

meeting **JOINT COMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC PLANNING & TRANSPORT**

date 21<sup>st</sup> December 2007 agenda item number

from: **JOINT OFFICER STEERING GROUP**

## **Report**

### **LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK ALIGNMENT – JOINT WORK.**

#### **Purpose of Report**

- 1 To inform Members of the current position regarding joint working and alignment of Local Development Frameworks in the Nottingham Core Housing Market Area.

#### **Introduction**

- 2 At its meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> September, the Shadow Greater Nottingham Executive considered approaches to closer working on spatial planning. It was agreed that closer alignment of Core Strategy preparation was highly desirable, with an option in the future, if considered appropriate, of moving towards a single joint Core Strategy for the local authority areas of Nottingham, Broxtowe, Gedling and Rushcliffe. (Because Ashfield is partly outside the Greater Nottingham Area, it would not be possible for them to be part of a single joint Core Strategy, although they will be aligning their work were relevant.)
- 3 Work on alignment will include the development of separate Issues and Options papers with a complementary overview, and including common conurbation wide Issues and Options, but also allowing for Issues and Options of purely local concern. These would be prepared as far as possible on a common timetable. There would be an opportunity to bring all the processes together in to one Preferred Options paper, if considered desirable, or of continuing the development of separate but aligned Preferred Options for each local authority area. This approach will be considered by the next meeting of the Shadow Greater Nottingham Executive on 14<sup>th</sup> December.

- 4 There has already been much work done on a Housing Market Area (HMA) basis to develop a robust evidence base for local development frameworks, which have been the subject of items to this Committee. To date joint employment land, retail, strategic flood risk, transport and housing studies have been carried out on across the HMA. Using a joint evidence base will assist the authorities in aligning their core strategies. There are also a number of jointly funded posts between the authorities.
- 5 The Government has set new incentives for joint working proposed through the new Housing and Planning Delivery Grant. Working jointly on core strategies will place the authorities in the Nottingham Core Housing Market Area in a good position to bid for additional funds, if there is a move towards a single Core Strategy. Alignment of planning policy work across the HMA is also a key objective of the Nottingham part of the Three Cities Growth Point proposal.
- 6 The key issues of governance and the links to individual Sustainable Community Strategies would need to be addressed at an early stage.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

- 7 It is RECOMMENDED that Members of the Committee note the contents of the report

## **Background Papers**

None

## **Contact Officers**

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