

**To: The Deputy Leader and Members of the Planning and Development Board
(Councillors Sweet, Barber, Butcher, L Dirveiks, Holland, Humphreys, Lea, B Moss, Phillips, Sherratt, Simpson, A Stanley, Turley, Winter and Wykes)**

For the information of other Members of the Council

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For enquiries about specific reports please contact the officer named in the reports

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD AGENDA

20 JUNE 2011

The Planning and Development Board will meet in the Council Chamber at The Council House, South Street, Atherstone, Warwickshire on Monday 20 June 2011 at 6.30 pm.

AGENDA

- 1 Evacuation Procedure.**
- 2 Apologies for Absence / Members away on official Council business.**
- 3 Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interests.**
(Any personal interests arising from the membership of Warwickshire County Council of Councillors Lea, B Moss and Sweet and membership of the various Town/Parish Councils of Councillors Barber (Ansley), Butcher (Polesworth), B Moss (Kingsbury), Phillips

(Kingsbury) and Winter (Dordon) are deemed to be declared at this meeting.

PART A – ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION (WHITE PAPERS)

- 4 **Planning Applications** – Report of the Head of Development Control.

Summary

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 – applications presented for determination

The Contact Officer for this report is Jeff Brown (719310).

- 5 **Planning for Travellers Site – Consultation Paper** - Report of the Head of Development Control.

Summary

The Government has published a consultation paper outlining its draft planning policy to replace existing advice on the provision of gypsy and traveller sites. This report describes its content and implications for North Warwickshire.

The Contact Officers for this report are Jeff Brown (719310) and Dorothy Barratt (719250)

- 6 **Design Champions** - Report of the Head of Development Control.

Summary

The report seeks continuation of the role of Design Champion.

The Contact Officer for this report is Jeff Brown (719310)

- 7 **Progress Report on Achievement of Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator Targets April 2010 - March 2011** - Report of the Chief Executive and the Deputy Chief Executive

Summary

This report informs Members of the progress with the achievement of the Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator targets relevant to the Planning and Development Board for April 2010 to March 2011.

The Contact Officer for this report is Robert Beggs (719238).

PART C – EXEMPT INFORMATION (GOLD PAPERS)

8 Exclusion of the Public and Press

Recommendation:

That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business, on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by Schedule 12A to the Act.

9 Breaches of Planning Control - Report of the Head of Development Control.

The Contact Officer for this report is Jeff Brown (719310).

JERRY HUTCHINSON
Chief Executive

Agenda Item No 5

Planning and Development Board

20 June 2011

Report of the
Head of Development Control

Planning for Travellers Site –
Consultation Paper

1 Summary

- 1.1 The Government has published a consultation paper outlining its draft planning policy to replace existing advice on the provision of gypsy and traveller sites. This report describes its content and implications for North Warwickshire.

Recommendation to the Board

- a That the Government be requested to extend the six month period to ensure a five year pitch supply, to 12 months from the final date of adoption of the new Advice Note; and**
- b That the Board recommends to the Executive Board that it look at the Council's own land holdings to assess whether it has sites that might be appropriate for Gypsies and Travellers**

2 Background

- 2.1 One of the first actions of the Government in 2010 was to announce a review of existing advice in respect of the identification and provision of new sites for gypsies and travellers through the planning system. That review was founded on its objectives of abolishing Regional Spatial Strategies, which presently provide targets for traveller provision for respective Local Planning Authorities, and secondly to enable Local Planning Authorities to react more effectively against unauthorised developments, particularly because it was perceived that the travellers housing needs were treated more favourably than other sections of the community.
- 2.2 A draft Planning Policy Statement has now been published for consultation. The final Statement, once agreed, will replace Circulars 1/2006 (Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites) and 4/2007 (Planning for Travelling Show People).

3 The Draft Policy

- 3.1 As Members are aware, the current provision of traveller sites is to be provided through the targets set by the Regional Spatial Strategies. Given the Government's overall approach to enable Local Planning Authorities to plan for and to provide housing requirements based on "local" understanding and local evidence, it comes as no surprise that the main thrust of the draft Policy

is to enable each Planning Authority to adopt its own targets. It is therefore promoting a plan-led approach based on evidence of local need and requirement within Core Strategies or subsequent Development Plan Documents, "DPD's", which will set out this provision. These targets however will have to be evidence based; shown to be based on consultation with the travelling community itself and shown to have been arrived at in consultation with neighbouring Local Authorities. In order that travellers and show-people's sites are treated in the same way as sites for other housing, their provision will also become eligible for the New Homes Bonus Scheme such that local infrastructure provision can be enhanced for the whole community. Additionally the Government's National Affordable Housing Programme for 2011-15 has £60m set aside to fund the provision of traveller sites. Finally, provision will, as with housing for the settled community, have to show a fifteen year rolling supply of land in order to accommodate local growth. However, attention is drawn to the Paper's requirement for an immediate increase in site delivery to accommodate present under-provision.

3.2 In order to strengthen measures to tackle unauthorised developments, the Government is bringing forward measures in its Localism Bill to limit the opportunities for retrospective planning permission wherever they might occur. In particular they will allow only an enforcement appeal or a retrospective application to be made for a development, not both. The Bill will also enable fines to be increased for Breaches of Planning Conditions and further consideration is being given strengthening the use of Temporary Stop Notices. Further reports will be brought to Board in due course on these suggested measures.

3.3 The main points in the consultation papers are:

- i) The current planning definition of "gypsies and travellers" and "travelling show people" is to remain, as this is now founded in case-law.
- ii) Local Planning Authorities will become responsible themselves for determining how to meet traveller site provision, through forward planning and projection, and based on "robust evidence of local need in the light of historical demand".
- iii) Evidence to date is that Local Planning Authorities have not delivered an increase in the number of traveller and show people's site in appropriate locations with planning permission to address under-provision in the next few years. It is therefore proposed to ask that Local Planning Authorities plan for an immediate five-year supply of traveller sites.
- iv) The draft policy makes it clear that if an Authority does not have a five year supply, then applications for temporary planning permissions should be "treated favourably". This wording will then align with how Authorities are asked to deal with other housing applications.
- v) The current Circular 1/2006 says that traveller sites in the Green Belt should "normally" be treated as inappropriate development, whereas in

its Planning Policy Guidance Note on Green Belts, Government advice is that all new housing developments are inappropriate. It is proposed to remove this difference of approach towards inappropriate development, by removing reference to “normally” in its new draft policy.

- vi) Engagement at an early stage with the travelling community is seen as essential as similar pre-planning consultation is regularly now occurring with the settled community on developing Core Strategies.

3.4 The draft Policy document is attached at Appendix A such that Members can read the full paper. Attention is drawn to the following points:

- i) Policy A sets out the requirement to consult and to establish a robust evidence base, including critical monitoring on planning decisions
- ii) Policy B sets out the requirement to have at least a 15 year supply of sites, and specifically to deliver sites within the first five years. It also sets out the need for cross-authority co-operation. The identification of land for these sites has to be in sustainable locations, with access to facilities and services, and to enable the travellers’ life-style to be accommodated.
- iii) Policy C says that sites in rural areas should not “dominate” a community.
- iv) Policy D states that Rural Exceptions Sites should include provision for travellers’ sites where viable and practical.
- v) Policy E includes the reference to inappropriate development.
- vi) Policy H provides a list of criteria for an Authority to consider when a planning application is submitted. Amongst these are the existing provision and need, and a clear indication that it should treat applications from travellers with no local connections in the same way as those for local applicants. The Policy then continues by giving guidance on the types of site that should be considered favourably.
- vii) The final paragraph – 26 – explicitly refers to what happens if an Authority can not demonstrate a five year supply within six months of adoption of the new draft Policy.

4 Implications for North Warwickshire

4.1 The Council has recently adopted an Interim Policy Statement (“IPS”) to provide overall strategic planning policy guidance during the uncertain period between the proposed abolition of the Regional Spatial Strategy and the adoption of its own Core Strategy. The IPS says that, “The Borough Council

will work to prepare a Gypsy and Traveller Development Plan Document following the preparation of the Core Strategy”.

- 4.2 The draft Core Strategy is now proceeding towards publication for consultation purposes this Autumn. For the purposes of responding to the current traveller’s consultation paper, the Board is advised that the evidence base to be used in the Core Strategy is that prepared at the time of dealing with the Regional Spatial Strategy. This was produced in consultation with the travelling community. It was based on the 2008 South Staffordshire and Northern Warwickshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment, as supplemented by the West Midlands Interim Policy Statement on the Provision of New Accommodation for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Show People 2010. These Assessments are based on cross-Authority working. This provides relevant and up to date evidence which can be taken forward with confidence. This evidence indicates that there is a need for an additional 16 residential pitches in North Warwickshire, and 5 transit caravan pitches up to 2017, with no evidence of a requirement for travelling show people. Post 2017, the requirement is a compound 3% increase each year which equates to 10 additional pitches up to 2026.
- 4.3 It is not the purpose of this report to take this further. In light of the consultation paper it is important for the Board to be aware that the robust evidence base already exists, and for it to be aware of the scale of future provision. With this understanding, and with the preparation of the Core Strategy in hand, the Council can generally accommodate the approach set out in this draft policy, if it is finally agreed.
- 4.4 There are two key implications that the Board should be aware of at the present time, given this evidence base and in the light of the Government’s new draft policy statement. These relate to the fifteen year horizon, and to the immediate five year provision. The fifteen year requirement is for 26 new sites by 2026. These sites are not yet identified. Sites will therefore have to be allocated through the forthcoming Core Strategy and its associated DPD’s, or granted planning permission through applications yet to be submitted. Furthermore, there is not an immediate five year supply, and thus there will be a need to address this shortfall. In addition, the Council could proactively look at its own land holdings and assess if any sites would be appropriate as Gypsy and Traveller sites.
- 4.5 Further reports will be brought to the Board as work on the Core Strategy and its associated Documents is undertaken. It is also important too that the Board is aware of the overall background as and when planning applications are brought forward for its determination.

5 Report Implications

5.1 Finance and Value for Money Implications

- 5.1.1 The provision and delivery of these sites will attract income under the New Homes Bonus Scheme.

5.2 Environment and Sustainability Implications

5.2.1 The draft paper explicitly requires Local Planning Authorities to identify and permit sites that are in sustainable locations and where environmental implications can be mitigated or lessened. The overall approach to Green Belt development remains.

5.3 Equalities Implications

5.3.1 One of the purposes of this consultation paper is to address a perceived imbalance of approach in the planning system between the provision of housing accommodation for the settled community and that for the travelling community.

5.4 Links to Council's Priorities

5.4.1 The paper reflects the Council's priority to protect the Borough's rural character and to ensure that decent housing accommodation is made available and where appropriate, affordable, for all of its residents.

The Contact Officers for this report are Jeff Brown (719310) and Dorothy Barratt (719250)

Background Papers

Local Government Act 1972 Section 100D, as substituted by the Local Government Act, 2000 Section 97

Background Paper No	Author	Nature of Background Paper	Date
1	DCLG	Planning for Traveller Sites	April 2011

Annex A Planning for traveller sites

Contents

Introduction

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Policy D: Rural exception sites
Policy E: Traveller sites in Green Belt
Policy F: Mixed planning use traveller sites
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Policy H: Determining planning applications for traveller sites

Transitional arrangements

Annex A: Definitions

Introduction

Application of this planning policy statement

1. Planning policy statements set out the Government's national policies on different aspects of spatial planning in England. This document sets out planning policies for planning for traveller sites. These policies complement but do not replace or override other national planning policies and should be read alongside other relevant statements of national planning policy.
2. The plan making policies in this Statement should be taken into account by the Mayor of London in relation to the spatial development strategy for London, and by local planning authorities in the preparation of their development plan. The preparation of development plans should not be delayed to take the policies in this statement into account.
3. The policies in this Statement are a material consideration which must be taken into account in development management decisions, where relevant¹. The development management policies in the statement can be applied directly by the decision maker when determining planning applications. It is only necessary for the development plan to reformulate development management policies in this Statement² if there are specific factors justifying variation of these policies.

The government's objectives for traveller³ sites

4. The Government's overarching objective is to ensure fair and equal treatment for travellers, in a way that facilitates the traditional and nomadic way of life of travellers while respecting the interests of the settled community.
5. To help achieve the above objectives the Government's objectives for planning in respect of traveller sites are to:
 - enable local planning authorities to make their own assessment of need for the purposes of planning
 - ensure that local planning authorities, working collaboratively, develop fair and effective strategies to meet need through the identification of land for sites
 - encourage local planning authorities to plan for sites over a reasonable timescale
 - protect Green Belt from development

¹ See section 38(6) of the *Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004*.

² See paragraph 4.31-4.32 of *Planning Policy Statement 12: Local Spatial Planning*.

³ See Annex A for the definition of traveller for the purposes of this Statement.

Draft Planning Policy Statement

- promote more private traveller site provision while recognising that there will always be those travellers who cannot provide their own sites
- reduce the number of unauthorised developments and encampments and make enforcement more effective
- ensure that the development plan includes fair, realistic and inclusive policies
- increase the number of traveller sites, in appropriate locations with planning permission, to address under provision and maintain an appropriate level of supply
- reduce tensions between settled and traveller communities in plan making and planning decisions
- enable provision of suitable accommodation from which travellers can access education, health, welfare and employment infrastructure
- have due regard to the protection of local amenity and local environment

Using evidence

Policy A: using evidence to plan positively and manage development

6. In assembling the evidence base necessary to support their planning approach, local planning authorities should:
 - a) pay particular attention to early and effective community engagement with both settled and traveller communities
 - b) co-operate with travellers, their representative bodies and local support groups, other local authorities and relevant interest groups to prepare and maintain an up-to-date understanding of the likely permanent and transit accommodation needs of their areas over the lifespan of their development plan in the light of historical demand; and
 - c) use a robust evidence base to establish need to inform the preparation of the development plan and make planning decisions
7. Local planning authorities should, to inform policy development, monitor and critically analyse decisions on applications for sites for travellers compared to those of applications for other types of residential development and other types of caravan site.

Plan making policies

Policy B: planning for traveller sites

8. Local planning authorities should set pitch and plot targets⁴ which address the likely permanent and transit site accommodation needs of travellers in the light of historical demand.
9. Local planning authorities should, in producing their development plan:
 - a) set out their policies and strategies for delivering their locally set targets, including identifying specific sites that will enable continuous delivery of sites for at least 15 years from the date of adoption
 - b) identify sufficient specific deliverable sites to deliver site need in the first five years (to be considered deliverable, sites should, at the point of adoption of the relevant policy: be available – the site is available now; be suitable – the site offers a suitable location for development now and would contribute to the creation of sustainable, mixed communities; be achievable – there is a reasonable prospect that housing will be delivered on the site within five years)
 - c) in determining how much land is required, not include sites for which they have granted planning permission unless they can demonstrate, based upon robust evidence, that the sites are developable and are likely to contribute to delivering locally set targets at the point envisaged
 - d) allow for provision to be made for other family members who may not themselves physically move their own accommodation onto the site
 - e) consider production of joint development plans that set targets on a cross-authority basis, to provide more flexibility in identifying sites, particularly if a local planning authority has special or strict planning constraints across its area
 - f) relate the number of pitches or plots to the circumstances of the specific size and location of the site and the surrounding population's size and density
 - g) protect local amenity and environment
10. Criteria should be set to guide land supply allocations where there is identified need. Where there is no identified need, criteria-based policies should be included to provide a basis for decisions in case applications nevertheless come forward.
11. Local planning authorities should ensure that traveller sites are sustainable economically, socially and environmentally. Local planning authorities should, therefore, ensure that their policies:
 - a) promote peaceful and integrated co-existence between the site and the local community

⁴ See Annex A for definitions of 'pitch' and 'plot'.

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- b) promote easier access to health services
- c) ensure that children can attend school on a regular basis
- d) provide a settled base that reduces the need for long-distance travelling and possible environmental damage caused by unauthorised encampment
- e) do not locate sites in areas at high risk of flooding, including functional floodplains, given the particular vulnerability of caravans; and
- f) reflect the extent to which traditional lifestyles (whereby some travellers live and work from the same location thereby omitting many travel to work journeys) can contribute to sustainability

Policy C: sites in rural areas and the countryside

12. When assessing the suitability of sites in rural or semi-rural settings, local authorities should ensure that the scale of such sites does not dominate the nearest settled community.

Policy D: rural exception sites

13. If there is a lack of affordable land to meet local traveller needs, local planning authorities in rural areas, where viable and practical; should consider allocating and releasing sites solely for affordable traveller sites, including using a Rural Exception Site Policy for traveller sites that should also be used to manage applications. A Rural Exception Site Policy enables small sites to be used, specifically for affordable traveller sites, in small rural communities⁵, that would not normally be used for traveller sites. Rural exception sites should only be used for affordable traveller sites in perpetuity. A Rural Exception Site Policy should seek to address the needs of the local community by accommodating households who are either current residents or have an existing family or employment connection, whilst also ensuring that rural areas continue to develop as sustainable, mixed, inclusive communities.

Policy E: traveller sites in green belt

14. There is a general presumption against inappropriate development within Green Belts. Traveller sites in the Green Belt are inappropriate development, within the meaning of Planning Policy Guidance 2: *Green Belts*.
15. Detailed Green Belt boundaries defined in adopted development plans or earlier approved plans should be altered only exceptionally. If a local planning authority wishes to make an exceptional limited alteration to the defined Green Belt boundary (which might be to accommodate a site inset within the Green Belt) to meet a specific, identified need for a traveller site, it should do so only through the plan-making process and

⁵ Small rural settlements have been designated for enfranchisement and right to acquire purposes (under Section 17 of the *Housing Act 1996*) by SI 1997/620-25 inclusive and 1999/1307.

Draft Planning Policy Statement

not in response to a planning application. If land is removed from the Green Belt in this way, it should be specifically allocated in the development plan as a traveller site only.

Policy F: mixed planning use traveller sites

16. Local planning authorities should consider, wherever possible, including traveller sites suitable for mixed residential and business uses, having regard to the safety and amenity of the occupants and neighbouring residents. Local planning authorities should consider the scope for identifying separate sites for residential and for business purposes in close proximity to one another if mixed sites are not practicable.
17. Local planning authorities should have regard to the need that travelling showpeople have for mixed-use yards to allow residential accommodation and space for storage of equipment.
18. Local planning authorities should not permit mixed use on rural exception sites.

Policy G: major development projects

19. Local planning authorities should work with the planning applicant and the affected traveller community to identify a site or sites suitable for relocation of the community if a major development proposal requires the permanent or temporary relocation of a traveller site. Local planning authorities are entitled to expect the applicant to identify and provide an alternative site, providing the development on the original site is authorised.

Development management policies

Policy H: determining planning applications for traveller sites

20. Local planning authorities should consider the following issues when considering planning applications for traveller sites:
 - a) the existing level of local provision and need for sites
 - b) the availability (or lack) of alternative accommodation for the applicants
 - c) other personal circumstances of the applicant
 - d) that the locally specific criteria used to guide the allocation of sites in plans or which form the policy where there is no identified need for pitches/plots should be used to assess applications that may come forward on unallocated sites
 - e) that they should determine applications for sites from any travellers and not just those with local connections

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21. If local planning authorities have an up-to-date five year supply of deliverable sites and applications come forward for sites that are allocated in the overall land supply, but which are not yet in the up-to-date five year supply, they should consider whether granting permission would undermine achievement of their policy objectives.
22. Local planning authorities should strictly limit new development in open countryside that is away from existing settlements or outside areas allocated in the development plan. However, they should recognise that some rural areas may be acceptable for some forms of traveller sites. Local authorities should ensure that sites in rural areas respect the scale of, and do not dominate the nearest settled community, and avoid placing an undue pressure on the local infrastructure.
23. Local planning authorities should look favourably upon applications that:
 - a) involve the development of previously developed (brownfield), untidy or derelict land
 - b) are well planned or soft landscaped in such a way as to positively enhance the environment and increase its openness
 - c) ensure adequate landscaping and play areas for children
 - d) do not enclose a site with so much hard landscaping, high walls or fences, that the impression may be given that the site and its occupants are deliberately isolated from the rest of the community
24. Local planning authorities should consider how they could overcome planning objections to particular proposals using planning conditions or planning obligations including:
 - a) limiting which parts of a site may be used for any business operations, in order to minimise the visual impact and limit the effect of noise
 - b) specifying the number of days the site can be occupied by more than the allowed number of caravans (which permits visitors and allows attendance at family or community events)
 - c) limiting the maximum number of days for which caravans might be permitted to stay on a transit site
25. Local planning authorities should determine applications for sites from any travellers and not just those with local connections.

Transitional arrangements

26. This planning policy statement comes into effect immediately. From [the date six months after date policy comes into effect], if a local planning authority cannot demonstrate an up-to-date five year supply of deliverable sites, it should consider favourably applications for the grant of a temporary planning permission⁶.

⁶ Policy on the use of temporary permissions is set out in *Circular 11/1995 The Use of Conditions in Planning Permission*.

Annex A: definitions

1. For the purposes of this planning policy statement "gypsies and travellers" means:

Persons of nomadic habit of life whatever their race or origin, including such persons who on grounds only of their own or their family's or dependants' educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently, but excluding members of an organised group of travelling showpeople or circus people travelling together as such.

2. For the purposes of this planning policy statement, "travelling showpeople" means:

Members of a group organised for the purposes of holding fairs, circuses or shows (whether or not travelling together as such). This includes such persons who on the grounds of their own or their family's or dependants' more localised pattern of trading, educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently, but excludes Gypsies and Travellers as defined above.

3. For the purposes of this planning policy statement, "travellers" means "gypsies and travellers" and "travelling showpeople" as defined above.
4. For the purposes of this planning policy statement, "pitch" means a pitch on a "gypsy and traveller" site and "plot" means a pitch on a "travelling showpeople" site (often called a "yard"). This terminology differentiates between residential pitches for "gypsies and travellers" and mixed-use plots for "travelling showpeople", which may/will need to incorporate space or to be split to allow for the storage of equipment.

Agenda Item No 6

Planning and Development Board

20 June 2011

**Report of the
Head of Development Control**

Design Champions

1 Summary

1.1 The report seeks continuation of the role of Design Champion.

Recommendation to the Board

That the Board nominates two Design Champions

2 Background

2.1 A few years ago, the Board introduced the role of a Design Champion in order to promote good quality design throughout the Borough. The opportunity to do so arises particularly through the planning application process. The role was defined by the Board in 2008 – see Appendix A.

2.2 This has proved effective through Champion and Member involvement at pre-application stages in the planning process; amendments made subsequent to site visits, the introduction of post-development site visits and continuation of the Civic Awards.

2.3 It was considered at the time, that a Member should be nominated from each group and Councillors Simpson and Sweet have taken on the role. Members are now asked to nominate Champions for the forthcoming years.

3 Report Implications

3.1 Finance and Value for Money Implications

3.1.1 There is a budget set aside for the Civic Award.

3.2 Links to Council's Priorities

3.2.1 The work done by the Champions promotes good quality design such that new built development is in keeping with the Borough's rural character and reflects local distinctiveness as set out in the Council's priorities.

The Contact Officer for this report is Jeff Brown (719210).

Background Papers

Local Government Act 1972 Section 100D, as substituted by the Local Government Act, 2000 Section 97

Background Paper No	Author	Nature of Background Paper	Date

Appendix A

The Role

“To promote and to encourage good design for all new development proposals, such that the local character and distinctiveness of North Warwickshire is protected and enhanced. In this way value can be added to those proposals such that new development can contribute to improving those places for the community and how they function.”

The Approach

In respect of the Development Plan process:

- Involvement in the formulation of policy within the Core Strategy on overall design parameters in the Borough.
- Involvement in the identification of local distinctiveness and character criteria to be included in the Core Strategy.
- Involvement in the preparation of the Design Briefs for the strategic development sites identified in the Core Strategy.
- Involvement in the preparation and review of Supplementary Planning Documents where they address design issues.

In respect of the assessment of new development proposals:

- Involvement at the pre-application stage on all proposals for the strategic allocations as defined in the Core Strategy
- Involvement at pre-application stage where a development proposal is likely to be submitted that departs significantly from adopted policy or guidance, or one that introduces a significant innovative or unusual design approach.
- Encouraging pre-application Member involvement where design is an important planning consideration.
- Involvement at pre-application stage for proposals identified at the Champion's request, or by referral through a case officer
- Involvement post submission by request, or by referral from a case officer.

In respect of the monitoring of decisions to assess whether they reflect adopted guidance:

- To oversee an annual Design Audit.
- To promote the Civic Award Scheme on a regular basis.
- To undertake post development inspections to review design as built.
- To ensure regular Member training on design matters.

Agenda Item No 7

Planning and Development Board

20 June 2011

Report of the Chief Executive and the Deputy Chief Executive

Progress Report on Achievement of Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator Targets April 2010- March 2011

1 Summary

- 1.1 This report informs Members of the progress with the achievement of the Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator targets relevant to the Planning and Development Board for April 2010 to March 2011.

Recommendation to the Board

That Members consider the performance achieved and highlight any areas for further investigation.

2 Consultation

2.1 Portfolio Holder, Shadow Portfolio Holder and Ward Members

- 2.1.1 The Portfolio Holder and Shadow Portfolio Holder for Resources, Councillors Forwood and Lea have been sent a copy of this report and any comments received will be reported to the Board.

3 Background

- 3.1 This report shows the end of year position with the achievement of the Corporate Plan and Performance Indicator targets for 2010/11. The report updates the progress achieved shown in quarterly reports to each Board during 2010/11.

4 Progress achieved during 2010/11

- 4.1 Attached at Appendices A and B are reports outlining the progress achieved for all the Corporate Plan targets and the performance with the national and local performance indicators during April to March 2010/11 for the Planning and Development Board.

- 4.2 Members will recall the use of a traffic light indicator for the monitoring of the performance achieved.

Red – target not achieved

Green – target achieved.

5 Performance Indicators

- 5.1 The figures for the national and local performance indicators are subject to review by internal and external audit and should be considered as draft figures at this stage.

6 Overall Performance

- 6.1 The Corporate Plan performance report shows that 100% of the Corporate Plan targets and 33% of the performance indicator targets have been achieved. The report shows that individual targets that have been classified as red or green. Individual comments from the relevant division have been included where appropriate. The table below shows the following status in terms of the traffic light indicator status:

Corporate Plan

Status	Quarter 4 Number	Percentage
Green	6	100%
Red	0	0%
Total	6	100%

Performance Indicators

Status	Quarter 4 Number	Percentage
Green	1	33%
Red	2	67%
Total	3	100%

7 Summary

- 7.1 Members may wish to identify any areas that require further consideration where targets are not currently being achieved.

8 Report Implications

8.1 Safer Communities Implications

- 8.1.1 Major applications are considered by the Police Architectural Liaison Officer who is looking to ensure that Secure by Design principles are applied for new developments.

8.2 Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 8.2.1 The national indicators were specified by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government. They have now been ended and will be replaced by a single list of data returns to Central Government from April 2011.

8.3 Environment and Sustainability Implications

8.3.1 Improvements in the performance and quality of services will contribute to improving the quality of life within the community.

8.4 Risk Management Implications

8.4.1 Effective performance monitoring will enable the Council to minimise associated risks with the failure to achieve targets and deliver services at the required performance level.

8.5 Equalities

8.5.1 There are indicators relating to Equality reported to other Boards.

8.6 Links to Council's Priorities

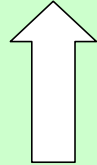
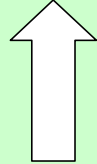
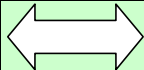
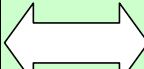
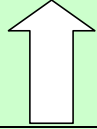
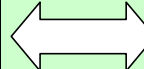
8.6.1 There are a number of targets and performance indicators included relating to protecting and improving our environment and defending and improving our countryside and rural heritage.

The Contact Officer for this report is Robert Beggs (719238).




Background Papers

Local Government Act 1972 Section 100D, as substituted by the Local Government Act, 2000 Section 97

Background Paper No	Author	Nature of Background Paper	Date
National Indicators for Local Authorities and Local Authority Partnerships	Department for Communities and Local Government	Statutory Guidance	February 2008

Ref	Start Date	Action	Board	Lead Officer	Reporting Officer	Theme	Sub-Theme	Update	Traffic Light	Direction
30	Apr-10	To move towards the management of development rather than its control where appropriate, looking at development proposals as an opportunity to deliver the Council's priorities and objectives as set out in the Sustainable Community Plans, the Corporate Plan, and not just the Development Plan. To report on the effectiveness of this approach by March 2011	Planning & Development Board	Head of DC	Jeff Brown	Countryside & Heritage		Development management is becoming more embedded in decision making - eg. the Section 106 for Phase 2 of Birch Coppice. This will be reported in more detail to Board in March 2012	Green	
33	Apr-10	Working with partners at the sub regional level to gather information and then develop a financial plan for financial contributions linked to development. At the same time gathering information locally and develop a robust financial plan for inclusion in the LDF process by February 2011 including a Supplementary Planning Document on contributions for Open Space provision within the LDF process by February 2011	Executive Board / Planning & Development Board	ACE&SC	Dorothy Barratt	Countryside & Heritage		Work continuing to be gathered although there may be implications from abolition of RSS and work on Core Strategy that may impact on the implementation.	Green	
34	Apr-10	Implementing the revised policy and provide an annual report on the outcomes of the Enforcement Policy by March 2011	Planning & Development Board	Head of DC	Jeff Brown	Countryside & Heritage		Enforcement Policy reviewed and adopted in Jan 2011. Annual performance report in summer 2011.	Green	
41	Apr-10	Considering planning applications so as to protect the best of our existing buildings and ensure new build is in keeping with the character of the area	Planning & Development Board	Head of DC	Jeff Brown	Countryside & Heritage		This is an ongoing planning consideration and report going to board in March 2012.	Green	
43	Apr-10	To ensure design advice is given at pre-application stages in appropriate cases and to introduce a system of post development visits. Continue to use the design champion	Executive Board / Planning & Development Board	ACE&SC	Jeff Brown	Countryside & Heritage	DCE	Design Champion involved in pre-application discussions and post development visits now taking place.	Green	
44	Apr-10	To prepare for the Civic Award event in 2012	Planning & Development Board	ACE&SC	Jeff Brown	Countryside & Heritage	DCE	No action needed yet.	Green	

Performance Indicators

PI Ref	Description	Division	Section	High/Low is good	2010/11 Target	2009/10 Outturn	National Best Quartile	Performance	Traffic Light	Direction	Comments	Suggested reporting interval	Board
Development Control													
NI 157a	Processing of planning applications as measured against targets for major application types	Development Control	Development Control	High	65%	64.71%	81.6%*	47.06%	Red		Serious issues have arisen on some applications which have taken time to resolve. Over half of the cases involves substantive Section 106 discussions; 2 where departures referred to Secretary of State and the remainder involved design issues.	Q	Planning and Development Board
NI 157b	Processing of planning applications as measured against targets for minor application types	Development Control	Development Control	High	85%	84.52%	84%*	88.90%	Green			Q	Planning and Development Board
NI 157c	Processing of planning applications as measured against targets for other application types	Development Control	Development Control	High	95%	92.48%	93.91%	90.83%	Red		Variation due to more proposals than usual requiring amendments and revisions	Q	Planning and Development Board

Agenda Item No 8

Planning and Development Board

20 June 2011

**Report of the
Chief Executive**

Exclusion of the Public and Press

Recommendation to the Board

That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business, on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by Schedule 12A to the Act.

Agenda Item No 9

Breaches of Planning Control - Report of the Head of Development Control.

Paragraph 6 – by reason of the need to consider appropriate legal action

The Contact Officer for this report is David Harris (719222).