



**STAFFORD BOROUGH LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK
NEWSLETTER – WINTER 2005 / 2006
ISSUE NUMBER 6**

- ***THE NEW PLANNING SYSTEM***

In September 2004 the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, with its associated Regulations, came into force signalling the start of the new planning system.

- ***CURRENT PROGRESS & NEXT STEPS***

PREFERRED OPTIONS REPORTS FOR DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT NUMBER 1 & THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONTROL D.P.D

The Preferred Options Reports for DPD Number 1 and the Economic Development Control Development Plan Document set out the preferred policy options for the Green Belt, the Built Environment and Town & District Centres together with employment development. Consultation material for making formal representations to these Preferred Options Reports is available on request. The period for making representations ends at **12 noon on Monday 20 February 2006**.

In parallel with these Preferred Options Reports, responses are also being sought on the Sustainability Appraisal Reports, which appraises the preferred policy options in terms of sustainability principles. Further information on this consultation process is available from the Forward Planning team at Stafford Borough Council or through the website at www.staffordbc.gov.uk/forwardplanning.

SUBMISSION CORE STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT

The Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD) sets out the vision, spatial objectives and strategic planning policies for the Borough Council area. The Submission Core Strategy DPD sets out the submission policies for key planning issues

to be considered through the independent Examination process. The period for making representations to the Submission Core Strategy ended on Monday 28 November 2005

In total 233 representations were made to the Core Strategy DPD from 47 individuals and organisations. It is anticipated that a Pre-Examination Meeting will take place towards the end of January 2006 and the independent Examination during March 2006.

SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL SCOPING REPORTS FOR DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT NUMBER 4 & THE SITE-SPECIFIC ALLOCATIONS AND POLICIES DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT

The Scoping Reports for Development Plan Document Number 4 and the Site-specific allocations and policies Development Plan Document are due to be published for consultation during February and March 2006. The DPD Number 4 Issues and Options Paper together with the Sustainability Appraisal Commentary is scheduled to be consulted upon in July and August 2006 and includes planning policies for the Historic Environment, Trees, Water, Telecommunications, Transportation and Access. The Site-specific allocations and policies DPD Issues and Options Paper together with the Sustainability Appraisal Commentary is scheduled for consultation in May and June 06.

PREFERRED OPTIONS REPORTS FOR DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT NUMBER 2 & THE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT CONTROL D.P.D

The Preferred Options Reports for the Residential Development Control Development Plan Document and the DPD Number 2 together with the Sustainability Appraisal Reports are due to be published for consultation during May and June 2006 following consideration by Members in November 2005 and February 2006 respectively.

ISSUES & OPTIONS PAPER FOR DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT NUMBER 3

Following consultation on the Scoping Report during November and December 2005 the DPD Number 3 Issues and Options Paper together with the Sustainability Appraisal Commentary is scheduled to be consulted upon in March and April 2006 and includes planning policies for Sport and Recreation, Planning Obligations and Community Services and Facilities.

- **WHAT HAS BEEN PRODUCED SO FAR?**

GATHERING EVIDENCE REPORT – published June 2004

The Gathering Evidence Report was published on the Council's website in June 2004.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME – published March 2005

The Local Development Scheme sets out the work programme over the next three years for preparing the policy documents within the Local Development Framework. Following agreement with Government Office for the West Midlands in February 2005, the Local Development Scheme came into effect at the end of March 2005.

STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

During October and November 2004 the Draft Statement of Community Involvement was consulted upon and the responses used to prepare the Submission Statement of Community Involvement, which was published for consultation during May and June 2005. 42 representations were received to the Submission Statement of Community Involvement, which is currently going through the Examination process. The Inspectors Report and adoption process is anticipated to take place early in the New Year.

CORE STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT

In November 2004 the Scoping Report for the Core Strategy was consulted upon with 37 responses received. During January and February 2005 the Issues & Options Paper was consulted upon - in total 86 responses were received and these were used to prepare the Core Strategy DPD – Preferred Options Report. In parallel with the Core Strategy DPD – Issues and Options consultation stage, 24 responses were received to the Initial Sustainability Appraisal Report. In June and July the Core Strategy DPD – Preferred Options Report was consulted upon – in total 64 respondents made representations. In parallel with the Core Strategy DPD – Preferred Options Report 17 respondents made representations on the Final Sustainability Appraisal Report. The Council approved the Submission Core Strategy on Tuesday 27 September 2005.

DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT NUMBER 1, RESIDENTIAL & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONTROL DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENTS

During April and May 2005 three Scoping Reports were consulted upon to set out the Sustainability Appraisal process for DPD Number 1, the Residential Development

Control DPD and the Economic Development Control DPD. 35 responses were received to each of these Scoping Reports. In July and August 2005 the DPD Number 1, the Residential Development Control DPD and the Economic Development Control DPD – Issues and Options Papers were consulted upon, each resulting in 40 - 50 responses. In parallel with these Issues and Options Papers three Interim Sustainability Appraisal Reports were also consulted upon, resulting in 2 responses being received.

DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT NUMBER 2

During August 2005 the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report for Development Plan Document Number 2 was consulted upon. 19 responses were received to the Scoping Report. In September and October 2005 the Development Plan Document Number 2 (DPD) – Issues and Options Paper setting out planning policies for Rural Areas, the Natural Environment and Renewable Energy was consulted upon, resulting in 58 responses. In addition 3 responses were received to the Interim Sustainability Appraisal Report which appraised the plan objectives and policy options in terms of sustainability.

SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL SCOPING REPORT FOR D.P.D. NUMBER 3

During November and December 2005 the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report for Development Plan Document Number 3 was consulted upon. 20 responses were received to the Scoping Report.

- ***FURTHER INFORMATION***

Further information about the Stafford Borough Local Development Framework can be obtained through the Borough Council website www.staffordbc.gov.uk/forwardplanning

If you wish to discuss any aspect of this Newsletter or the Stafford Borough Local Development Framework please contact the following officers:

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