



Customer Impact Review

September 2013

Assessing Equality – The Equality Act 2010

Customer Impact Review

<p>Name and brief description of policy being analysed <i>Briefly summarise the policy including any key information such as aims, context etc; note timescales and milestones for new policies; use plain language – NO JARGON; refer to other documents if required</i></p>	<p>The policy being analysed: Fenland Local Plan - Core Strategy Development Plan Document (Submission Version)</p> <p>Fenland District Council in its role as the Local Planning Authority (LPA) is required to produce a Local Plan, which can include a document known as a Core Strategy. The Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) and Town and County Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 set the requirements for Local Plan preparation. The legislation includes a requirement to invite bodies or persons, as specified, to make representations to the LPA at key preparation stages, also specified. This allows all interested parties the opportunity to submit representations to influence and shape the emerging plan.</p>
<p>Information used for customer analysis <i>Note relevant consultation; who took part and key findings; refer to, or attach other documents if needed; include dates where possible</i> <i>Please also refer to the section of this document below about research and data.</i></p>	<p>The Core Strategy is a strategic planning policy document that establishes a set of principles to guide development in across the whole administrative area of Fenland. Once it has been examined by an independent inspector and has been adopted by the council, the Core Strategy will be used to determine planning applications. The vision for the development of Fenland up to 2031 consists of a series of themes: the local distinctiveness of Fenland, high quality design, heritage, growth and promotion of market towns and villages, health and well being, sustainability and the natural environment, housing, economy, employment and skills, transport and accessibility, climate change, recreation, the rural economy and infrastructure and delivery.</p> <p>The Core Strategy at this stage is known as the ‘Submission’ version. It is the product of these consultations and will now be formally submitted, along with supporting evidence, to a representative of the Secretary of State, known as a Planning Inspector. A public enquiry, with opportunities for interested parties to participate, will then be held during December 2013.</p>
<p>The Main Stakeholders</p>	

Residents of Fenland, people who work in the District; FDC Teams; businesses, landowners, developers, house builders, Internal Drainage Boards, the County Council, parish and town councils, residents associations, community groups, the Environment Agency, Natural England, English Heritage, visitors and utility and service providers. In all consultations the Council has received representations directly or on behalf of all the above groups.

Consultation Information

There have been four consultation periods: Draft 2011, Further Draft 2012, Proposed Submission Feb – April 2013 and the consultation focusing on the changes resulting from the removal of the North-East March Strategic Allocation, known as the proposed submission – addendum June – August 2013. Shortly after the end of each consultation period representations were made available on a consultation portal, accessed through the website. A report summarising all of the issues raised, and proposed actions to address these issues, is also prepare and hosted on the website. Details of the consultation arrangements are available within the Statement of Consultation.

Key Findings

Representations covering the whole of the plan have been submitted during the preparation stages. Key issues have primarily focused around opposition to the proposed strategic allocation at North-East March and the inclusion/non inclusion of various individual sites. There were also relatively minor comments regarding policy wording and supporting text. These issues have been addressed through various alterations (see Proposed Submission version) and the specific addendum consultation – the removal of the Strategic Allocation at the North-East March. Any outstanding issues will now be debated through the examination held by an independent Inspector.

	Could particularly benefit	Neutral	May adversely impact	Explanations	Is action possible or required?	Details of actions or explanations if actions are not possible Please note details of any actions to be placed in your Service Plan
Race	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	In drafting the Core Strategy, officers have considered all of the equality strands. This Customer Impact Assessment does not raise any negative equality issues. Officers have concluded that the Core Strategy will have positive impacts. There is no evidence that the Core Strategy may result in adverse impacts on equality or good community	Y / N	
Sex	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>		Y / N	
Gender reassignment	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>		Y / N	
Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>		Y / N	
Age	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>		Y / N	
Sexual orientation	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>		Y / N	
Religion or belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>		Y / N	

Pregnancy & maternity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	relations. A sustainability Appraisal has also been undertaken and no significant impacts have been identified.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marriage & civil partnership	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Human Rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Socio Economic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Multiple/ Cross Cutting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Outcome(s) of customer analysis

- a) Will the policy/ procedure impact on the whole population of Fenland and/ or identified groups within the population; negative neutral positive
- No major change needed Adjust the policy Adverse impact but continue Stop and remove / reconsider policy

The likely impact of the Local Plan and its policies are positive. Positive impacts of good development and associated facilities and infrastructure that adequately accommodates the planned housing and economic growth. The Core Strategy includes policy to increase the amount of affordable homes and lifetime homes. It discourages the loss of open space and encourages the provision of new open space in new developments. It encourages high quality inclusive design of new developments that can be accessed by all and designed to reduce crime. It protects valued built and natural environments.

Arrangements for future monitoring:

Note when analysis will be reviewed; include any equality indicators and performance against those indicators

The Core Strategy and its accompanying Sustainability Appraisal will be monitored annually, which allows officers to observe impacts on equality and good community relations. If it becomes apparent that the Core Strategy policies are disproportionately having an adverse impact on a section of the community then the policies or the entire document will be reviewed.

Details of any data/ Research used (both FDC & Partners):

Chapter 4 of the Fenland Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) 2009 – 2012 committed its partners to preparing a ‘Shaping Fenland Together’ project (renamed Fenland Neighbourhood Planning Vision). This project has happened in 2010-11, and took a fresh look at developing an integrated approach to understanding the social, economic and environmental issues. The concept was to ensure that the future growth of Fenland is set within an overall context that is sustainable and that delivers real benefits for the local community.

The Fenland Neighbourhood Planning Vision project team considered a wide variety of evidence. It developed an overarching vision that links back to the SCS. The project involved all the key stakeholders such as the Homes and Communities Agency and Cambridgeshire County Council.

A strong technical evidence base is also required to support the policies in the Core Strategy. A large number of studies were undertaken each of which is available on the FDC website.

Completed by:

Name/Position: Allan Simpson, Senior Planning Officer

Approved by: Richard Kay, Neighbourhood Strategy Manager

Date published: 21 August 2013

Details of any Committee approved by (if applicable):

Date endorsed by Members if applicable:

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