

JOINT COMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC PLANNING AND TRANSPORT

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 26 JUNE 2011 AT LOXLEY HOUSE, FROM 9.45 AM TO 11.20 AM

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

- ✓ Councillor Butler (Vice-Chair)
- ✓ Councillor Greaves
- ✓ Councillor Heptinstall
- ✓ Councillor Jackson (for minute 1 to 7 inclusive)

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

- ✓ Councillor Urquhart (Chair)
 - ✓ Councillor Clark
 - ✓ Councillor Longford
 - ✓ Councillor Malcolm (for minute 5 to minute 11 inclusive)
- ✓ Indicates present at meeting

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

RESOLVED that Councillor Urquhart be appointed Chair for the municipal year 2011/12.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR

RESOLVED that Councillor Butler be appointed Vice-Chair for the municipal year 2011/12.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interests were made.

4. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 4 March 2011 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

5. STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report of the Joint Officer Steering Group presented by Ms Gill, Nottinghamshire County Council, copies of which had been circulated.

The report provided an update on planning issues arising from the Coalition Government such as the Localism Bill and “Budget 2011: The Plan for Growth” and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

Ms Gill summarised the key points as follows:

- the High Court had re-established the Regional Strategies as part of the development plan although the Coalition Government still planned to abolish the RS through the enactment of the Localism Bill. In effect, the emerging development plan documents such as, the Greater Nottingham Aligned Core Strategy and Local Development Framework, had to be drafted and conform to the relevant RS until the Localism Bill was enacted and RS were abolished. The target date for enactment of the Localism Bill was April 2012.
- further amendments to the Localism Bill included:
 - a new clause which allowed local finance considerations to be a material consideration to support planning applications, although this has led to allegations of ‘cash for permissions’ from the opposition and other groups;
 - changes to the neighbourhood planning regime which meant that forums had to have at least 21 members (previously 3);
 - a new duty for local authorities to cooperate with neighbouring councils over planning issues;
 - an amendment to the Community Infrastructure Levy which allowed councils to charge developers to pay for infrastructure;
 - businesses to be allowed to develop neighbourhood plans and development orders;
- the Budget and Government’s Plan for growth set out a number of proposals including abolishment of the 60% target for new housing to be built on brown field land and establishment of a new generation of ‘Enterprise Zones’ with simplified planning regimes which included the Boots Campus;
- the Government was proposing to replace the existing Planning Policy Statements, Planning Guidance Notes and Circulars with a consolidated ‘National Planning Policy Framework’ (NPPF). Initial consultation was undertaken in early 2011 and further consultation was due to take place later in the year. A Practitioners Advisory Group (PAG) was asked to produce a suggested NPPF to inform the Government’s thinking. The PAG published its NPPF in May 2011 and it was structured into traditional topic areas and grouped around three theses (economic, social and environment). It envisaged a plan-led planning system underpinned by a presumption in favour of sustainable development and supported by local fiscal incentives.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

6. DERBY, DERBYSHIRE, NOTTINGHAM AND NOTTINGHAMSHIRE LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP, ENTERPRISE ZONES AND REGIONAL GROWTH FUND BIDS

Consideration was given to a report of the Joint Officer Steering Group presented by Mr Butterworth, Nottingham City Council, copies of which had been circulated.

Mr Butterworth summarised the key points and progress as detailed below:

- a joint Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) proposal had been submitted to Government on behalf of the above councils and strongly supported by Derby University, Nottingham University and Nottingham Trent University as well as, the Chamber of Commerce and more than 140 local businesses. Approval was given on 28 October 2010 for the D2N2 LEP to establish a Shadow Board;
- on 24 March 2011 it was announced that the D2N2 LEP Board had secured the Alliance-Boots campus in Nottingham and Broxtowe as one of the 11 vanguard Enterprise Zones (EZ) in the country. This would lead to substantial benefits for the area but also could attract major investment;
- it was confirmed that the Regional Growth Fund (RGF) bid for Round 1 had been unsuccessful. Round 2 applications was launched in April 2011 and the D2N2 LEP was exploring Strategic Investment Programme Bids to help achieve priorities.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

7. NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND NOTTINGHAM WASTE CORE STRATEGY

Consideration was given to a report of the Joint Officer Steering Group presented by Mr Allen, Nottinghamshire County Council, copies of which had been circulated.

The key points summarised were:

- the preferred approach, approved by both authorities, would be published for consultation soon prior to a final decision being taken about what should be included in the draft Waste Core Strategy;
- the key proposals were:
 - a recycling target of 70% for all main waste streams which was considered to be very challenging but would promote greater recycling and allow for the impact of new technologies and the escalating land tax;
 - energy recovery was the preferred option for waste which could not be recycled and was not restricted to incineration with options such as, gasification and mechanical biological treatments where possible;
 - the Core Strategy included where development was needed with new facilities to be built in the Nottingham Urban Area, Mansfield and Ashfield. Medium sized facilities were also proposed for Newark, Worksop and Retford with smaller community facilities to serve more rural locations. Reliance on remote disposal out of the county was not seen as a sustainable long term option;

- the public consultation period was expected to begin on 15 July and finish on 9 September 2011. Then the Draft Core Strategy would require approval by both Councils in late 2011 with adoption scheduled for December 2012;
- it was confirmed that the Secretary of State had refused planning permission for the proposed Rufford energy from waste facility and the County Council and the waste management contractor were reviewing the situation.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the report be noted;**
- (2) that Councillor Jackson would write to the City Council to invite a representative to sit on the Joint Waste Management Committee.**

8. TRANSPORT ISSUES UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report of the Joint Officers Steering Group presented by Mr Carter, Nottingham City Council, copies of which had been circulated.

The key points summarised included:

- both the City and County Council's Local Transport Plans (LTP) 3 had been adopted on 1 April 2011;
- the Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) application process and timescales had been published by the Coalition Government in January 2011;
- a Nottingham Urban Area 'Key Component' Bid for £5 million had been submitted to the Department for Transport (DfT) in April 2011 and included a package of measures aimed at delivering multi-operator smartcard ticketing, a pilot community travel hub and funding to support sustainable travel services at neighbourhood level. A decision was expected in June 2011;
- a second bid for £11 million was submitted on 6 June 2011 and a decision was expected in July 2011;
- further updates were provided in relation to the congestion performance funding, A453 widening scheme and Nottingham Express Transit Phase 2.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

9. RAIL ISSUES - UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report of the Joint Officers Steering Group, presented by Mr Butterworth, Nottingham City Council, copies of which had been circulated.

A summary of progress on the following was reported:

- Midland Mainline;
- High Speed Rail;
- Nottingham Station Hub scheme;
- Nottingham to Birmingham time improvements;

- infrastructure improvements in conjunction with Network Rail and raising of speed to reduce journey times on various routes;
- the Robin Hood Line Sunday service would commence on 22 May 2011 and continue until 31 March 2015.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

10. GREATER NOTTINGHAM JOINT PLANNING ADVISORY BOARD (JPAB) - UPDATE

RESOLVED that the report of the Joint Officer Steering Group and minutes of JPAB, copies of which had been circulated, be noted.

11. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

RESOLVED that future meetings of this Committee be held on the following Friday's at 9.45 am:

2011

**23 September
16 December**

2012

23 March