

APPENDIX 1

East Midlands Regional Plan: Partial Review

Requirements for Section 4 (4) Authority Advice

1. Background

- 1.1 The East Midlands Regional Assembly is undertaking a Partial Review of the East Midlands Regional Plan (Regional Spatial Strategy) published by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government in March 2009.
- 1.2 Under the Planning and Compensation Act 2004 and Planning Policy Statement 11 “Regional Spatial Strategies” the Regional Planning Body has a duty to seek advice from, and for it to be provided by, Section 4 (4) Authorities within the region to inform the preparation of a revision to a Regional Spatial Strategy.
- 1.3 The East Midlands Regional Assembly (as Regional Planning Body) therefore requests the Section 4 (4) Authorities within the region to provide formal written advice that will enable the development of preferred options for the topics covered by the Partial Review.
- 1.4 Advice is expected from each of the region’s Section 4 (4) Authorities, namely:
 - Derbyshire County Council
 - Leicestershire County Council
 - Lincolnshire County Council
 - Northamptonshire County Council
 - Nottinghamshire County Council
 - Derby City Council
 - Leicester City Council
 - Nottingham City Council
 - Rutland County Council
 - Peak District National Park Authority

2. Scope of Advice

- 2.1 The scope of the advice required from the Section 4 (4) Authorities should relate to its administrative area, and address in an integrated way the topics covered by the Partial Review including those raised by the submitted responses. This should include advice as to how the Partial Review will contribute towards the 2050 carbon reduction target.

Spatial Development Options

- 2.2 Section 4 (4) Authorities should advise on a preferred spatial development option for their area. This should identify a policy approach to the location of development that is able to accommodate predicted housing development requirements in the period from 2021 and 2031.
- 2.3 The Section 4 (4) Authorities should advise on the scale and distribution of new market and affordable housing development in the Local Planning Authorities in their area. This should be specified on the basis of individual Districts / Boroughs and their respective Housing Market Areas. Where appropriate, an apportionment of the level of development that should be located within, adjoining, or outside a Principal Urban Area should be provided. Where formal joint planning arrangements are established, advice should be provided at a level that is sufficient to enable constituent authorities to decide the distribution of development through joint Local Development Framework Core Strategies.
- 2.4 The approach to providing the housing development advice should assume that the approved East Midlands Regional Plan (March 2009) Policy 13a “Regional Housing Provision” annual apportionments, Policy 13b “Housing Provision (Northamptonshire)” targets, and Policy 14 “Regional Priorities for Affordable Housing” targets remain unchanged to 2021.
- 2.5 Thereafter (from 2022 to 2031) the housing development advice should reflect the emerging work on the official 2006 based population and household statistics being undertaken on behalf of the Regional Assembly by the University of Manchester. The advice will need to justify its approach to accommodating any assumptions on variances on the delivery of housing from the period up to 2021 in considering spatial planning and development options and the scale and distribution of housing in the 2022 to 2031 period.
- 2.6 The advice should consider a wide range of issues, impacts, opportunities and constraints, including transport and climate change issues, in an integrated way that reflects sustainable development principles. The advice should take proper account of relevant responses to the Options consultation.

Transport

- 2.7 Section 4 (4) Authorities should advise on revisions to the Regional Transport Strategy in the context of the Government’s “Delivering a Sustainable Transport System” (DaSTS) policy, based on the transport needs, opportunities, and priorities in their area, reflecting their preferred spatial development option. The advice should consider the types of transport improvements and interventions that, integrated with development, will deliver the most sustainable outcomes and impacts. This advice should be based on the period from 2006 to 2031.

Renewable and Low Carbon Energy

- 2.8 Section 4 (4) Authorities should advise on how best to address national statutory carbon reduction targets with regard to the most viable renewable and low carbon energy technologies for their area (particularly heat networks, on-site renewable, and regional scale renewables including wind farms). This advice should be based on the period from 2006 to 2031.

Aggregates

- 2.9 Section 4 (4) Authorities should advise on the scale of aggregate and other land won minerals extraction that should be apportioned for their area. This advice should be based on the period from 2016 to 2021.

Sustainability Appraisal / Habitats Regulation Assessment

- 2.10 Section 4 (4) Authorities should refer to the ongoing Sustainability Appraisal / Habitats Regulation Assessment work on the Partial Review that is being undertaken by Land Use Consultants on behalf of the Regional Planning Body, and describe how they have taken the issues raised into account in providing their advice.

3. General Issues

Cross Boundary Issues and Housing Market Areas

- 3.1 In providing their advice, Section 4 (4) Authorities should ensure that they recognise, understand, and reflect any issues that will affect their area from adjoining Section 4 (4) Authority areas, both within the East Midlands and across regional boundaries.
- 3.2 Section 4 (4) Authorities should ensure that their advice recognises the spatial development context provided by the defined Housing Market Areas within their areas. Some Housing Market Areas cross Section 4 (4) Authority areas and it is expected that, where this is the case, Section 4 (4) authorities will liaise closely when developing their advice which may be submitted jointly or by individual authorities.

Lincolnshire Coastal Study

- 3.3 In providing its advice, Lincolnshire County Council should provide a commentary on its approach to interpreting the Lincolnshire Coastal Study, as far as its outcomes have emerged. This will be particularly important with regard to assumptions on housing provision and regional transport strategy issues.

Gainsborough Growth Point

- 3.4 Lincolnshire County Council should provide its advice on issues relating to the confirmation of Growth Point status for Gainsborough.

Evidence Based Advice

3.5 The Section 4 (4) Authority advice needs to be underpinned by a robust evidence base, which should be clearly referenced in the submission, and readily available for inspection by the Regional Planning Body.

4. Timescales and Working Arrangements

4.1 Section 4 (4) Authorities are requested to commence the preparation of their advice as soon as possible, and are encouraged to maintain discussions with officers at the East Midlands Regional Assembly through direct contact or via the established advisory groups throughout this process.

4.2 The main milestones that are currently proposed in the Section 4 (4) Authority advice process are:

- **Friday 23rd October 2009:** Assembly members will receive a report on progress with the Partial Review including the responses to the Options Consultation, and consider presentations on demographics and renewable energy issues at the Regional Assembly's Joint Housing Planning and Transport Board in Northampton.
- **Wednesday 2nd December 2009:** There will be an opportunity to discuss emerging Section 4 (4) Authority advice at the SPROG meeting scheduled for 2.00pm on Wednesday 2nd December 2009.
- **Thursday 31st December 2009:** The deadline that is currently proposed for the submission of the Section 4 (4) Authority advice to the Regional Planning Body is 5.00pm on Thursday 31st December 2009.
- **Wednesday 27th January 2010:** There will be an extra meeting of the Regional Assembly's Joint Housing Planning and Transport Board at Leicestershire County Council to further consider the responses to the Partial Review Options Consultation, the submitted Section 4 (4) advice and the next steps in preparing the Revised Regional Plan.
- **Friday 5th March 2010:** The final draft Revised Regional Plan and associated documentation will be considered at the Regional Assembly's Joint Housing Planning and Transport Board at Melton Mowbray, with a view to submitting it to the Secretary of State on Friday 26th March 2010.

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