



Meeting: Well-Being Partnership Board

Date: 10 June 2008

Report Title: Core Strategy: Draft Issues and Options

Report of: Sule Nisancioglu, Head of Planning Policy and Design

Summary

A report on Core Strategy Issues and Options paper was presented to the Haringey Strategic Partnership Board in February 2008. Members of the Well-Being Partnership Board are invited to comment on health, well-being and related issues set out in the Core Strategy draft Issues and Options paper, particularly the key issues which are likely to have future spatial implications for Haringey.

Key areas to focus on are:

- Update on evidence base
- Role of partners in delivering spatial objectives
- Opportunities for joint actions

Recommendations

- i. To note the progress on the Core Strategy Issues and Options paper.
- ii. To review the Evidence Base presented in the Core Strategy Issue and Options paper and make recommendations for updates where relevant.
- iii. To identify key areas of input from members of the Board in delivering Core Strategy spatial objectives and opportunities for joint actions.

For more information contact:
Sule Nisancioglu, Head of Planning Policy and Design
020 8489 5562
Sule.nisancioglu@haringey.gov.uk

1. Introduction

The Council adopted its Unitary Development Plan (UDP) in July 2006. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires the Council to replace its UDP with a new Local Development Framework (LDF). The Council must prepare a Core Strategy to replace the strategic policies and objectives of the Unitary Development Plan.

The Core Strategy, when adopted, will be the main development plan document for Haringey. It will set out a spatial (geographic) vision and objectives for the Borough up to 2020 and will contain key policies and implementation and investment framework to deliver the vision.

There is no single definition of spatial planning, but it can be defined by six principles:

- Vision - how an area will develop and change
- Goes beyond land use planning
- Strengthened community involvement
- Helps to deliver other strategies and programmes
- Flexible - responds to the need for change
- Focused on implementation and planned investment

The Core Strategy should identify sufficient land for new development to meet local and strategic needs as well as taking account of community and other stakeholder aspirations in terms of the location of development. It will set out the broad locations for delivering housing and other strategic development needs such as employment, retail, leisure, community, essential public services and transport infrastructure. It will also address the links between planning and climate change.

A Core Strategy cannot be developed in isolation. It must be consistent with national planning policy and in general conformity with the London Plan and include the priorities from Haringey's Sustainable Community Strategy. In turn, all development plan documents and supplementary planning documents should be in conformity with the Core Strategy.

2. Developing Haringey's Core Strategy

The first stage of developing Haringey's Core Strategy is the Issues and Options paper which was open to public consultation during February and March 2008. This contained key issues and possible solutions and options for challenges Haringey faces. Key spatial objectives are attached in Appendix 1. Views were sought from the statutory bodies such as Environment Agency and English Nature, Government office for London and Greater London Authority, strategic partners, neighbouring boroughs and local community groups on the following:

- The Core Strategy spatial objectives;
- The options to tackle the issues facing the borough; and
- Any objectives, issues and options that we may have missed.

We are currently analysing the responses and will use the feedback we receive as part of this consultation to prepare our “preferred options”, with a proposed strategy and how to achieve it. We will then consult you on the preferred options later in 2008 before the document is submitted to the government for independent examination. There will be another set of consultation during the submission stage.

3. Role of Partners in Producing a ‘Sound’ Core Strategy

Final version of the Core Strategy will be subject to an independent examination by a planning inspector. One of the key tests is the strength of the evidence base. The Strategy should have clear, up-to-date evidence base for its preferred options. A number of supporting documents are being undertaken as part of the process, including a sustainability appraisal, strategic flood risk assessment, a habitats assessment and an equalities impact assessment. Evidence base includes information from research and studies and the emerging Borough Profile. The Council is not starting from a ‘blank sheet’ - issues and priorities have so far been identified from the following:

- National planning policy and advice
- The London Plan and Mayor of London’s strategies
- Haringey’s Sustainable Community Strategy
- The Council’s key plans and strategies, including the Unitary Development Plan and emerging strategies such as the draft Regeneration Strategy and Greenest Borough Strategy
- Other external plans and strategies, such as the Primary Care Strategy
- Sustainability objectives and key issues and opportunities identified in the Core Strategy Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report

A Core Strategy should be based upon an appropriate level of community involvement. Strengthening community and stakeholder involvement in planning is a key principle underlying the new planning system. The process is focused on community engagement at an early stage when developing issues and options.

Test of soundness will also assess the level of corporate working and “joined-up” approach to developing the Strategy. Another test is the level of partnership working where relevant including Haringey Strategic Partnership and neighbouring Boroughs.

The Core Strategy will contain an infrastructure implementation and investment plan which will refer not only to private sector and Council investment and initiatives, but also to planned investment from other service providers. This investment plan should link with the implementation of the Community Strategy and LAA outcomes.

APPENDIX 1: Strategic Framework for Issues and Options Paper

The issues and options report identifies future challenges which are cross-cutting themes for the Core Strategy. The key challenges are:

- Climate change
- Demographic change
- Use of resources
- Health and well-being
- High quality design
- Equality and inclusion
- Economic change
- Technological change
- Transport
- Crime and safety
- Sub-regional issues

It then develops strategic priorities from the Haringey's Sustainable Community Strategy and the Council's key plans and strategies.

Vision and Spatial Objectives

The Core Strategy issue and options report proposes a vision and objectives for the future development of the borough. It is proposed that the Council use the vision from the Sustainable Community Strategy as the overarching vision for the Core Strategy, which is to:

“A place for diverse communities that people are proud to belong to”

The spatial objectives take forward the strategic priorities identified above and set out the basis for the Core Strategy and its key policies. These objectives also link with the sustainability appraisal objectives. The proposed spatial objectives are as follows:

An environmentally sustainable future

- To limit climate change by reducing CO2 emissions
- To adapt to climate change by improving the sustainability of buildings against flood risk, water stress and overheating.
- To manage air quality within the borough by travel planning and promotion of walking and cycling.
- To protect and enhance the quality of water features and resources.
- To reduce and manage flood risk.
- To increase energy efficiency and increase the use of renewable energy sources.
- To ensure the sustainable use of natural resources – by reducing, reusing and recycling waste and supporting the use of sustainable materials and construction methods.
- To manage air and noise pollution and land contamination
- To promote the use of more sustainable modes of transport.

Managing development and areas of change

- To manage growth in Haringey so that it meets our needs for homes, jobs and services, is supported by necessary infrastructure and maximises the benefits for the local area and community and the borough as a whole.
- To provide homes to meet housing needs, in terms of affordability, quality and diversity and to help create mixed communities.
- To promote the efficient and effective use of land whilst minimising environmental impacts.
- To strengthen the role of town centres as accessible locations for retail, office, leisure and community uses and new homes.

A safer, attractive and valued urban environment

- To promote high quality buildings and public realm to improve townscape character
- To promote safe and secure buildings and spaces.
- To promote a network of quality, accessible open spaces as areas for recreation, visual interest and biodiversity.
- To protect and enhance the Borough's buildings and areas of architectural and historic interest.

Economic vitality and prosperity shared by all

- To reduce Worklessness by increasing skills, raising educational attainment and improving childcare and nursery provision.
- To enhance the environmental quality and attractiveness of the borough's town centres in response to changing economic and retail demands.
- To link deprived areas with the employment benefits arising from the development of major sites and key locations in the borough and to improve access to new employment opportunities outside of the borough.
- To meet the needs of different sectors of the economy, including SMEs and those organisations within the voluntary sector through the provision of a range of premises of different types, sizes and costs.
- To support the development of Haringey's most successful growth sectors.

Improving health and community well-being

- To improve the health and wellbeing of Haringey's residents by reducing inequalities in access to health services and promoting healthy lifestyles.
- To improve the provision of, and access to, education and training facilities
- To improve access to local services and facilities for all groups
- To ensure that community, cultural and leisure facilities are provided to meet local needs.

A full copy of the document is available on the Council's website:

http://harinet.haringey.gov.uk/index/housing_and_planning/planning-mainpage/policy_and_projects/local_development_framework/corestrategy.htm