

STRUCTURE PLAN REVIEW JOINT PANEL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STRUCTURE PLAN REVIEW JOINT PANEL HELD ON MONDAY, 22 MAY 2000, IN THE IRELAND ROOM, COUNTY HALL, AYLESBURY COMMENCING AT 2.00 PM AND CONCLUDING AT 4.20 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT

OFFICERS PRESENT

Buckinghamshire County Council

Mr W J Y Chapple (Chairman);
Mrs C M Aston
Mr J H McB Page
Mr R Royston

Mr D Turner
Mr C Kenneford

Aylesbury Vale District Council

Mrs C Lambert
Mr J Stewart

Mr M White

South Bucks District Council

Mr K M Dolan

Mr P Beckford
Mr C Chapman

Chiltern District Council

Mr P Jones
Mr D W Phillips

Mr M Hartley
Ms L Stone

Wycombe District Council

Mr P J Cartwright
Mr D Cox

Mr C Swanwick

Milton Keynes Council

Mr D Hackforth

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE/CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP

The Head of Administration reported that apologies for absence had been received from:

Mr C F Robinson, BCC (replaced by Mr J H McBPage)
Mr I Metherell, AVDC, (replaced by Mr J Stewart)
Mr N Brown, CDC, (replaced by Mr P Jones)
Mr C Oliver, WDC, (replaced by Mr D Cox)
Mr T Penfold, CDC and
Mr R Bristow, MKC.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none reported.

MINUTES

- 1 The minutes of the meeting of the Joint Panel held on 8 November 1999, copies of which had been circulated, were confirmed.

DRAFT REGIONAL PLANNING GUIDANCE FOR THE SOUTH EAST: PROPOSED CHANGES

- 2 The Joint Panel received a report about the Government's Proposed Changes to SERPLAN's Draft Regional Planning Guidance (RPG) for South East England. The Proposed Changes detailed the way in which the Government is minded to change the Draft RPG in the light of Professor Crow's recommendations and other recent developments.
- 3 The Joint Panel noted that although there were significant changes to the Draft RPG, the Government had, in several key respects, not sought to alter the strategy originally proposed by SERPLAN. There were, however, still a number of fundamental concerns surrounding the Proposed Changes that District colleagues were invited to comment on. The County Members of the Joint Panel had previously considered the concerns at a meeting of the Strategic Plans Panel and the minutes of that meeting were circulated.
- 4 District colleagues were now asked to consider and comment on the same concerns which were structured around 23 questions within the report. Essentially the debate that followed reflected those of the Strategic Plans Panel, as detailed in the minutes. The effect of increasing housing provision, housing densities and the threat that this could have on both the Green Belt and the character of Buckinghamshire's smaller towns and villages was strongly opposed by the District Members. All present were of the opinion that the Proposed Changes, in several key respects, would not be of any benefit to the environment or the residents of Buckinghamshire. If care was not taken the whole of the County would just become a commuter area. The Joint Panel agreed that the issues were complex and that working together and a joint approach would be essential to ensure that Government understood the concerns of those who would be most affected by the Proposed Changes.
- 5 The Chairman thanked District colleagues for their comments and informed Members that the Strategic Plans Panel would take these into consideration when considering the County Council's response at its meeting on Monday,

5 June. Recommendations would be considered at the Environmental Services Committee on 15 June and a response to the consultation would be sent to the Government by the deadline of 19 June 2000.

**MR W J Y CHAPPLE
CHAIRMAN**

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