

Selby District Council



Minutes

Executive

Venue:	Committee Room, Civic Centre, Selby
Date:	24 November 2011
Present:	Councillor M Crane (Chair), Mrs G Ivey C Lunn, J Mackman and C Metcalfe
Apologies for Absence:	None
Officers present:	Chief Executive, Deputy Chief Executive, Executive Director (S151), Managing Director, The Solicitor to the Council, Business Manager (ES), Policy Officer (HG) and Democratic Services Manager.
Also present:	Councillors Jordan and Mrs Spetch.
Public: 1	
Press: 1	

NOTE: None of items discussed are subject to call in.

58. Disclosure of Interest

Each member of the Executive had received a letter from Jenny Hubbard, a planning consultant, in respect of her comments on the Core Strategy Report.

59. Selby District Council Core Strategy – Key Decision

Councillor John Mackman presented the report E/11/42 that set out the Inspector's concerns regarding the 'soundness' of the Selby District Core Strategy from the Examination in Public (EIP) which took place in

September 2011. Councillors were requested to consider in principle changes to the Core Strategy and detailed policy wording.

Councillor Mackman reminded the Executive that the three main topics to be address at the reconvened EIP were:

- The overall scale of housing development over the plan period;
- The scale of housing and employment development proposed for Tadcaster and the implications for the Green Belt;
- The strategic approach to Green Belt issues.

The Business Manager reported the work being undertaken by Council Officers in order to address these issues. The Policy Officer advised the Executive of the report produced by the Council's consultants examining the Scale of Housing Growth in Selby District.

The Executive considered the Council's Green Belt Policy in light of the Inspector's comments and the Green Belt Policy contained within the report. Councillor Mackman put forward an amendment to the Policy at point B, which should read as follows:

'In accordance with higher order policies, within the defined Green Belt planning permission will not be granted for inappropriate development unless the applicant has demonstrated that very special circumstances exist to justify why permission should be granted.'

The amendment was approved.

Councillor Metcalfe raised the issue of delivering the housing requirement in the district. The Executive felt that it should be clear that the preferred option would be to accommodate the shortfall in Tadcaster as outlined in plan A of the report.

The Executive then moved into private session.

60. Private Session

Resolved:

In accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 and in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, to exclude the press and public from the meeting during discussion of the following item as there was likely to be disclosure of exempt information.

The Solicitor to the Council provided the Executive with legal advice on matters affecting the Core Strategy.

61. Public Session

62. Selby District Council Core Strategy – Key Decision – Continued

The Executive discussed the quantum of housing development over the plan period. Discussion focused on the 450 houses per annum planned housing growth recommended in the detailed report submitted by the Council's consultants.

The Executive discussed the conclusions arrived at in the consultant's report and, in particular, the level of consideration given to the current state of the economy.

Councillor Mackman felt the consultants should be asked to provide further evidence to substantiate the recommendations and advice on the sustainability of housing growth figures in a range between 450 and 465 per annum.

The Executive asked that the consultants provide evidence on the level of sustainability on a range of 450 to 465 dwellings as the appropriate level of housing growth.

Resolved:

- (i) To note the report;**
- (ii) To ask the Council's Consultants to provide evidence of the sustainability of housing growth on a range of 450 to 465 dwellings;**
- (iii) To develop a more detailed policy proposal and Proposed Changes to the Core Strategy for approval by the Executive Member for Place Shaping in consultation with Access Selby Managing Director, taking into account the Green Belt Policy as amended for formal determination by Council.**

Recommended to Council:

- (iv) To approve consultation arrangements and the Publication and Submission of the Proposed Changes to the Secretary of State in accordance with the prescribed Regulations;**
- (v) To authorise officers to make the necessary arrangements for a reconvened EIP in Spring next year, the date to be confirmed;**
- (vi) To approve, in respect of the shortfall of housing in Tadcaster, Plan A as the preferred option.**

Reason for decision:

To ensure that the Council responds promptly to the requirement to deal with the issues raised by the Inspector as the basis for the suspension of the EIP.

The meeting concluded at 11.14am