

# CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

## Cabinet Member for Strategic Communities

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**Date of Meeting:** 17<sup>th</sup> July 2012  
**Report of:** Strategic Director - Places  
**Subject/Title:** Draft Macclesfield Town Strategy  
**Portfolio Holder:** Councillor David Brown

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### 1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 This report seeks agreement to the publication of the Draft Macclesfield Town Strategy, for public consultation, to ultimately form part of the evidence base for the Cheshire East Local Plan.

### 2.0 Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 That the Portfolio Holder agrees:
- The publication of the Draft Macclesfield Town Strategy, for public consultation, subject to the replacement of an amended plan and the insertion of an additional plan; and
  - The use of the finalised document as part of the evidence base for the Cheshire East Local Plan.

### 3.0 Reasons for Recommendation(s)

- 3.1 The Draft Macclesfield Town Strategy, along with Draft Town Strategies for the towns of Handforth, Knutsford, Nantwich, Poynton and Crewe will undergo public consultation during the summer of 2012. They will then be revised, to take into account the consultation responses and will form part of the evidence base for the Cheshire East Local Plan.

### 4.0 Wards Affected

- 4.1 The Wards affected lie within Macclesfield and its surrounding areas; they are as follows: Macclesfield Central; Macclesfield East; Macclesfield Hurdsfield; Macclesfield South; Macclesfield Tytherington; Macclesfield West and Ivy; Bollington; Broken Cross and Upton; Gawsorth; Prestbury; Sutton.

### 5.0 Local Ward Members

- 5.1 Macclesfield Central - Councillor Ken Edwards, Councillor Janet Jackson; Macclesfield East - Councillor David Neilson; Macclesfield Hurdsfield - Councillor Gill Boston; Macclesfield South – Councillor Damien Druce, Councillor Laura Jeuda; Macclesfield Tytherington - Councillor Brendan Murphy, Councillor Lloyd Roberts; Macclesfield West and Ivy – Councillor Carolyn Andrew, Councillor Alift

Harewood; Bollington - Councillor Peter Hayes, Councillor Bill Livesley; Broken Cross and Upton - Councillor Louise Brown, Councillor Martin Hardy; Gawsworth - Councillor Lesley Smetham; Prestbury - Councillor Paul Findlow; Sutton - Councillor Hilda Gaddum.

## **6.0 Policy Implications (including carbon reduction and health)**

- 6.1 The Draft Macclesfield Town Strategy will help to inform relevant Policies in the Cheshire East Local Plan and will include sites that could potentially be identified as Strategic Sites within the Cheshire East Local Plan Core strategy or development sites within the Site Allocations document.
- 6.2 A Sustainability Appraisal has been carried out for the Draft Macclesfield Town Strategy; it includes the requirements of a Health Impact Assessment. The Sustainability Appraisal will also be the subject of public consultation, at the same time as the Draft Town Strategies.

## **7.0 Financial Implications (authorised by Director of Finance and Business Services)**

- 7.1 The publication of the Town Strategy for public consultation and its use in the development of the Local Plan will be managed within existing budgets. Any subsequent capital investment (e.g.funded by the Community Infrastructure Levy) will be considered as part of the Council's future strategic planning processes.

## **8.0 Legal Implications (authorised by Borough Solicitor)**

- 8.1 Paragraph 17 of the National Planning Policy Framework sets out 12 principles that should underpin plan-making and decision taking. They include empowering local people to shape their surroundings. It is considered that the Town Strategy process provides a way of ensuring that this will happen.
- 8.2 Paragraph 155 of the National Planning Policy Framework also states that early and meaningful engagement and collaboration with neighbourhoods, local organisations and businesses is essential. Again, it is considered that the Town Strategy process provides a way of ensuring that this will happen.

## **9.0 Risk Management Implications**

- 9.1 The Draft Macclesfield Town Strategy will undergo public consultation; further work will also be carried out in relation to the potential development sites in the document, with regard to their suitability for development and deliverability.

## **10.0 Background and Options**

- 10.1 Public consultation has already taken place on Draft Town Strategies for Alsager, Congleton, Middlewich, Sandbach and Wilmslow. Stakeholder Panels were formed for those towns, who were assisted to write their Draft Town Strategies by Cheshire East Council (Broadway Malyan, in the case of Wilmslow). The Draft Town

Strategies were agreed for the purpose of public consultation, by the relevant Town Councils.

- 10.2 This process is also taking place in the towns of Crewe, Handforth, Knutsford, Nantwich, Poynton and Macclesfield. In the case of Macclesfield, a stakeholder panel was established comprising Cheshire East Members, representatives of Make it Macclesfield Forum, other representatives of local community groups and adjoining Parish Councils. The Stakeholder Panel took part in two workshops to inform the Draft Town Strategy. A copy of the draft Strategy is attached. It sets out a vision for the town, key objectives, potential development sites and key infrastructure priorities. Following consideration by Macclesfield Local Members on 5<sup>th</sup> July amendments have been made however it is intended to amend one of the diagrams and to insert an additional diagram. Subject to these changes the Macclesfield Local Members have considered the content of the document, for the purpose of public consultation, however as a Macclesfield Town Council does not yet exist, there is therefore a need for formal agreement of the Portfolio Holder.
- 10.3 All of the Town Strategies will ultimately form part of the evidence base for the Cheshire East Local Plan and will help to inform Policy writing and the identification of Strategic Sites and sites for inclusion in the Site Allocations document.
- 10.4 The Cheshire East Local Plan will not however be bound by the content of the Town Strategies.

## **11.0 Access to Information**

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

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