

SCRUTINY COMMISSION

27TH FEBRUARY 2002

PLANNING GREEN PAPER – PLANNING: DELIVERING A FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE

REPORT OF THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION

<u>Purpose</u>

1. To advise the Committee of the decision of Cabinet in relation to the proposals by the Department of Transport, Local Government and the Regions (DTLR) in its Planning Green Paper and associated documents and to seek endorsement for the proposed response. This matter is also being considered by the Planning and Environment Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 21st February 2002. The decision of the Committee will be circulated to the Commission separately.

Background

- 2. DTLR has published the Planning Green Paper Planning: Delivering a Fundamental Change and three associated documents, listed below, for consultation:
 - Compulsory Purchase and Compensation;
 - Reforming Planning Obligations;
 - New Parliamentary Procedures for Processing Major Infrastructure Projects.
- 3. The Planning Green Paper proposes radical and fundamental change for the delivery of the planning system. The County Council is invited to make comments to the DTLR by 18th March 2002 on the Planning Green Paper and Reforming Planning Obligations, by 22nd March 2002 on New Parliamentary Procedures for Processing Major Infrastructure Projects, and by 27th March 2002 on Compulsory Purchase and Compensation.
- 4. Copies of the 4 documents have been placed in Group Rooms and the Cabinet Office. A copy of the report considered by Cabinet on 12th February is attached.

Decision of the Cabinet

- 5. At its meeting held on 12th February, the Cabinet agreed:
 - (a) that the report be referred to the Planning and Environment Scrutiny Committee and the Scrutiny Commission for comment, and that further consideration be given to the matter, as necessary, in the light of their response;
 - (b) that subject to (a) above the comments set out in Part B of the report be approved as the County Council's response to the Green Paper;
 - (c) that approval be given to the lobbying of organisations within the County to gain support for the County Council's views; and
 - (d) that the Acting Director of Planning and Transportation be authorised to communicate the County Council's views to the district councils in Leicestershire.

Recommendations

6. The Commission is asked to note the decision of the Cabinet and the views of the Planning and Environment Scrutiny Committee on this matter and indicate whether it wishes to submit any comments.

Officers to Contact

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