

Subject:	Update on Core Strategy	Status:	For Publication
Report to:	Policy Overview and Scrutiny	Date:	13 th June 2011
Report of:	Planning Manager	Portfolio Holder:	Regeneration
Key Decision:	<input type="checkbox"/> Forward Plan <input type="checkbox"/>	General Exception	<input type="checkbox"/> Special Urgency <input type="checkbox"/>
Community Impact Assessment:	Required:	No	Attached: No
Biodiversity Impact Assessment	Required:	No	Attached: No
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1.	RECOMMENDATION(S)
1.1	To note the contents of the Report.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 To update members of the progress towards adoption of Rossendale's Core Strategy Development Plan Document

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- 3.1 The matters discussed in this report impact directly on the following corporate priorities:
- **A clean and green Rossendale** – creating a better environment for all.
 - **A healthy and successful Rossendale** – supporting vibrant communities and a strong economy.
 - **Responsive and value for money local services** – responding to and meeting the different needs of customers and improving the cost effectiveness of services.

4. RISK ASSESSMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no specific risk issues for members to consider arising from this report.

5. BACKGROUND AND OPTIONS

- 5.1 Members may recall that the Council in December 2010 submitted the Core Strategy Development Plan Document for examination to the Secretary of State for Local Communities. The appointed Planning Inspector, Mr R Punshon, subsequently held a series of Hearing sessions between 5th and 13th April 2011.
- 5.2 Following on from these Hearings the Inspector has recommended the Council undertake a further round of consultation. The form of this consultation was finalised at a further session held with interested parties on 3rd May 2011, and is intended to focus on a number of key issues:
- The Government's proposed revocation of the Regional Spatial Strategy for the North West
 - The Government's *Plan For Growth* agenda, as set out in the Budget Statement of March 2011.
 - Proposed changes to the Submission version Core Strategy DPD identified before and during the Hearing sessions

It should be made clear that this is not a consultation on the whole document, just those changes that the Council is putting forward that are contained in the *Schedule of Proposed*

Changes – Post EiP Hearings (May 2011).

- 5.3 Consultation commenced on Monday 16th May and will last for 6 weeks, ending at 5pm on Monday 27th June. The Council will collate and address all responses received and forward these onto the Inspector for consideration in preparing his Binding Report. Approximately 600 companies, organisations and individuals have been notified of this consultation.
- 5.4 Particularly significant changes that are being proposed include: identifying broad areas where it may be necessary to review the Green Belt boundary and clarifying how this will be done; providing for 3,770 additional new homes over the plan period 2011 to 2026; and providing a more detailed housing trajectory over the three 5-year phases of the 15 year plan period. All targets, triggers, indicators and contingencies have also been updated.
- 5.5 This consultation will help the Inspector in writing up his Report, which will be binding on the Council. It is anticipated that the Inspector's Report will be sent to the Council in mid summer.

COMMENTS FROM STATUTORY OFFICERS:

6. SECTION 151 OFFICER

- 6.1 The Council has identified £233k of resources within its 2011/12 revenue budget to support the Forward Planning service. In addition, as at the end of 31st March 2011, the remaining balance in earmarked reserves to support the completion of the Core Strategy totalled £78k

7. MONITORING OFFICER

- 7.1 No comments to make arising from this Report

8. HEAD OF PEOPLE AND POLICY (ON BEHALF OF THE HEAD OF PAID SERVICE)

- 8.1 No Human Resources implications arising from the Report

9. CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT

- 9.1 All members were notified immediately prior to the consultation which commenced on Monday 16th May. The consultation currently being undertaken is in line with the Council's adopted Statement of Community Involvement, which reflects the appropriate Regulations for consultation on a Development Plan Document.

10. CONCLUSION

- 10.1 The Inspector will consider all representations received during this re-consultation period. It is possible that a further Hearing session will be arranged following this consultation, for any respondents who wish to attend an oral Hearing, though it is expected that most respondents will wish to rely on their written representations. The Inspector is intending to issue his Report to the Council over the summer and approval will then be sought to adopt the Core Strategy DPD, which will provide the over-arching strategy for development within Rossendale.

Background Papers

Document	Place of Inspection
Post EiP – Schedule of Proposed Changes	http://www.rossendale.gov.uk/corestrategy
	One Stop Shop, Lord St, Rawtenstall
	Rossendale libraries