

SOUTH BUCKS DISTRICT COUNCIL

Decisions

ROGER REED

Cabinet Member - Sustainable Development

Having considered the reports contained in the agenda of a meeting of the Policy Advisory Group (PAG) held on 7 October 2008 and the views of the PAG expressed at the meeting, the Cabinet Member has made the following decisions:

1. SOUTH BUCKS REVIEW OF CONSERVATION AREAS - GERRARDS CROSS INITIAL REPORT

The Cabinet Member has considered a report of the Director of Services seeking authority to commence a public consultation on changes to the Gerrards Cross Conservation Area and the designation of an additional conservation area in Gerrards Cross.

The report included a draft Character Appraisal for Gerrards Cross which had been prepared making the case for revising the boundaries of the existing Gerrards Cross Conservation Area, to include some additional properties while excluding other more modern development, and establishing a new Conservation Area covering most of the area of a new settlement created next to Gerrards Cross Common as a result of the opening of the railway station in 1906.

The report also put forward the option of making an Article 4 direction within the whole or part of the Conservation Areas when designated, which would have the effect of removing all or certain permitted development rights, with a view to preventing the erosion of character by, for instance, unsympathetic alterations.

The Cabinet Member has decided:

- (1) to acknowledge the draft Gerrards Cross Conservation Area Character Appraisal;
- (2) to carry out a public consultation on the proposed re-designation of the Gerrards Cross Conservation Area with revised boundaries;
- (3) to carry out a public consultation on the proposed designation of a new Gerrards Cross Centenary Conservation Area;
- (4) to commence the public consultation by no later than 14 November 2008, continuing until the first week in January 2009, to include a public exhibition of the proposals; and
- (5) not to consult on a proposal to impose Article 4 directions within the whole or part of the Conservation Areas to restrict the type of development which can be carried out without planning consent, but to ask the officers to prepare a further report in due course.

2. **PARTIAL REVIEW OF THE DRAFT SOUTH EAST PLAN - GYPSIES, TRAVELLERS AND TRAVELLING SHOWPEOPLE**

The Cabinet Member has considered a report of the Director of Services on the current consultation on the number of pitches that will need to be provided in the various local planning authority areas in the south east, and response to be made by the Council.

SEERA has asked local authorities in the region to work together, to take account of the previously carried out Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment and to provide advice to SEERA on the needs for (a) additional permanent pitches for Gypsies and Travellers (b) the needs for transit pitches for Gypsies and Travellers who are passing through the area, and (c) the needs of Travelling Showpeople. Four options for additional pitches for Gypsies and Travellers had been prepared as part of the SEERA consultation.

The Cabinet Member has decided that a response be made to SEERA in line with the points set out in the report, selecting Option C as the preferred option requiring South Bucks to make provision for 11 permanent pitches (the lowest number from the options available), with the detailed response to be approved in consultation with the Head of Sustainable Development.

Date Published: 9 October 2008 **Date to be Implemented:** 17 October 2008.