

# CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

## Cabinet

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**Date of meeting:** 16 June 2008  
**Report of:** Paul Ancell – Places Block Lead  
**Title:** Consultation responses to the Sub-National Economic Development and Regeneration Review and the partial review of the Regional Spatial Strategy

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### **1.0 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To make Members aware of the current consultation exercises and obtain delegated approval for the making of a response from Cheshire East Council.

### **2.0 Decision Required**

- 2.1 That (i) the response to the Sub-National Review (SNR) which is to be formulated by the Sub-Regional Leaders at its meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> June, be endorsed, and (ii) Delegated authority be given to the Places Block Lead Officer (Paul Ancell) in consultation with the Planning and Housing Strategy Portfolio Holder (Cllr Jamie Macrae) to respond to the partial review of the Regional Spatial Strategy on behalf of Cheshire East.

### **3.0 Financial Implications for Transition Costs**

- 3.1 None.

### **4.0 Financial Implications 2009/10 and beyond**

- 4.1 None that can be identified at this time.

### **5.0 Risk Assessment**

- 5.1 Not applicable.

### **6.0 Background**

- 6.1 Two Government consultations are currently being undertaken which it is appropriate for Cheshire East Council to respond to.
- 6.2 The first is 'Prosperous Places: Taking forward the Review of Sub-National Economic Development and Regeneration (SNR) which seeks to establish new ways of delivering economic proposals and regeneration through sub-regional organisations. It proposes greater emphasis and powers for local authorities leading both the research and delivery of economic development.

- 6.3 SNR also envisages the NWDA evolving into an integrated regional agency with wider responsibilities. The NWDA would gain responsibility for providing an integrated regional plan (including regional planning policy).
- 6.4 The Review highlights the need for effective public and private sector partnerships and points towards delegation and devolution of funding from the NWDA to sub-regional groups and local authorities.
- 6.5 Work across all the local authorities in Cheshire and Warrington has been undertaken, with a view to agreeing a response to the consultation. A copy of the proposed response is attached as an Appendix to this report. It is anticipated that it (or an amended version) will be approved at the Sub-Regional leaders at their meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> June. It is recommended that this response be endorsed on behalf of Cheshire East Council.
- 6.6 The partial review of the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) is being consulted on during June. The timescales do not permit a report being submitted to a scheduled Cabinet, and it is therefore recommended that delegated authority be given to the Places Block Lead Officer in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Housing Strategy, to submit a response on behalf of Cheshire East Council.
- 6.7 At the time of writing this report it was unclear as to the detailed scope of the review, however, it is anticipated that the issue of housing figures, and in particular their geographical application will form part of the exercise.

## **7.0 Options**

- 7.1 To respond as recommended in the report or to miss deadlines and run the risk that the Council's views are not taken into account.

## **8.0 Reasons for Recommendation**

- 8.1 In order to respond to the consultation within the given timescales, it is necessary to put these arrangements in place.

### ***For further information:***

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### ***Background Documents:***

*Documents are available for inspection at: Macclesfield, Sandbach and Crewe Council Offices, or on-line.*