

**Central
Bedfordshire
Council
Priory House
Monks Walk
Chicksands,
Shefford SG17 5TQ**



TO EACH MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

14 July 2011

Dear Councillor

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL - THURSDAY 21 JULY 2011

Further to the Agenda and papers for the above meeting, previously circulated, please find attached the following recommendation from the Executive meeting held on 12 July 2011 which was marked up as to follow on the agenda.

8. Recommendations from Executive

To consider the attached recommendation from the meeting of the Executive, 12 July 2011 and answer questions asked under Rule No.12.1.

Luton and Southern Central Bedfordshire Core Strategy –
Memorandum of Understanding with Luton Borough Council on
continued joint working.

Should you have any queries regarding the above please contact Committee Services on
Tel: 0300 300 4040.

Yours sincerely

Helen Bell
Committee Services Officer
email: helen.bell@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

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COUNCIL MEETING – 21 JULY 2011

Recommendations to Council from the Executive meeting held on 12 July 2011

E/11/28 **Special Urgency - Luton and southern Central Bedfordshire Core Strategy - Memorandum of Understanding with Luton Borough Council on continued joint working**

The Executive considered a report on the proposed arrangements for Central Bedfordshire Council to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding, attached at Appendix A, regarding continued joint working with Luton Borough Council on plan-making.

The Executive Member for Sustainable Communities – Strategic Planning and Economic Development moved the following revised recommendations, which were duly seconded:

- “1. to note the current position in respect of the Core Strategy as outlined in the report and the terms of the draft Memorandum of Understanding, in order to facilitate continued joint working between Luton Borough Council and Central Bedfordshire Council; and
2. to authorise the Chief Executive, following consultation with the Leader of the Council, to approve the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding following further discussions with Luton Borough Council.”

Reason for decision: To enable progress to be made on important Local Development Framework documents.

RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL

- 1. to note the current position in respect of the Core Strategy as outlined in the report and the terms of the draft Memorandum of Understanding, in order to facilitate continued joint working between Luton Borough Council and Central Bedfordshire Council; and**
- 2. to authorise the Chief Executive, following consultation with the Leader of the Council, to approve the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding following further discussions with Luton Borough Council.**

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Appendix A

Luton Borough Council

Central Bedfordshire Council

Memorandum of Understanding

Dated: 29th July 2011

1. This Memorandum of Understanding establishes the principles of joint working between the two Authorities of Luton Borough Council and Central Bedfordshire Council in the period up to and beyond the end of the current Joint Committee¹ arrangements.
2. The “joint working” referred to is in respect of the pursuance of the Luton and southern Central Bedfordshire Core Strategy which is in current progress, in respect of its adoption either by the Joint Committee or by the two Authorities, in respect of the policies contained within the adopted Core Strategy and in respect of subsequent reviews of the Luton and southern Central Bedfordshire Core Strategy thereafter.
3. The two Authorities will co-operate at Member level through the mechanism of a Working Group which will, in practice, be a continuation or modification of the current Sub Group, involving equal numbers of Members from each Authority, with the same participation opportunities for Members. The Chair and Vice-Chair will alternate annually between the two Authorities.
4. Nothing in this Memorandum of Understanding shall prejudice compliance with any requirement of any statute affecting either Authority during the period of joint working.
5. This Memorandum of Understanding affirms that both Authorities recognise they need to work together to achieve more than they can alone. To this end they will continue joint working on strategic planning to support and periodically review the

¹ Established under the Luton and South Bedfordshire Joint Committee Order 2007 and ending 31st March 2012

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Core Strategy, beyond the end of the current Joint Committee, on a "parity of esteem" basis.

6. Following the adoption of the Luton and southern Central Bedfordshire Core Strategy both Authorities commit to early review of that Core Strategy to focus initially on an examination of all previously discarded locations for growth, to determine to what extent smaller developable sections of each could contribute to the provision of housing and employment

Cont/

Signed By:

[insert Authorised Person for Central Bedfordshire Council]

Signature: _____

On behalf of Central Bedfordshire Council

and

Insert Authorised Person for Luton Borough Council

Signature: _____

Insert Authorised Person for Luton Borough Council

On this day [insert date of signature]