

North  
Northamptonshire  
Joint Core Strategy  
Update

**DLP BRIEFING NOTE 125**

Prepared by  
**DLP Planning Consultants**

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## **North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy Update**

The original timetable for progress of the Joint Core Strategy (JCS) has been delayed by six months due to the 'Call-In' of the proposed Rushden Lakes out-of-town retail/leisure development application.

North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit (JPU) had intended to consult on the draft plan this spring, but the Joint Committee agreed at its meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> March that this must wait until the Rushden Lakes Public Inquiry has been determined by the Secretary of State. The Public Inquiry is due to take place in late June-July 2013 and a decision is expected in November-December 2013.

It is expected that the **consultation on the Pre-submission draft will take place in February-March 2014. The draft is due to be submitted in May 2014 and the EIP is due to take place in June 2014.**

### **Interim Housing Policy Statement**

In the meantime, and in the light of the proposed revocation of the RSS, an Interim Housing Policy Statement will be prepared to maintain a 5 year supply of deliverable housing sites.

**Consultation on this will take place in May-June 2013.**

**The Interim Housing Policy Statement (IHPS) will:**

- a. **Set out evidence associated with the 'objectively assessed' need for housing in the North Northamptonshire Housing Market Area.** In advance of the JCS, the dwelling requirement will be based on the official 2011 CLG Household Projections. The JPU projects, based on the current (2008 based) household projections, a requirement for some 34,100 new homes between 2011 and 2031 (compared to 55,900 if the RSS targets were to be rolled forward).

- b. **Give 'revised district housing requirements' based on the spatial strategy in the adopted Core Spatial Strategy**, which focuses development on the Growth Towns (Corby in particular) and reduces levels of housing growth in East Northamptonshire compared to past trends. The proposed interim policy will seek to distribute the total housing requirement in the same proportions as the adopted Core Spatial Strategy (CSS) (any change to this spatial strategy will have to be made through the JCS). Given that the overall requirement will be reduced, this approach will, for all districts, result in a lower 5 year housing requirement than in the adopted CSS;
  
- c. **Identify the housing sites that are preferred by the Councils to provide a deliverable 5 year supply** (plus a buffer required by the NPPF) against the minimum housing requirements established by the JPU. Sites will be drawn from emerging site specific development plan documents, district housing trajectories in the Annual Monitoring Report and 'preferred' sites from the emerging Strategic Housing land Availability Assessment.

Notably it is proposed that some districts may also wish to use the interim policy statement to address gypsy and traveller requirements and allocate sites accordingly.

The IHPS is intended to be used for development control purposes, and will as such be a tool used extensively by the respective LPAs.

For more information on this and also for advice on any aspects related to the Joint Core Strategy or general planning matters please contact us.

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

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