

Core Strategy for Chiltern District – CDC/2

Chiltern District Council –Response to Inspectors Preliminary Questions (2) – The Spatial Strategy [ID/2]

9 February 2011

Final

A. Overview

1. The purpose of this Paper is to set out Chiltern District Council's response to the issues and matters raised within the Inspector's Preliminary Questions (2) – The Spatial Strategy (ID/2), received by the Council on the 2nd February 2011.
2. The Inspector identifies a number of areas where further clarification or supplementary information is needed. This Paper therefore aims to clarify some of these matters now but, where further detail needs to be prepared by the Council in advance of the hearing sessions, this Paper also identifies what action will be taken by the Council and the timescale.
3. For ease of reference this Paper has been structured with similar topic headings to that of ID/2:
 - A. Overview
 - B. Further Clarification
 - C. Comments on the Council's Spatial Strategy

B. Further Clarification

4. As set out in Section 2 of ID/2, further information has been requested by the Inspector in respect of the decisions taken by the Council relating to the chosen Spatial Strategy.

[CDC Action 11: A short summary paper will be produced by 11 February 2011 providing the information requested by the Inspector in paragraph 2.1 a) – c) of ID/2.]

C. Comments on the Council's Spatial Strategy

5. The Inspector's observations and comments on the Spatial Strategy within Section 3 of ID/2 are noted. It is however important to provide further clarification on some of matters within this Paper in light of these observations and comments.
6. The Council is satisfied that the provision of the additional information described in CDC Action 10, will help the Inspector understand further how the chosen spatial strategy, as articulated in the Core Strategy for Chiltern District Submission Document (CDN105), evolved, was decided on and was consulted on between June 2008 and November 2010.
7. The Council recognises that when a comparison is made between the chosen spatial strategy within the Core Strategy and the four strategic options/scenarios established within CDN049, the chosen strategy is now more closely aligned to Scenario/Option 1 than Scenario 3 (approved by the Cabinet 30 September 2008). As recognised by the Inspector this is because the Council's chosen spatial strategy within the Core Strategy no longer incorporates the release of Green Belt land to meet its housing target. This decision was made by the Council's Cabinet at its meeting on

14 April 2009. Refer to Cabinet papers on the Submission DVD (CDN060) and further information to follow in respect of CDC Action 11.

8. It is therefore accepted that the further clarification on this matter could usefully be incorporated into the Core Strategy. It is considered that the focus of any proposed minor alteration to the text should provide a clear explanation of what the Council's chosen spatial strategy is now, as opposed to setting out unnecessary detail about the alternatives considered and how the Council's strategy has evolved over time.

[CDC Action 12: Suggest minor alterations to the text within Chapter 7 of the Core Strategy along the lines suggested in Paragraph 8 of this Paper. These changes will be incorporated into the further Schedule of Proposed Minor Changes described in CDC Action 1 of CDC/1]

Chiltern District Council

9 February 2010