

News Item for Local Joint Committees

Shropshire Core Strategy Consultation on the 'Policy Directions' document

The Core Strategy is the first document to be prepared as part of Shropshire's new Local Development Framework. It will set out a clear, long term vision for the future pattern of development across Shropshire, and include a range of strategic objectives and policies with which to guide decisions on planning applications.

Earlier this year Shropshire Council consulted the public on the first important stage of the preparation of the county's new Core Strategy; the 'Issues and Options' document. The Council received over 5000 separate responses from more than 400 organisations and members of the public. These comments have now been assessed and have been used to feed into the preparation of the next key stage of the Core Strategy's development; the '**Policy Directions**' document.

The 'Policy Directions' document sets out our preferred approach to future development priorities, including the overall distribution of development around the County, and provides an indication of the policy themes we will be developing over the next few months. This document is not the final Core Strategy and does not yet contain policies. Therefore it remains very important we carry on hearing the views of local communities as we continue to prepare the Core Strategy. The 'Policy Directions' document is open for consultation between **Monday 10 August and Friday 2 October**.

We will shortly be arranging a series of public meetings to allow people to find out more information, to ask questions, and to make comments on the 'Policy Directions' document. These meetings are open to everyone and there is no need to reserve a place. Visit the Shropshire Council Planning webpages at www.shropshire.gov.uk/planning.nsf for more information. Additionally, and on request, officers from the Planning Policy team will be happy to attend LJC meetings to provide more information.

The consultation on the Core Strategy is being planned jointly with the Shropshire Partnership as they continue to consult on the draft Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS). These two documents are closely linked, with the SCS setting out the key priorities for the county and the Core Strategy translating these priorities into a set of strategic planning policies. It is therefore important that people seek to get involved and have their say on both these documents.

For more information on the Core Strategy consultation please visit www.shropshire.gov.uk/planning.nsf.

For more information on the Sustainable Community Strategy consultation please visit www.2shrop.net/shropshirepartnership.