

6 August 2010

Inspector Roy Foster MA MRTPI  
Inspector Mike Fox BA (hons) DIPTP MRTPI  
c/o Simon Osborn



Dear Inspectors,

**JOINT CORE STRATEGY FOR BROADLAND, NORWICH AND SOUTH NORFOLK**

We are making good progress dealing with the conclusions from the Exploratory Meeting held on 13 May 2010 and I thought it would be helpful to provide you with an update and some interim documents.

There were six matters in the conclusions that you directed the Partnership to undertake further work on. A programme of work and timetable was put in place to cover each of the matters. The briefs, setting out the work required, were shared with the GNDP Policy Group and are being monitored by the GNDP Directors. I enclose a copy of the work briefs (EIP 47b Work Programme Briefs)

An update of work underway or completed for each of the matters raised follows.

**1. Infrastructure**

**Categorisation:** We have reviewed Appendix 7 of the submitted JCS. The table has been split into three priorities 1, 2 and 3, clear definitions of each priority have been agreed with Members. The tables have been phased into short, medium and long-term, in line with the housing trajectory, as suggested.

**Critical path:** the above categorisation has provided enough information for us to prepare a critical path that can be offered for inclusion in the JCS. The tables, the critical path and brief information about the providers and funders will be submitted once completed.

**Integrated Development Programme:** the IDP is taking shape, most of the sections are well drafted. As set out in your conclusions this document will be available for the hearings.

**Sign-up by providers:** As stated at the EM a series of meetings have been taking place over the summer as part of the GNDP Engagement Strategy. We have already met with a number of service providers, Norfolk Constabulary, EDF, Anglian Water and others to discuss the JCS, the growth agenda and their financial planning processes and delivery mechanisms to see if there are common areas where we can work together. The notes of these meetings will be summarised, collated and shared with the Inspectors, the meetings continue through to the Autumn and beyond.

## **2. Affordable Housing**

**Affordable Housing Study:** the study is complete. It is published on the GNDP website and forms part of the current 'Statement of Focussed changes' consultation as there is a specific proposed change to Policy 4 as a result of the study carried out by Drivers Jonas Deloitte.

**Numerical Target:** The specific proposed change also includes an overall numeric target for affordable homes based on existing evidence of need.

Two copies of the Drivers Jonas Deloitte Affordable Housing Viability Study are enclosed, together with two copies of the 'Statement of Focussed Changes'.

## **3. The distribution of development, particularly in relation to public transport opportunities**

**Sustainability Appraisal and selection of locations, including Long Stratton:** We will provide you with a clearer audit trail from Issues and Options through to the Favoured Option, clarifying how the decisions link together and can be traced back to Option 1, with a summary table as requested.

**Long Stratton:** a paper is being prepared setting out the reasoning and the long-term aspirations for the proposed expansion.

**Public Transport Improvements:** A copy of Norfolk County Council's paper setting out the BRT definitions will be added to the evidence base.

A statement that draws the existing public transport evidence together to show the comparative merits of different growth locations and options is in preparation. The statement be part of an overall paper that across all issues that contributed to the selection of growth locations and option selection.

**4. The Northern Distributor Road:** In order to address your concerns the NATS team will provide an evidence based report showing the relationship within NATS between the delivery of the NDR and implementation of the enhanced public transport network. The report will also set out the steps that will be taken to monitor NATS implementation.

## **5. Sustainability Issues**

**Green Infrastructure:** A table\diagram setting out the relationship to daughter documents will be provided.

**Energy Efficiency:** evidence supporting the justification for the policy will be signposted

**Water:** meetings and discussions are on-going with Anglian Water, Environment Agency, Natural England and Broads Authority, the Position Statements will be updated for the hearing.

## **6. The north east triangle**

A Concept Statement has been prepared, it is published on the GNDP website and forms part of the current 'Statement of Focussed changes'.

In the light of the revocation of Regional Spatial Strategies you have also asked us to prepare a topic paper for the benefit of the examination and its participants, explaining the factors behind the joint decision of the Councils to continue to rely on the housing figures in the East of England Plan (EEP). This is work we have already identified and is in hand, we recognise your request for the paper to be submitted by 23 August so you can take account of it in your invitation to participants to respond in writing to the matters that you will be identifying for discussion at the hearings. We are in the midst of leave time at the moment but the intention is to provide a paper, although it still may be in draft, to you as requested by 23 August.

I understand from Simon Osborn, the programme officer, that towards the end of August you intend to provide participants with a list of matters that will be covered at the hearing, and that they will have a chance to respond to these in writing in advance of the hearings.

A summary of our timetable to complete the work, gain approval from the GNDP Policy Group followed by formal sign-off from the Councils is published in the Statement of Focussed Changes:

Representation period for Statement of Focussed Changes	19 July 2010 – 30 August 2010
Date for submission of additional documents to the Inspector	Monday 4 October 2010
Policy Group meeting	23 September 2010
Broadland District Council full council	28 September 2010
Norwich City Council full council	28 September 2010
South Norfolk Council full council	To be confirmed
Norfolk County Council cabinet	11 October 2010
Examination in Public	8 November 2010 – 19 November 2010
Adoption	March 2011

The hearing date has been set as 8 November and the venue and arrangements are in place for this to take place at the Kings centre. Appropriate notices etc will be published in line with the regulations.

Yours sincerely,

Sandra Eastaugh  
Greater Norwich Development Partnership Manager

Enclosures: Two copies of the Affordable Housing Viability Study, July 2010,  
Drivers, Jonas Deloitte  
Two copies of the Statement of Focussed Changes document –  
which includes the anticipated timetable

**cc.**

Bart Bartkowiak, Planning Inspectorate  
Simon Osborn, Programme Officer  
Mary Marston, Go-East  
Michael Hargreaves, Go-East