



## Core Strategy for district could be put on hold

The Council's Local Development Framework Panel agreed on 23 June that it will recommend to the Council's Executive Board that the Core Strategy should be put on hold until there is clarification on:

- local infrastructure provision; and,
- future Government proposals for planning.

In coming to its decision, the Panel considered the continuing concerns over the capacity of local infrastructure and its ability to deal with growth.

The capacity for waste water treatment, in particular, has been under close scrutiny, as has the A27 and traffic congestion. The Environment Agency, Natural England, the Highways Agency, Southern Water and West Sussex County Council have expressed their concerns.

There are doubts, also, over if and when the financial resources might be made available to deal with the investment that the plan would require.

Myles Cullen, Leader of the Council, says: "There remain good reasons for us to want an up-to-date and soundly based planning strategy for the District. We need to address the imbalance in our population, that sees increased numbers of older residents and fewer families with children and younger people. We need to continue to promote the District as a good place to invest and to do business, in order to maintain economic viability. This includes addressing local housing need, which will have to be established through a detailed study.

"There are clear indications that the Government will want future economic development. Our local businesses also continually

stress that a good supply of affordable housing is essential for recruitment and retention of staff.

"The Government will also want councils to demonstrate that they have sufficient land available for housing – so the requirement for a five year housing land supply may well continue. We are seeking further clarification on this issue, which is also a concern for many of our neighbouring councils."

The recommendations from the LDF Panel will be presented to the Council's Executive Board on Tuesday 13 July.

Further updates about the LDF will be issued as soon as the Council has confirmed its position.

**For more information about the LDF please see the Council's website: [www.chichester.gov.uk](http://www.chichester.gov.uk) or phone 01243 534571.**

## More Information:

If you would like more information on the Local Development Framework visit the Council's website [www.chichester.gov.uk](http://www.chichester.gov.uk), email [ldf@chichester.gov.uk](mailto:ldf@chichester.gov.uk) or telephone **01243 534571**. For more information on the Sustainable Community Strategy, email [corporatepolicy@chichester.gov.uk](mailto:corporatepolicy@chichester.gov.uk) or telephone **01243 534726**.

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Chichester District Council, East Pallant House  
1 East Pallant, Chichester, West Sussex PO19 1TY  
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