
**EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE
EXECUTIVE
HELD ON 13 FEBRUARY 2012**

EX.017/12 INTERIM PLANNING STATEMENT - HOUSING
(Key Decision)

Portfolio Economic Development

Subject Matter

(With the consent of the Chairman, and in accordance with Rule 15 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules, this item was included on the Agenda as a key decision, although not in the Forward Plan)

The Director of Economic Development submitted report ED.07/12 setting out the need for an Interim Planning Policy Statement (IPPS).

The Director of Economic Development outlined the background to the matter reminding Members that the Council had to ensure that a five year supply of housing was always available to be developed ie with planning consent. In order to monitor the position more closely an update of the housing supply position to the end of October 2011 was undertaken which indicated that the Council only had 3.63 years supply as of 30 September 2011. Most of the sites allocated for housing in the current Local Plan had now either been developed or had consent. He added that a high level of demand and a shortage of deliverable supply placed the Council in a vulnerable position regarding planning applications for housing development.

In order to ensure that development proposals did not undermine wider planning policy objectives it would be prudent to set out an Interim Policy, a copy of which was appended to the report. That policy would not allocate specific development sites for housing, but would guide where development may be appropriate and the circumstances under which it may be acceptable. The Interim policy would be in place until the Core Strategy provided the new direction for development.

In conclusion, the Director of Economic Development recommended that the Interim Planning Policy for Housing be approved for consultation.

Both the Environment and Housing Portfolio Holder and the Economic Development Portfolio Holder welcomed the report and noted its importance for the future.

Summary of options rejected None

DECISION

That the Interim Planning Statement for Housing, as appended to Report ED.07/12, be approved for consultation.

Reasons for Decision

In order to address the current deficiencies in the five year supply of new housing the Executive was requested to approve a draft IPPS for consultation with appropriate bodies