
REPORT OF CABINET

MEETING HELD ON 22 OCTOBER 2009

Chairman: * Councillor David Ashton

Councillors * Marilyn Ashton * Jean Lammiman
: * Miss Christine Bednell * Barry Macleod-Cullinane
* Tony Ferrari * Paul Osborn
* Susan Hall * Mrs Anjana Patel

* Denotes Member present

[Note: Councillors Nizam Ismail and Bill Stephenson also attended this meeting to speak on the item indicated at Minute 692 below].

PART I - RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION I: Key Decision: Local Development Framework Core Strategy - Preferred Option Document for Public Consultation

Cabinet considered a report of the Corporate Director Place Shaping, which set out the context and the work that had been carried out in progressing the Harrow Local Development Framework (LDF) and the preferred option for the Core Strategy for the purposes of carrying out public consultation.

Members noted that the Core Strategy was the Council's top priority for the LDF. The Core Strategy provided a spatial vision, strategic objectives and an overarching policy framework to guide development and change within Harrow over the next 15 years and beyond. It set out the context for all other LDF documents the Council intended to prepare.

The Portfolio Holder for Planning, Development and Enterprise stated that the Core Strategy reflected the desire to harness opportunities to deliver economic, physical and social benefits while making certain that the essential investment to ensure that it was delivered sustainably could be harnessed and managed effectively. The Portfolio Holder added that Harrow's Core Strategy set out the Council's commitment to delivering high quality, environmentally sound new homes through directed planning policies rather than by incremental change through substandard conversions and development on back gardens. She was of the view that without robust planning policies Harrow would not realise its long-term spatial vision to be a more sustainable community. She welcomed the prominence and status given to Harrow as an area of intensification by the Mayor of London in the London Plan. It was now important that residents engaged in the consultation process, which would commence in November 2009 for a period of six weeks.

Having considered the report, together with the views of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Local Development Framework Panel, including the timetable for the submission of the Core Strategy, Cabinet thanked the officers for their work in preparing the Core Strategy.

Resolved to RECOMMEND: (to Council)

That (1) in accordance with the Council's Statement of Community Involvement, the Core Strategy Preferred Option at Appendix 1 to the officer report be approved for the purposes of public consultation;

(2) officers, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Development and Enterprise, make any final minor amendments to the Core Strategy Preferred Option.

Reason for Recommendation: To approve the preferred option and authorise public consultation. To publish the preferred option to ensure that the Council complied with the new statutory process for preparing LDF documents under the recently amended Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (Amendment) Regulations 2008. To adhere to the corporate priority to prepare a series of statutory planning policy documents, which together comprised the LDF for the borough that would eventually replace the Unitary Development Plan adopted in July 2004.

(See also Minute 698).