

COUNCIL - JANUARY 5 2010

LDF CORE STRATEGY DRAFT FOR SUBMISSION

The following is a schedule of amendments to the Core Strategy put forward in response to comments received including those from Environment Select Committee and the LDF Advisory Group and informal discussion with GOSE.

Para 2.1.14: Amend first sentence to read, "*Unemployment in the District is relatively low at 2.1% (October 2009) compared to 3.0% for the South East, though in common with other areas it has risen due to the impact of the recession.*"

Para 3.2.7: Add a summary of the Transport Strategy priorities.

Para 3.2.18: Expand first sentence to explain that key issues have been identified from the key influences listed earlier, including the Community Strategy and background research.

Para 3.3.1: The Vision. Amend the first line of para 3 to read: "*The high quality natural, built and historic environment will be conserved and enhanced.*"

Para 3.3.2: Expand this section to list all the Core Strategy objectives, (relocated from chapters 4 and 5) with brief explanatory text explaining that the objectives are derived from the vision and inform the development of policies.

Para 3.3.3: Add additional short paragraph on delivery explaining that the vision and objectives are delivered through the policies and the related delivery mechanisms listed for each policy. Re-title implementation sections as "Delivery". (To make explicit how the Core Strategy is to be delivered)

Para 4.1: Delete "main" from the first objective on safeguarding the countryside around the District's towns and villages. (for clarification)

Para 4.1.15. Insert correct paragraph number for London Fringe (currently 3.2.2.)

Para 4.1.17 Table 2: Increase "Other Settlements" and "Total" figures for housing by 30 to 1,159 and 3,561 respectively and make consequential amendments to figures in the remainder of the document. (to allow for the inclusion of the former Churchill School site in Westerham which the Allocations document proposes for housing development).

Para 4.2.17: Amend first sentence to read, "*Sevenoaks has a successful town centre although it faces competition from other larger centres outside the District and, in common with other town centres has suffered from an increase in vacant premises due to the recession.*" (in response to comments from the Environment Select Committee that reference should be made to the recession)

Policy LO1 Targets. Add target for proportion of development on previously developed land

Policies LO2, LO4, LO6 and LO7: Amend relevant section to read: "Existing *suitable* employment sites will be retained..." (in response to comments from the Environment Select Committee, recognising that a few existing employment sites are not considered suitable for retention)

Policy LO6: Add "*only*" before "*if required to maintain a five year supply.*"

Item No. 4

Policy LO6. Implementation: Amend to read, “*The reserve land will not be considered for release until after 2015.*”

Policy LO8: Amend start of the final paragraph to read, “Development that supports the maintenance and diversification of the rural economy including *development for agriculture*, small scale business development and rural tourism...” (in response to comments from the Environment Select Committee that agriculture should be recognised in the policy)

Policy SP1: In the final sentence add “*historic buildings, landscapes and outstanding views*” to the assets and replace “protected and enhanced” with “*conserved*”. (in response to comments from the Environment Select Committee and CPRE)

Policy SP1 Implementation: Add “*Secured by Design principles will be applied in assessing development*” (in response to a comment from Kent Police)

Policy SP2: Amend first line of policy to read: “The District will *contribute to reducing* the causes and effects of climate change...” (in response to comments from the Environment Select Committee)

Policy SP3: Amend point 4 to read, “In residential developments of less than 5 units that involve a net gain in the number of units a financial contribution *based on the equivalent of 10% affordable housing* will be required towards improving affordable housing provision off-site.” (This brings the wording from para 5.3.9 into the policy to clarify the requirement)

Policy SP5: Add in first sentence “*evidence of local need*” to the factors to be taken into account. (in response to comments from the Environment Select Committee)

Para 5.3.33: Add new sentence at end. “*All figures in the policy refer to net density.*” (Clarification in response to a comment from KCC)

Policy SP7: Replace “will” with “*may*” in last line (in response to comments from the Environment Select Committee)

Policy SP8: Amend point c) to refer to “*tourist facilities*” rather than tourist accommodation. (to be consistent with other policies)

Section 5.6: Amend objective to add: “*and improve provision where necessary.*” (reflecting that the intention is to improve provision in areas of deficiency as well as retain existing open space)