

COUNCIL CABINET

18 May 2004.

Report of the Chair of the Planning and Environment Commission

Local Development Frameworks

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council Cabinet considers the comments of the Commission as detailed in Section 3.2 of this report

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

2. The Commission's comments relate to what are seen as key points in the report of the Director of Development and Cultural Services

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 At their meeting on 15 April 2004 the Planning and Environment Commission considered the Director of Development and Cultural Services report on the changes that the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill will make to the statutory planning system. At the Commission's invitation Mike Kaye, the Assistant Director Development had previously attended its meeting on 4 March 2004 and briefed members on implications of the Local Development Framework (LDF).
- 3.2 After considering the Director's report and the information provided by the Assistant Director Development, the Commission had the following comments to offer to Council Cabinet:
 - a) The Commission was pleased to see the Director of Development and Cultural Services considered that the new framework was based on a less bureaucratic process and more on an inclusive partnership activity. They were also pleased to see the Director felt that a strong element of innovation would be possible.
 - b) The Commission was concerned about the amount of work that the new legislation would generate for the Development and Cultural Services Department. They were anxious that the extra work did not have a detrimental effect on the other work of the Department.
 - c) The Commission had concerns that the Development and Cultural Services Department might not have sufficient personnel resources to complete the work that will be required by the new legislation by 31 March 2007.
 - d) The Commission thought that there might be problems explaining the changes in the legislation to the public and wanted to know how this would be achieved.
 - e) The Commission wondered how the necessary level of public involvement in the Strategy of Community Involvement would be achieved and how this issue could be made interesting to the public. The Commission also wanted to know how the

- Council could ensure that the input it receives from the public reflects the views of the majority of Derby people.
- f) The Commission was very alarmed that having examined the constituent parts of the LDF, the independent inspector might impose recommendations that were not in the best interests of Derby. The views of the Director of Development and Cultural Services on this point would be welcomed.
- g) Finally, the Commission would like to be kept informed of the development of the 'different ways of working' referred to in 3.7 of the Director's report and, where appropriate, to be involved in that process.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4. None.

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Background papers: None

List of appendices: Appendix 1 - Implications

Appendix 1

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

1. None arising from this report.

Legal

2 None arising from this report.

Personnel

3. None arising from this report.

Corporate Objectives and Priorities for Change

4. This report has the potential to impact on all the Council's Corporate Objectives. It will also address some of the Council's Priorities for change, particularly: Promoting the City and Deciding planning applications more quickly.

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