

SHAPING THE FUTURE- The Basingstoke and Deane Local Development Framework Newsletter

Issue 2: Winter 2008

WELCOME



Welcome to the second Basingstoke and Deane Local Development Framework Newsletter.

This is a quarterly newsletter provided to keep you up to date with what is happening with Basingstoke and Deane's Local Development Framework and let you know how you can get involved in shaping the future of the borough.

We hope you find this newsletter useful and would like to wish you all a Happy New Year.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME UPDATE



In the last issue of the newsletter we provided an overview of the documents that make up the LDF.

The project plan for the LDF is known as the Local Development Scheme (LDS). This outlines what documents we will produce and when. Unfortunately our LDS is currently under review and an updated version is not yet available.

We are however keen to keep you up to date on our work and the progress we are making. We are currently completing a wide range of studies which make up our evidence base work and are aiming to produce a Preferred Approach publication for the Core Strategy in Autumn 2009.

It is hoped that an updated LDS, detailing all of our future work, will be available on our website soon. Further updates will also be provided in future editions of this newsletter.

EVIDENCE BASE UPDATE

In the last newsletter we explained the importance of having a robust evidence base in order to guide the preparation of the LDF. The following provides a quick update on our progress with putting this evidence base together.

Leisure Needs and Open Space Audit- assessment of the current and future needs of open space and leisure facilities within the borough- Completed. The study will shortly be available on our website at:



http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/planning/ldf/evidencebase/leisure_and_recreation_needs_assessment.htm

Retail Study- assessment of current and future retail needs within the borough-**Completed**

The study will shortly be made available on our website at:

<http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/planning/ldf/evidencebase/RetailAssessment.htm>

Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment- to identify potential for meeting the housing needs of the borough. Consultation on the draft SHLAA took place between 19th September-31st October 2008, during which time over 340 responses were received. We are currently analysing these responses and will be updating the SHLAA in early 2009.



A full copy of all the responses received as part of the SHLAA consultation will shortly be available at:

<http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/planning/ldf/evidencebase/SHLAA.htm>

Strategic Flood Risk Assessment- assessment of flood risk across the borough. Whilst a draft report has been produced, a need has been identified for some additional work in order to identify the critical drainage areas within the borough to provide more detailed evidence on drainage- **final report expected January 2009**

Housing Stock Analysis-assessment of housing needs and existing housing provision for the urban areas- initial findings are currently being analysed- **final report expected early 2009**



Employment Land Review- Phase 2 is currently nearing completion. This will identify the characteristics of our existing employment areas and assess the future demand and supply of employment land across the Borough – **final report expected January 2009**

Settlement Sustainability- to assist in the arrangement of settlements into a hierarchy, based upon settlement size and access to local services-**expected January 2009**

Transport Assessment- assessment of the ability for transport networks to accommodate development, to assist in determining the most sustainable locations for development- **Assessment of existing capacity due for completion early 2009. Assessment of the transport infrastructure requirements to accommodate future development will be ongoing in 2009**



Water Cycle Study- assessment of the likely impact of development on both the water environment and the capacity of water related infrastructure, to assist in determining the most sustainable locations for development- **expected early 2009**

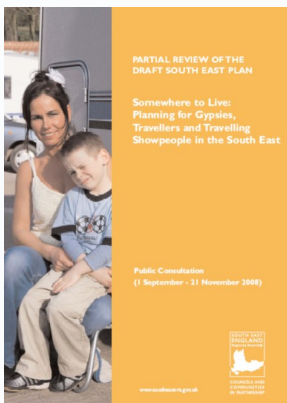
In addition to working on the above evidence base, we are also scoping the need for three additional studies. These are as follows:

Rural Housing Study- an assessment of housing needs and existing housing provision for the borough's rural areas

Renewable Energy Study- an assessment of the potential to accommodate renewable energy within the borough and to ensure new development contributes to this.

Green Infrastructure Study- to identify opportunities for introducing green corridors within developments to improve environmental quality.

GYPSY, TRAVELLERS AND TRAVELLING SHOWPEOPLE CONSULTATION EVENT



The South East Regional Assembly (SEERA) has recently completed a period of public consultation on the need to provide places to live for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople across the South East region. This information will be used in a partial review of the South East Plan.

To assist SEERA in ensuring that as many people as possible are consulted on this, we held a joint public exhibition with Rushmoor Borough Council and Hart District Council, in Fleet on the 3-4 November. Approximately 61 people attended the two day exhibition, which covered the North Hampshire Area and provided information on the different distribution options for pitch provision across the South East. Once a decision has been made on the distribution of pitches, the specific location of new sites can then be decided by individual local authorities through

their Local Development Frameworks.

Further information on the SEERA consultation can be found at:

http://www.southeast-ra.gov.uk/southeastplan/consultation/gt_update.html

ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT

We are currently finalising our Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) for the period 1st April 2007 to 31st March 2008, before submitting it to the Government Office for the South East (GOSE) before the end of December.

The purpose of the AMR is to assess:

- The implementation of the Local Development Scheme (LDS)
- The extent to which planning policies and objectives are being achieved. Until such time as the Council prepares new planning documents as part of the LDF, the AMR will assess the operation of the policies of the Basingstoke and Deane Adopted Local Plan (1996-2011)
- Social, economic and environmental indicators of the Borough set out within Government guidance.

It therefore assesses our progress over the last year against such issues as:

- The supply of new homes
- The use of previously developed land
- The provision of employment land
- The provision of affordable housing
- The protection of the environment

A copy of the AMR for 2008 will shortly be made available on our website at:

<http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/planning/ldf/amr.htm>

SAVED LOCAL PLAN POLICIES UPDATE

In the last edition of this newsletter we indicated that our current policies within the Basingstoke and Deane Adopted Borough Local Plan (1996-2011) will expire in July 2009. We therefore need to 'save' the local plan policies which are still important to the planning of the borough, to ensure that we have policy coverage until our LDF is in place.



Officers have recommended to Councillors the local plan policies they consider are still important and which ones can be deleted as they duplicate current national or regional policy. This was considered by Members at the Environment Overview Committee on 9 November, Cabinet on 2 November and at Full Council on 11 December.

Once Councillors decide which policies to request as 'saved' beyond July 2009, the Council will submit these to the Secretary of State in January. The Secretary of State will consider all the local plan policies as to whether it is appropriate to save or delete the policies. Any policy that is not saved by the Secretary of State will no longer form part of the Local Plan after July 2009.

A full list of saved policies should be available on our website by Spring 2009, once we have received the agreement from the Secretary of State.

GET INVOLVED

We are keen to get as many people as possible involved with the LDF. We have therefore set up a database of people who wish to be consulted and kept up to date with what is happening.

If you are not already on this database, and would like to be added, please contact us on ldf@basingstoke.gov.uk, or by phoning 01256 845796 or 01256 845750

YOUR NEWSLETTER!

This is your LDF newsletter so please let us know if there is something that you would like us to cover in future editions.

Email us at: ldf@basingstoke.gov.uk