

DLP BRIEFING NOTE 41

Prepared by
DLP Planning Ltd

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West Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit Core Strategy

The pre submission stage of the West Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit's Core Strategy was approved by members of the West Northamptonshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee at their meeting on 31st January 2011.

Members approved the Core Strategy for public consultation, prior to it being submitted to the Secretary of State for independent examination by an Inspector. There will be the usual six week consultation period, starting on 17th February 2011.

The Joint Core Strategy will be the long term strategic plan for the development of Daventry District, Northampton Borough and South Northamptonshire Councils' administrative areas. It sets out a vision for the area up to 2026, including strategic policies for steering and shaping development. It identifies specific locations for strategic housing and employment, changes to transport infrastructure, and other supporting community facilities, as well as defining where development will be restricted.

Key Proposals

The strategy makes provision for 50,150 new homes between 2001 and 2026 - a significant reduction from the Regional Spatial Strategy requirement of 62,125 homes. Over 15,500 of these have already been built, and planning permission has been granted for a further 13,000 homes. The residual requirement is therefore 21,500 homes by 2026.

The Core Strategy also makes provision for a minimum net increase of 16,000 jobs between 2010 and 2026. Policies are to support the creation of a more diverse economic base.

Key strategic site allocations, referred to in the Core Strategy as *Sustainable Urban Extensions*, comprise:

- Northampton Kings Heath
- Northampton North
- Northampton North of Whitehills
- Northampton South
- Northampton South of Brackmills
- Northampton Upton Park
- Northampton West
- Daventry North East
- Towcester South
- Brackley East
- Brackley North

Daventry Masterplan and Village Design Statement

At the same time, Daventry District Council has appointed consultants to prepare a Masterplan for the long-term growth of Daventry to 2040. The Masterplan will have a more conceptual and strategic outlook than any work undertaken previously, and will be driven by stakeholder engagement and public consultation. The views of the public will form the basis of the vision and objectives contained in the final Masterplan. A series of stakeholder workshops have already been held; these outputs are currently being considered, with a view to producing a draft report for wider public consultation in early 2011.

New Guidance on Sustainable Design

WNDC has also recently published guidance showing how UK developers can keep pace with the fast-moving sustainability agenda, whilst delivering profitable schemes. This document is an investigation into the potential economic, social and environmental advantages of site wide infrastructure for residential development. The guidance is entitled ***Integrated Sustainable Design Solution - Developer Guidelines*** and can be viewed on the West Northamptonshire Development Corporation website¹.

Summary

This briefing note is an update on the progress of policy and documents within the West Northamptonshire area. The largest item featured is the Core Strategy, which once adopted, will form part of the Local Development Framework (LDF). In order to protect your development interest in the District, input into this document is crucial, even at this latter stage of preparation. Upon adoption it will provide the overarching strategy, vision and objectives for development for the city up to 2026.

If you would be interested in DLP Planning submitting representations on your behalf in respect of the Joint Core Strategy, or would like to discuss anything else featured within this briefing note, then please do not hesitate to contact us.

¹ <http://www.wndc.org.uk/publications/>

If you require more information or would like to discuss the issues mentioned in further detail please contact:

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