

Opportunity to influence the final GLA document and spatial planning and related matters until 2016, and to also inform the development of the Harrow Local Development Framework (LDF) in Harrow.

Cost of Proposals

Costs will need to be contained within existing and future budgets unless further funding is allocated by the GLA for specific initiatives e.g monitoring changes in land use.

Risks

No major risks are associated with this report

Implications if recommendations rejected

- Harrow views not identified
- Harrow issues not raised with the GLA
- Plans impacting on Harrow not raised with Planners and Members
- Harrow loses the opportunity to influence the final document

Section 2: Report

Brief History

Members are reminded of the report prepared for the 13th July (Appendix 1) which provided the background to the development of the WL SRDF. Prior to the meeting members were sent a hard copy of the WL SRDF. Since this meeting was held a separate member's briefing was convened on 11th August, to ensure that members had the opportunity to a fuller briefing on the content of the document.

Introduction to the Draft Harrow Response

Harrow's Role in the sub-region

Given Harrow's particular characteristics, it is unsurprising that the Borough does not feature particularly prominently in the sub-regional picture (for example Harrow does not have any 'Opportunity Areas'). This should not be seen as diminishing from Harrow's valuable contribution towards achieving more

sustainable communities in West London and London. However, given the characteristics of Harrow as a borough, attempting to raise Harrows' profile within the SRDF context presents a challenge.

The draft response has been used to raise the need to:-

- Reinforce points made on the role and status of the SRDF in the WLP response
- Discuss the sub-region's boundary
- Draw attention to the development of Harrow town centre
- Make specific points about; sport, culture and tourism
- Suggest that the role of district centres as part of suburban neighbourhoods needs consideration in the proposed London Plan review
- Highlight particular difficulties in orbital travel from North to South
- Suggest that outer London borough's employment concerns need further consideration
- Question the statistics used in detailing Harrow's affordable housing and nursery provision

Options considered

It was decided that although Harrow has been taking a leading role in developing the West London Partnership SRDF response, that it would also be opportune to write a short Harrow response on pertinent issues, which this SPAP report is seeking to approve. The points it makes are largely in addition to those made in the West London Partnership Response. Therefore a summary of the first draft of the WLP response is also included as appendix 2, so that members can see the scope and direction of the WLP response and view this in conjunction with the Harrow response. (A later version of the WLP response is being taken to the 6th October cabinet meeting via CMT and PHB, after it have first been checked thoroughly by the officers concerned)

Consultation

A large cross council meeting was held on July 21st to gain the views of officers on the details within the document. This has been followed by meetings with individual officers to ensure that the response from Harrow has been developed from feedback across departments.

As the WL SRDF is a GLA document they are also carrying out their own consultation process.

Financial Implications

None

Legal Implications

None (check back to Jessica)

Equalities Impact

Each SRDF will also be subjected to a Strategic Impact Assessment, carried out by external consultants with support from the boroughs which will include evaluating whether the Framework has addressed equalities issues sufficiently.

The final Harrow Response will be forwarded to the GLA, together with, it is expected, an endorsement of the WLP Response by the 25th October 2005.

Section 3: Supporting Information/ Background Documents

Appendices

Appendix 1 – SPAP report July 13th

Appendix 2 - Summary or the first draft of the WLP Response

Appendix 3 - Draft Harrow Response

West London SRDF – which can be down loaded from the GLA website:
www.london.gov.uk