EXECUTIVE

TUESDAY, 26 MAY 2009

DECISIONS

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Executive held on Tuesday, 26 May 2009. The wording used does not necessarily reflect the actual wording that will appear in the minutes.

Members are reminded that, should they wish to call in a decision, notice must be given to Democracy Support Group no later than 4pm on the second working day after this meeting – that is, Thursday, 28 May 2009.

If you have any queries about any matters referred to in this decision sheet please contact Fiona Young – tel. extn. 1027.

5. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK CORE STRATEGY PREFERRED OPTIONS

- RESOLVED: (i) That the view of the LDF Working Group in respect of housing demand numbers, which was also endorsed by Council, be supported; namely, that the numbers that central government wishes to see incorporated into the Local Development Framework are deeply flawed, as they fail to recognise that:
 - it will be many years before housing demand will return to pre-recession levels;
 - windfall sites will continue to arise in the City and these will go some way to meeting demand over the next 20 years at least;
 - the City cannot continue to expand at a rate of an additional 850 homes indefinitely as this will fundamentally change the character and setting of York and the surrounding area;

and in addition the density assumptions, for the last 5 years of the plan, fail to recognise the impact that the needs of smaller and single person family units will have on the demand for different types of property.

(ii) That the threat to develop green belt land, particularly in the areas near Huntington and Osbaldwick, which could be a consequence of central government failing to modify its policies, be noted.

- (iii) That, therefore:
 - a. The draft LDF Core Strategy Preferred Options document be approved for the purposes of public consultation, subject to being amended to include questions for consultees that address the recommendation of the LDF

Working Group, which can be used as evidence to support the challenge to Government on York's housing targets and the current rules that prohibit the inclusion of 'windfalls' in delivering the City's future housing supply.

- b. Authority be delegated to the Director of City Strategy, in consultation with the Executive Member and Shadow Executive Member for City Strategy, to make any incidental changes to the draft document that are necessary as a result of the recommendations of the LDF Working Group, as endorsed by the Executive.
- c. Authority be delegated to the Director of City Strategy, in consultation with the Executive Member and Shadow Executive Member for City Strategy, to approve the full sustainability to accompany the Preferred Options document consultation.
- d. Authority be delegated to the Director of City Strategy, in consultation with the Executive Member and Shadow Executive Member for City Strategy, to approve a Consultation Strategy and associated documents.
- REASON: In order to address the concerns of residents and Members regarding the protection of green belt land in the City and to enable the Local Development Framework Core Strategy to be progressed to the next stage.

6. THE SIXTH STAFF SURVEY

RESOLVED: (i) That the results of the staff survey, including the further analysis to be undertaken, be noted.

(ii) That the 'next steps' outlined in paragraphs 33 and 34 of the report be approved.

(iii) That it be requested that the Single Improvement Plan (SIP) report to the Executive include further actions to be undertaken to address the results of the survey.

REASON: To ensure an appropriate response to the results of the survey, including benchmarking and a monitored action plan.

7. SINGLE IMPROVEMENT PLAN REFRESH 2009/10

RESOLVED: That the draft Single Improvement Plan, and the areas proposed for inclusion, be approved.

REASON: To ensure the effective management of key actions to be taken to support on-going development and improvement work at the Council critical to the achievement of the Effective Organisation corporate priority.

8. DATA QUALITY POLICY

RESOLVED: (i) That the draft Data Quality Policy be approved.

REASON: To raise the profile of data quality, develop a high level commitment to improving data quality and ensure a consistent approach.

(ii) That progress in achieving the requirements of the Policy be reported annually to the Audit and Governance Committee and the Executive.

REASON: To strengthen data quality review and reporting arrangements and in particular the reporting of outcomes to senior Officers and Members.