

## SOUTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE JOINT STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

- Report of:** The South East Lincolnshire Joint Policy Unit Manager
- To:** South East Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee –  
2 August 2013
- Author:** Gary Alexander, Joint Policy Unit Manager
- Subject:** Public consultation on the Combined Preferred Options and  
Sustainability Appraisal Report (3 May 2013 – 28 June 2013)
- Purpose:** To provide information on the initial results of the public  
consultation exercise

### **Recommendation:**

That Members note the contents of this report and the attached Appendix containing the list of names submitting comments.

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 Members will recall that, at its meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2013, the South East Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee (the Joint Committee) resolved to approve the contents of the **Combined Preferred Options and Sustainability Appraisal Report** (Committee Version [April 2013]) for the purpose of public consultation subject to making a small number of amendments. At the same meeting, the Joint Committee also approved a Consultation Strategy for guiding the public consultation exercise on the Combined Preferred Options and Sustainability Appraisal Report.
- 1.2 The public consultation period commenced on Friday, 3 May 2013 and ran until Friday, 28 June. The nature of this public consultation exercise and a summary of the main issues arising from it and how they have been taken into account will inform the preparation of a 'Statement of Public Participation'. This will form part of the suite of documents that will eventually be submitted to the Secretary of State in relation to the independent examination of the Strategy and Policies Development Plan Document.

## **2.0 INITIAL RESULTS OF THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

- 2.1 The month of May was taken up with a series of officer-manned exhibitions at fourteen locations across South East Lincolnshire. These were supplemented by two permanent exhibitions held at the offices of Boston Borough Council and South Holland District Council which ran for the full duration of the consultation period. The number of people attending the mobile exhibitions is set out below in **Table 1: Local Plan Exhibition Attendances** .

**Table 1: Local Plan Exhibition Attendances**

| <b>Boston Borough Venues</b>         | <b>Number of Visitors</b> |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Butterwick                           | 7                         |
| Old Leake                            | 8                         |
| Kirton                               | 13                        |
| Sutterton                            | 11                        |
| Swineshead                           | 60                        |
| Wyberton                             | 21                        |
| <b>Total</b>                         | <b>120</b>                |
| <b>South Holland District Venues</b> |                           |
| Crowland                             | 13                        |
| Deeping St Nicholas                  | 38                        |
| Donington                            | 4                         |
| Gedney Hill                          | 9                         |
| Holbeach                             | 25                        |
| Long Sutton                          | 42                        |
| Pinchbeck                            | 17                        |
| Sutton Bridge                        | 6                         |
| <b>Total</b>                         | <b>154</b>                |
| <b>South East Lincolnshire Total</b> | <b>274</b>                |

- 2.2 155 individuals and organisations submitted a total of 1,409 separate comments. A **List of names submitting comments** is set out in **Appendix A**.
- 2.3 The nature of these comments has been summarised below in **Table 2 : General Nature of Comments**. The full content of all the comments received, amounting to some 830 pages, is available to view on the Local Plan website.

**Table 2: General Nature of Comments**

| <b>Part of Combined Preferred Options and Sustainability Appraisal Report</b> | <b>Number of comments</b> |
|---|---------------------------|
| Whole document  | 19                        |
| Introduction  | 2                         |
| Spatial Portrait  | 42                        |
| Vision and Strategic Priorities   | 82                        |
| Housing Growth and Flood Risk   | 132                       |
| Sustainable Development and Spatial Strategy                                  | 248                       |
| Housing (promotion of sites for development)                                  | 50                        |

|                                  |             |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Housing (other matters)          | 439         |
| Economy                          | 126         |
| Environment                      | 120         |
| Community, Health and Well-Being | 43          |
| Transport                        | 62          |
| Delivery                         | 25          |
| Key Diagram                      | 17          |
| Glossary of Terms                | 1           |
| Appendices                       | 1           |
| <b>Total</b>                     | <b>1409</b> |

2.4 A preliminary assessment of the comments received has revealed the following points:

- with the exception of Fenland District Council and Peterborough City Council, most adjoining 'district' local planning authorities did not respond to the consultation;
- very few parish councils responded to the consultation;
- whilst the Environment Agency supports the preferred policy approach relating to a *cap* on additional housing in the ROY zones, it also requests that 'another option.... to reduce the level of housing by a greater percentage would appear to contribute more to achieving the Plan's vision for "flood risk to guide the scale, distribution and nature of development across South East Lincolnshire" ';
- significant opposition from local residents to the proposed Spalding Rail-Freight Interchange; and
- comments relating to the identification of the broad locations for housing development in Boston and Spalding were fewer than expected.

2.5 Members will be updated on progress in the consideration of the comments received at the meeting.

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Background papers:-           None

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**Key Decision:**            No

**Exempt Decision:**    No

**Appendices attached to this report:**

**Appendix A:** List of names submitting comments