

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

PLACES ADVISORY PANEL

Date of meeting: 12 November 2008
Report of: John Knight - Prosperity Block Lead
Title: North West of England Plan

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To advise members of the adoption of the Regional Spatial Strategy for the North West, the commencement of the Partial Review of that Strategy and the preparation of a Single Regional Strategy.

2.0 Decision Required

- 2.1 To note the contents of the report and attached appendix and agree that all members of the Council be sent a copy of the attached report.

3.0 Financial Implications for Transition Costs

- 3.1 None.

4.0 Financial Implications 2009/10 and beyond

- 4.1 There will be staff time required to prepare responses to the emerging Partial Review and Single Regional Strategy.

5.0 Legal Implications

- 5.1 The Regional Spatial Strategy is now part of the Statutory Development Plan for East Cheshire. All new planning documents produced by the Authority will need to accord with the Strategy and major planning applications will also need to comply with its provisions.

6.0 Risk Assessment

- 6.1 The risks of departing from the Regional Spatial Strategy will need to be considered in respect of all future planning documents and major planning applications.

7.0 Background and Options

- 7.1 The new Regional Spatial Strategy is called the North West of England Plan and was published on 30 September 2008. It provides a framework for development and investment in the North West region until 2021.

- 7.2 Although the Plan has only just been published, partial review of some items began earlier in 2008. The scope of that review is now limited to Gypsies and Travellers, Travelling Show People and Regional Parking Standards. 4N are responsible for the partial review and the new timetable will be circulated for the review work in due course.
- 7.3 Work has also commenced on a Single North West Regional Strategy. An Issues and Principles paper will be published in December 2008 with a consultation exercise on options and vision development between January and March 2009. Further reports will be submitted on this consultation to members in due course.
- 7.4 Given the importance of the North West Plan, it is suggested that the summary of its contents, attached as the appendix to this report, be circulated as an Information Item to all members of the Council.

For further information:

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Jamie Macrae
Officer: John Knight, Corporate Manager,
Planning & Development, Macclesfield Borough Council
Tel No: 01625 504603
Email: j.knight@macclesfield.gov.uk

Background Documents:

Documents are available at all Council offices and on the Government website at www.go-nw.gov.uk.