

Core Strategy Consultation
Workshop

24 March 2011

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Format of the Workshop

- Brief introductory presentation
 - Followed by Questions and Answers
 - Discussion Groups – 1 hour
 - Facilitator and scribe on each table
 - Opportunity for further Questions and Answers
 - Feedback and comment forms
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- Report of results → LDF Working Group and any specific recommendations to Cabinet

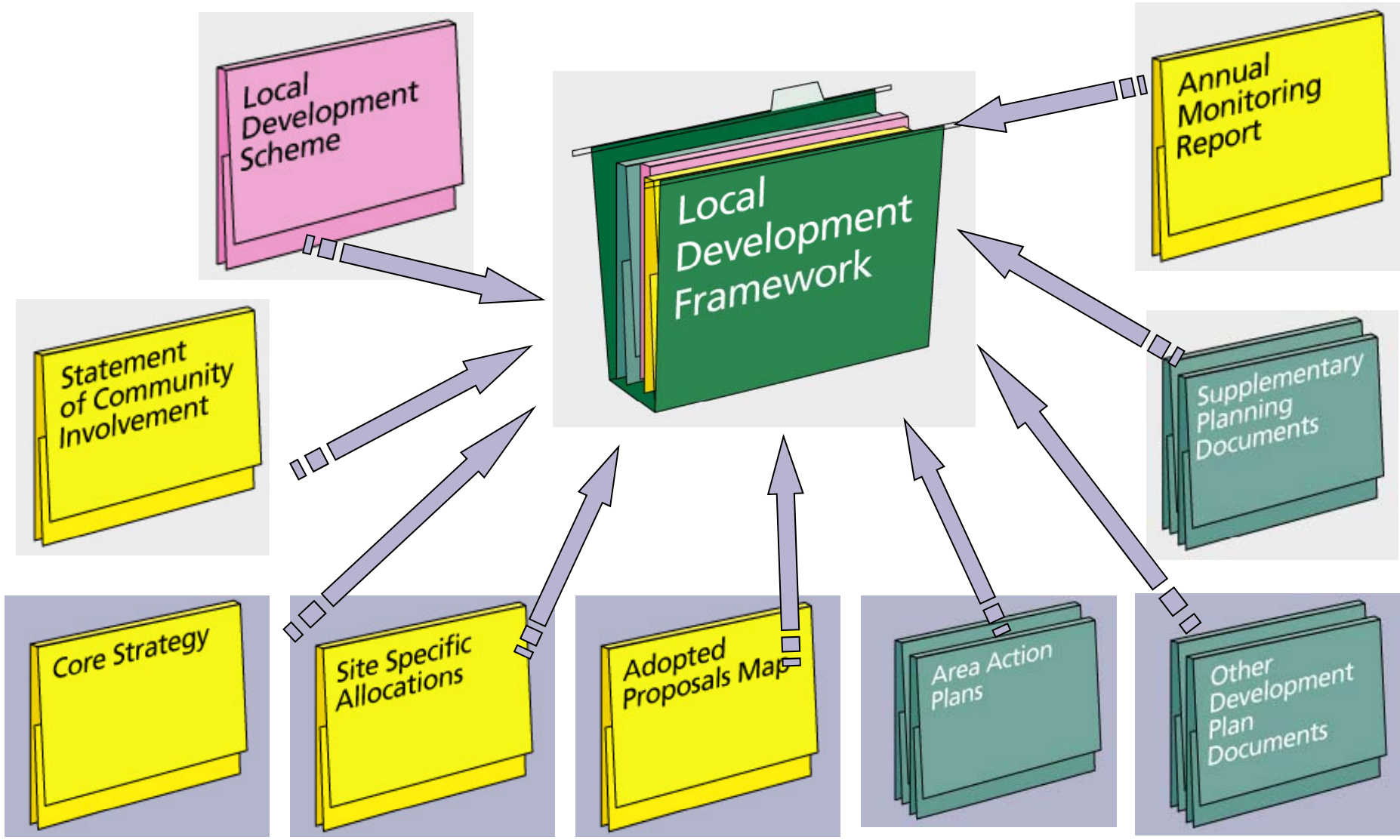
Purpose of the Consultation Workshop

- To seek views and guidance from Town/Parish Councils regarding the strategic direction of the Core Strategy
- Revocation of the RSS and the localism agenda is a key consideration
- Objectives of the session:
 - key issues for the local area
 - Objectives the Core Strategy should deliver
 - format of the Core Strategy – Area Profiles
 - distribution and options for development
 - involvement and consultation
- Three sessions – 11 and 24 March, 1 April

Current position on the Core Strategy

Role of the Core Strategy

- Forms key part of the Local Development Framework
- Requirement to produce an LDF – Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004
- Core Strategy contains strategic planning policies for the District
- Contains proposals for development until 2028



Completed stages of Core Strategy production

1. Issues and Options Stage	May 2007
2. Preferred Option stage	October 2008
3. Revised Preferred Option stage	February 2010

Issues and Options consultation

- Identified the following key issues for the District connected to **‘Securing a Healthy and Attractive Environment’**

Flood risk
Biodiversity
Heritage
Design and distinctiveness
Landscape and countryside

More from the Issues and Options consultation

- Issues identified and connected with **‘Supporting Communities and Individuals’**

Housing needs including affordable housing
Local services provision and improvement
Transport and accessibility
Public confidence and safety
Leisure and culture

More from the Issues and Options consultation

- Issues identified and connected with **‘Promoting the Economy and Employment’**
- Do you agree? Are there others affecting your local area?

Investment
Retail and commerce
Tourism
Lifelong learning and skills

Options for development

- 6 distinct options for development were tested through public consultation in 2007.
- Do you agree? Should there be others considered?

Concentrate in Stratford-upon-Avon
Concentrate in Main Rural Centres
Spread around most towns and villages
A new settlement
Along public transport routes
Large rural brownfield sites

Revised Draft Preferred Option – February 2010

- A 'moderate dispersal' approach
- Based on Panel Report figure – 7500 dwellings (2006 – 2026)
- +2,500-3,000 (2021-2026)
- Do you think this is the best approach?

Stratford upon Avon	2110	40%
Rural Centres	1545	30%
Smaller villages	950	20%
Rural brownfield	500	10%

Feb 2010 Consultation results

Analysis of public consultation results undertaken from February 2010 revealed:

- Support for dispersing development as it allows development to be accommodated in the most sustainable locations, i.e. Stratford and the Main Rural Centres
- Some respondents felt a new settlement approach should be considered but opposition from others.

Consultation results

- Some growth in village locations to keep services/facilities sustained and to provide affordable and local housing.
- Need for adequate infrastructure provision to support growth
- Some infrastructure providers prefer a concentrated approach to the distribution of development
- Debate around the methodology used to determine the status of settlements in the District
- Debate around the need for the housing numbers specified in the RSS – too high v. too low.

National position

The Coalition Government and the Development Plan system

10 November 2010:

- High Court Judgement ruled that the coalition Government had been unlawful in its actions to revoke the RSS without following the proper procedure.
- Adopted RSS re-instated with immediate effect as a part of the development plan.
- Letter issued by CLG to state the Government will continue to revoke the RSS by enacting new legislation and this should be a material consideration.

The Coalition Government and the Development Plan system

- Localism Bill published in December 2010.
- Seeking reform to make the planning system clearer, more democratic and more effective.
- Abolition of the RSS.
- 'Business as usual' with Core Strategy production but also Neighbourhood Plans.
- Clear policy guidance within the Core Strategy will be key to help provide advice to the local community.
- Core Strategy provides strategic framework for Neighbourhood Plans.

Implications of the revocation of the RSS for the District Council

Removal of the regional tier of strategic planning results in:

- The need for additional evidence base collation to inform:
 - an up to date housing figure for the District
 - Employment requirement for the District
 - retail requirement for the District
- Urgency to get the Core Strategy in place
 - Strategic policy framework at the local level
 - Infrastructure Delivery Plan/CIL
 - to enable Neighbourhood Plans to come forward when legislation enacted

Progressing the Core Strategy

New approach for the Core Strategy

- Third draft to reflect national changes
- Central 'Sustainability theme'
- Divide District into Area Profiles – more localised approach to policy making
- Could adopt different policies by Area depending on the issues
- All local Areas feed into a District wide Vision and a suite of overarching Objectives for the Core Strategy
- Sets strategic context for Neighbourhood Plans
- Maps for discussion! What are your views?

Timeline for the Core Strategy

- Draft Core Strategy consultation – October 2011
- Pre-submission consultation - March 2012
- Submission to the Secretary of State – May 2012
- Examination in Public – Autumn 2012
- Adoption – December 2012

Opportunities for engagement

Forthcoming Core Strategy consultation:

- Member Workshops – 15 and 24 February 2011
- Community Forum meetings – March 2011
- Parish Workshops – March/April 2011
- Public and Stakeholder consultation – October 2011
- Pre-submission consultation – March – May 2012
- Consultation database and Citizens Panel

Conclusion

Key feedback required from today's workshop:

- 1) Are the Issues and Objectives correct? Can you suggest any changes to the Issues and Objectives?
- 2) Is the more local approach of Area Profiles likely to be effective?
- 3) Which of the suggested boundaries for the Area Profiles should be used?
- 4) Do you agree with the Preferred Option for development? Are there other Options we should be considering?
- 5) How should we involve you and the public?
- 6) Are there any other points you would like to raise?

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS