

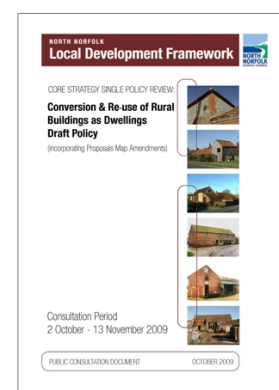
This newsletter is published each quarter to provide an update on the North Norfolk Local Development Framework. Previous newsletters can be viewed at www.northnorfolk.org/ldf



Draft documents in the spotlight

Examination of the Site Specific Proposals Draft Plan & Conversion & Re-use of Rural Buildings as Dwellings Draft Policy

On 5 March 2010 the above documents were submitted to Government. The Planning Inspectorate has since appointed Paul Dobsen as the Inspector to conduct an examination of the documents. A series of hearing sessions are due to take place at the Council offices in late July / early August to allow key issues to be debated.



The Examination Process...

The Inspectors job is to assess the 'soundness' of the documents and ensure that they met the statutory requirements during their preparation. In order to do this he will apply a range of tests (see table below).

...What about my comments?

The Inspector has all of the comments submitted during the relevant consultation periods last year. These will generally be considered by the Inspector as '**written representations**', and will not need to be debated at a formal hearing. However, some of the representations do need to be debated at a hearing session, and the Inspector has drawn up a programme for these to take place. All information regarding the examination and the hearing sessions can be found at: www.northnorfolk.org/ldf/examination

The Tests of Soundness

Is the document:

Legally Compliant - did it comply with the appropriate regulations during preparation?

Justified - was the document / policy / site allocation produced on a robust and credible evidence base involving community consultation and factual research? and; are the sites the most appropriate when considered against reasonable alternatives?

Effective - can the document /policy /site allocation actually be delivered? Are there any barriers preventing aspects of the document / development from being achieved?

Consistent with National Policy - does the document accord with national guidance, aims and objectives?

The Inspector will consider all evidence equally. Written representations will be treated with the same level of importance as the evidence being discussed at the hearing sessions.

To aid his decisions, the Inspector has asked a range of additional questions which will be discussed at the hearings. The Council, and anybody challenging the Council over the soundness of a document, also had the opportunity to respond to these questions and, if they wish, to appear at the examination hearings. These statements are available to view at: www.northnorfolk.org/ldf/library (see sections J2 & J3).

The Examination is a public process and is therefore open to all public and media who wish to observe the proceedings.

If you have any queries about the Examination please contact **Hayley Cawthorne** (Programme Officer) on 01263 516313 or hayley.cawthorne@north-norfolk.gov.uk

...What next?

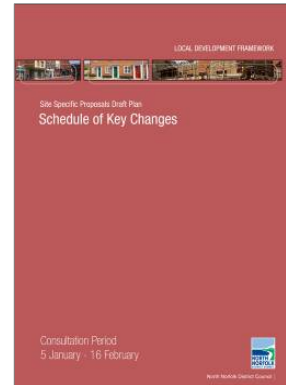
Following completion of the hearings, the Inspector will prepare a report for submission to the District Council. It is anticipated that the report will be available by December/January. The Council is required to accept the recommendations in the report, although any significant issues could be challenged through the High Court.

'Key Changes' Consultation Update

* Aldborough * Briston * Little Snoring * Sheringham * Stalham * Weybourne *

Following the public consultation on the Site Specific Proposals Draft Plan (June/July 2009) there were a number of changes proposed to the Plan which the Council felt should be available for public comment prior to examination. These 'Key Changes' were available to comment from **5 January to 16 February 2010**. 68 comments were submitted from 56 individuals and organisations.

The Key Changes and all comments received will be considered by the Inspector as part of the Site Specific Proposals examination process.



Changes to Regional Planning

The Coalition Government has announced its intention to rapidly abolish Regional Plans, subject to Parliamentary approval. The previous system of preparing new planning documents meant that North Norfolk District Council needed to conform to the aims and targets set out in the Regional Plan (known as the East of England Plan). Under the new plans, elements like housing numbers, gypsy & traveller site provision, policies on affordable housing, sustainable construction & energy generation etc would be set locally.



You can learn more about how this affects North Norfolk by viewing our report to the LDF Working Party on Monday 28 June 2010 - see www.northnorfolk.org/ldfwp

Five-Year Housing Land Supply Statement & SHLAA

The Statement of Five Year Housing Land Supply, Housing Trajectory and Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) are important background documents to the LDF. They provide an indication of how the Council is performing against housing targets, how much land is, and will be, available for new development, the impacts of the economic slow down on housing provision in the district, and, what rates of development are expected in the future.

Both documents have recently been published and can be viewed here: <http://www.northnorfolk.org/planning/456.asp>

Finding out more...

☎ 01263 516318 or 01263 516321



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