

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL - RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TAKEN BY

Bryan Sweetland, Cabinet Member
Environment, Highways & Waste

DECISION NO.

12/01967

If decision is likely to disclose exempt information please specify the relevant paragraph(s) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972

Subject:

Gravesham Local Plan: Regulation 19 Proposed Submission Core Strategy (December 2012) - Response by Kent County Council

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways and Waste I hereby agree that the County Council should submit the views detailed in the attached report to Gravesham Borough Council in response to their consultation on the Gravesham Local Plan Core Strategy (Regulation 19).

Reason(s) for decision

The decision is being taken to ensure that Kent County Council's views are known to the Borough Council in developing and adopting their planning policies.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation

The decision takes into account points made at the Environment, Highways & Waste Cabinet Committee on 10th January 2013 and the resolution that the Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways and Waste be recommended to approve the proposed representations from KCC set out below.

The report to the EHW Cabinet Committee recommended that KCC:-

- (a) welcomed the distribution of development proposed in Policy CS02 and confirmation that the Green Belt, as defined on the Policies Map, would be maintained and protected;
- (b) supported the target of 4,600 dwellings as a minimum to 2028, which might be exceeded if further suitable development sites came forward that were not in the Green Belt;
- (c) confirmed its support for the residential development of land West of Wrotham Road as identified in the 2011 consultation on options;
- (d) supported the general approach to affordable housing and to the provision of Gypsy and Traveller sites in Policies CS16 and 17, but objected to use of the Green Belt;
- (e) supported Gravesham Borough Council's target for jobs, and its economic vision and strategy set out in Policies CS02 and CS07 which were consistent with the National Planning Policy Framework requirement to support economic growth. However, Policy CS03 should support the investigation of large scale leisure use for Swanscombe Peninsula East Undeveloped Area;
- (f) supported the approach to retail development in Policy CS08 as consistent with the priority to be given to town centres in the National Planning Policy Framework;
- (g) supported the KCC social infrastructure projects in the Infrastructure Delivery Schedule;
- (h) supported the approach to transport in the submission Core Strategy, subject to amendments to the text of the Core Strategy to clarify the need for public transport

connections to both classic and high-speed rail services from Ebbsfleet and Gravesend stations. Reference should be made to the Transport Quarter and to the Rathmore Road Link, which was the subject of a planning application. Further work on the options to provide additional capacity for the Thames crossing, and the implications of an extension to the Bluewater retail centre plus the possibility of a major leisure development on Swanscombe Peninsula, might require an early review of the Core Strategy transport provision and policies

(i) objected to the absence of a policy commitment in the local plan to safeguard Red Lion Wharf as an aggregates importation wharf, and to safeguard all existing, planned and potential mineral wharves; and

(j) supported Policy CS12 as it complied with national policy for the preservation, restoration and re-creation of priority habitats and ecological networks.

In addition to the discussion with the EHW Cabinet Committee the local KCC Members for Gravesham were asked to comment on this response.

Any alternatives considered

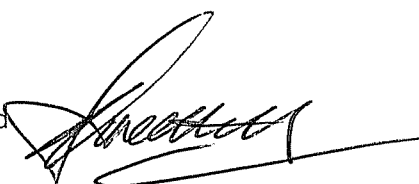
Not applicable

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer

None

Supporting Documents

- Gravesham Borough Council - Proposed Submission Core Strategy (December 2012)
<http://localplan.gravesham.gov.uk/consult.ti/Regulation19/consultationHome>
- Report to Environment, Highways & Waste Cabinet Committee – 10 January 2013
<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/documents/s37504/Item%20B1%20-%20Gravesham.pdf>
- Officer report to the Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways & Waste - 25th January 2013 (attached to record of decision)

Signed 

Date: 28/1/2013

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Decision Referred to Cabinet Scrutiny			
YES		NO	

Cabinet Scrutiny Decision to Refer Back for Reconsideration			
YES		NO	

Reconsideration Record Sheet Issued			
YES		NO	

Reconsideration of Decision Published			