

## **Officer Executive Decisions**

### **Medway Local Plan**

On 24 November 2015 the Cabinet considered an Issues and Options consultation document, which had been produced to undertake the initial formal consultation stage in the preparation of the new Medway Local Plan.

It was explained that the new Local Plan would cover the period up to 2035 and set the strategic direction for development in Medway through updated land allocations and policies. In developing the new plan, it was essential that the Council assembled a comprehensive evidence base and demonstrated clearly that it had assessed all realistic alternative options for meeting Medway's development needs over the plan period. The aim at this stage, therefore, was to gather information from local communities and wider stakeholders on their views of what the new plan should contain.

The Issues and Options consultation document did not set out detailed policies or identify specific sites for development. Rather, it presented the key contextual matters that would be the drivers for the new Local Plan and was structured around the key themes of Housing, Economy, Environment, Natural Resources, Infrastructure and Delivery.

The Cabinet approved:

- a) an eight week period of statutory consultation on the Issues and Options document for the purpose of preparing a new Local Plan for Medway.
- b) the implementation of a strategic access scheme as set out in the interim policy statement at Appendix 6 of the report for the purpose of addressing the potential of damage to the Special Protection Areas and Ramsar sites on the Thames, Medway and Swale estuaries.
- c) the authority's collection of a tariff of £223.58 (index linked) per dwelling on development consents to fund the strategic access management and mitigation scheme, and to participate in the governance, coordination and implementation of the scheme.

A copy of the report, appendices and Record of Decisions are available via the following link:

<http://democracy.medway.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=115&MId=3164&Ver=4>

### **Delegation from Leader and Cabinet and date:**

In addition to the decisions outlined above the Cabinet delegated authority to the Director of Regeneration, Community and Culture, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Economic Growth and Regulation, to allow minor changes to the Issues and Options document prior to consultation for the purpose of presentation or improving clarity.

## Officer Executive Decisions

### Decision:

A couple of minor changes were made to the document to correct question numbering and in producing the consultation version for the website some minor design work that included images, content list and section breaks but no changes were made to other text.

The final documents have now been published on the Council's website:  
<http://www.medway.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningpolicy/localplan2012-2035.aspx>

**Reasons for Decision:** To progress the preparation of the new Medway Local Plan in line with the report to Cabinet on 24 November 2015.

**Date of Decision:** 4 January 2016

### Officer:

Catherine Smith  
Planning Manager – Policy  
Housing and Regeneration  
Gun Wharf  
Email: [catherine.smith@medway.gov.uk](mailto:catherine.smith@medway.gov.uk)

**Details of any other options considered and rejected:** *Not applicable*

**Conflicts of Interest:** *Not applicable.*