

Luton & South Bedfordshire Joint Committee

22 October 2010

Agenda Item No. 7

AUTHOR	Joint Officer Team (JTU): Chris Butcher, Lachlan Robertson
SUBJECT	The Luton and South Bedfordshire Local Development Scheme
PURPOSE	To approve a revised Local Development Scheme for submission to the Secretary of State.
RECOMMENDATIONS	1. That the revised Local Development Scheme for Luton and South Bedfordshire be approved for formal submission to the Secretary of State, and following approval, be brought into effect. 2. That the Joint Technical Unit be authorised to make any minor changes to the Local Development Scheme both prior to submission, and in response to any comments made by the Secretary of State.
REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS	To enable the revised Local Development Scheme to come into effect following approval by the Secretary of State.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Under the auspices of The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, local planning authorities are required to produce a Local Development Scheme (LDS) as part of the Local Development Framework (LDF) process. The LDS is the starting point for the community and stakeholders to find out which documents will be prepared as part of the LDF and the timescale for their preparation.

- 1.2 The previous version of the LDS was approved in October 2009. However, the need to undertake further technical work, coupled with the recent change of Government, has led to the work programme becoming outdated. A revised LDS is therefore required.

2. REVISING THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

- 2.1 In updating the LDS it is necessary to focus on the timetable for the preparation of the Core Strategy. This takes into account the remaining time available to the Joint Committee and the uncertainties arising from the Coalition Government's intention to publish a "Localism" Bill which will alter the plan making system.

3. NEXT STEPS

- 3.1 Following Members' approval, the LDS can formally be submitted to Secretary of State. Once approved, the LDS will be brought into effect and made available for inspection both in hard copy and electronically.

4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The timetable revision will allow improved customer engagement and equalities considerations.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The implications are covered within existing budgets.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no legal implications. .

Appendix

Appendix A – Local Development Scheme