

16 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME**Report By: Forward Planning Manager****Wards**

Countywide

Purpose

1. To consider the first review of the Council's Local Development Scheme.

Financial Implications

2. None

Introduction

3. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 introduced new provisions and requirements for development planning. One of the requirements placed on local planning authorities is to publish a statement of how their forward planning work will be organised over a three year period – known as the Local Development Scheme. The Scheme must be revised as necessary.
4. The first Scheme for Herefordshire was considered by this Committee in October 2004 and following approval by Cabinet came into effect on 1 January 2005.
5. The Scheme has been reviewed in response to a number of factors and a copy of the revised document is attached for Committee's initial consideration. Informal consultation on the revised Scheme with the Government Office has been undertaken as required by PPS12.

The revised Scheme

6. The revised Scheme has been prepared to reflect the following factors:
 - The forthcoming review of parts of the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS), including housing and employment land provision. The Regional Assembly (Regional Planning Body) is undertaking this review to a timetable which sees submission of a preferred option to Government in Spring 2007 and final approval in Autumn 2008. The Council has a formal role in this process in advising the Regional Planning Body (Spring 2006).

- The likely UDP timetable, with the Inspectors Report expected before July 2006. There will be a need to prepare and publish Proposed Modifications to the Plan in Autumn 2006.
 - The need to establish timetables for proposed Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD) which are to be prepared in parallel to the final stages of the UDP.
 - The need to define more clearly the position of Parish Plans with regard to the Local Development Framework.
7. The revised Scheme includes the following principal amendments:
- Core Strategy: the timetable for the Core Strategy has been revised to avoid conflicts with the likely UDP timetable, particularly the expected Proposed Modifications consultation in Autumn 2006, and to follow on the RSS revisions, so that the Core Strategy can be prepared on the basis of the most up to date regional policies;
 - Supplementary Planning Documents: timetables have been established for new SPD's including those for Edgar Street Grid and for planning obligations.
 - Parish Plans to be adopted as further planning guidance to the UDP rather than as SPG/SPD. This follows the approach recently established with the Parish Plans for Eardisley Group Parish and Almeley.
8. There are no changes to the programme for the Statement of Community Involvement.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Committee endorse the Local Development Scheme and recommend its approval to Cabinet by the Cabinet Member (Environment).