

**CABINET
(FURTHER MEETING)
HELD ON 21 JUNE 2007
(FROM 5.35 PM TO 6.05 PM)**

PRESENT: Councillor Mike Gardner in the Chair. Councillors Jean Butterfield, Cooper, Ellington, Pat Jones and Don Mackenzie.

Late Arrivals: None

Early Departures: None

15/07 - **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** An apology for absence had been received from Councillor Andrew Jones.
(5.35 pm)

16/07 - **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** No declarations of interest were made at the meeting.

17/07 - **MINUTES:** The Minutes of the meeting of Cabinet held on 30 May 2007 were unanimously approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.
(5.36 pm)

18/07 - **EXEMPT INFORMATION:** There were no exempt information items.
(5.36 pm)

MATTER REFERRED TO COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION

19/07 - **THE HARROGATE DISTRICT CORE STRATEGY:** Further to Cabinet Minute 06/07, the Head of Planning Services submitted his report and proposed Harrogate District Core Strategy of the Local Development Framework. The Strategy had been considered by the District Development Committee (DDC) at its meeting held on 11 June 2007 and the Committee's Minutes had been circulated previously. The Committee's recommendations on each of the policies detailed in the Strategy and amendments proposed to certain of the core strategy objectives were outlined in those Minutes. The Officer circulated at the meeting an update on the document following its consideration by the Committee and reported on those issues where Officers did not support the recommendations made by the DDC. The update also detailed further changes proposed by Officers.

Members considered each of the issues in the update and the Cabinet Member for Planning & Transport also reported. Cabinet's deliberations were as follows, as confirmed in its recommendations to Council:

Policy SG1 - Settlement Growth - Housing Distribution

Members had either served on or attended the meeting of DDC preceding this meeting and it was noted that the Committee had recommended the Harrogate & Knaresborough Urban Extension Study for approval by the Cabinet Member for

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Planning and Transport on 15 August, 2007. It was also noted that an additional change detailed in the Update had now been withdrawn by Officers.

Policy HLP1 - Affordable Housing Provision - Single Dwelling Developments

The Cabinet Member for Planning and Transport will determine the details of how the policy will operate, and whether there should be exemptions, on 15 August 2007. The Committee had approved the policy and had accepted a flat rate figure of £35,000 for payment of financial contributions for affordable housing but did not wish any exemptions to be made for family members.

It was agreed by Cabinet, however, to support a future decision by the Cabinet Member to allow deferrals of payment in exceptional cases for family members.

Policy HLP5 - Replacement of Restricted Occupancy Conditions

The DDC had recommended the addition of the words 'in perpetuity' to this policy. Officers did not support this as government policy was clear that those words should only be used and their implications brought into effect for rural exception sites.

Cabinet agreed that the words 'in perpetuity' should not be added to the policy.

Policy TRA1 - Accessibility

The DDC had recommended the deletion of the words 'particularly those in rural areas' from Objective 14. Officers did not support this but did recommend revised wording for the Objective in the light of further scrutiny of the Harrogate District Community Plan.

Cabinet agreed that Objective 14 be amended to read:

'To retain and improve access for all, particularly those disadvantaged groups, to key services of health, education, employment, food shopping, community facilities and recreation.'

Policy SG4 - Settlement Growth - Design and Impact

Cabinet agreed the insertion of the words 'this Core Strategy' between 'national planning policy' and 'or an allocation for development' in the third bullet point of the policy.

Policy SG5 - Managed Release of Housing

Cabinet agreed the policy be reworded from 'Supplementary Planning Document' onwards to read:

'if the Council's housing trajectory indicates that the following thresholds are met and action is needed to avoid significant under or over-provision of housing by 2023:

- A 20% deficit in the 5 year supply of deliverable housing sites

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- A 10% under or overprovision of housing numbers forecast for 2023.

Policy JB3 - Land for Jobs and Business

Cabinet agreed that the first sentence of the policy be reworded as follows:

'From 2005 to 2021, a good range and mix of employment sites will be maintained and enhanced, and provision made for some 45 hectares of employment land. This will be achieved through

Cabinet's formal recommendations to Council were, therefore, as follows:

RECOMMENDED UNANIMOUSLY:

That (1) the Vision, Objectives and Policies contained in the Annex to the report, as amended by District Development Committee subject to the further amendments and decisions made by Cabinet as detailed in the preamble above, be approved for submission to the Secretary of State on 7 September 2007;

(2) the remainder of the text of the Core Strategy contained in the Annex attached to the report be approved, subject to the Head of Planning Services having delegated authority to make minor amendments prior to submission to the Secretary of State;

(3) the arrangements leading up to the examination and adoption of the Core Strategy set out in paragraphs 5.6 to 5.9 of the report be approved; and

(4) the Council pay tribute to the Council's Officers, particularly the Head of Planning Services, Chief Planner (Forward Planning), Planning Policy Manager and Housing Development Officer for the enormous amount of work put into these matters.

(5.35 pm to 6.05 pm)