

**REPORT TO THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE ON 17 JUNE 2008**

**PORTFOLIO: PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION**

**REPORT FROM HEAD OF PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION**

**SUBJECT: LONDON SOUTHEND AIRPORT AND ENVIRONS JOINT  
AREA ACTION PLAN ISSUES AND OPTIONS CONSULTATION**

**1 DECISION BEING RECOMMENDED**

- 1.1 That the London Southend Airport and Environs Joint Area Action Plan Issues and Options document be approved for public consultation.
- 1.2 That the timescales for the preparation of the Submission version be agreed as set out in the appended minutes of the London Southend Airport and Environs Action Plan Forum.
- 1.3 That Southend and Rochford Councils jointly employ an experienced strategic planner on a short-term contract to work on the document up to the finalisation of the Submission draft in May 2009 to be funded through the Councils existing LABGI commitments to the project.
- 1.4 That Southend and Rochford Councils procure specialist companies to complete the necessary evidential studies, including traffic Impact Assessments and Noise and Air Quality Studies, to be funded through the Councils existing LABGI commitments to the project.

**2 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 The preparation of the Joint Area Action Plan is a key priority for the District. The recommendations are intended to enable wide consultation with residents and stakeholders on the issues and options for the development of the action plan area, but also to agree the timetable for the preparation of the Submission version of the plan, and the resources required to ensure the plan can be delivered to the published timetable.

**3 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 3.1 The arrangements for the preparation of Joint Area Action Plans are set out in legislation and in Planning Policy Statement 12.

**4 OTHER SALIENT INFORMATION**

- 4.1 The Joint Area Action Plan (JAAP) is being prepared jointly with Southend Borough Council. It is intended that the JAAP will provide the framework for the regeneration and expansion of economic growth by providing opportunities for a range of economic, social, environmental and transport benefits.

- 4.2 The preparation of Issues and options document for consultation has been carried out by consultants under the scrutiny of a Joint Forum of Members from both Councils.
- 4.3 The Forum met on 19 May to consider the final version of the document. A copy of the notes from the joint meeting is appended to this report. A copy of the Issues and Options consultation document has been sent to each Member.
- 4.4 The Forum concluded that the Issues and Options document should be recommended to the respective Executive/Cabinet of each Council and that a public consultation on the contents of the document be carried out to ascertain the views of residents and stakeholders on four development scenarios.
- 4.5 The proposed timetable leading to the preparation of the submission version of the JAAP is as follows:-

17 June 2008	Present Regulation 25 Issues and Options Paper to the Cabinet of Southend-on-Sea Borough Council and the Executive of Rochford District Council.
24 June 2008	Commence statutory six week consultation on Regulation 25 Issues and Options Paper.
8 August 2008	Regulation 25 consultation period closes.
29 August 2008	Complete analysis of responses and drafting of Regulation 26 Preferred Options Report.
w/c 1 September 2008	Complete Sustainability appraisal on Regulation 26 Preferred Options Report
w/c 15 September 2008	Present analysis of responses to Regulation 25 Consultation and draft Regulation 26 Preferred Options Report to JAAP Working Group.
w/c 6 October 2008	Present Regulation 26 Preferred Options Report to the Cabinet of Southend-on-Sea Borough Council and the Executive of Rochford District Council.
w/c 20 October 2008	Present Regulation 26 Preferred Options Report to the Council meetings of Southend-on-Sea Borough Council and Rochford District Council.

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3 November 2008	Commence statutory six week consultation on Regulation 26 Preferred Option Report.
12 December 2008	Regulation 26 consultation period closes.
w/c 16 January 2009	Complete analysis of responses and drafting of Submission Draft.
w/c 26 January 2009	Present analysis of responses to Regulation 26 Consultation and Submission Draft to JAAP Working Group.
w/c 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2009	Present Submission Draft to the Cabinet of Southend-on-Sea Borough Council and the Executive of Rochford District Council.
w/c 23 February 2009	Present Submission Draft to the Council meetings of Southend-on-Sea Borough Council and Rochford District Council.
9 March 2009	Statutory 6 week consultation on Submission Draft commences.
20 April 2009	Consultation period closes.
June/July 2009	Submission to Secretary of State following consideration by the Cabinets and Council meetings of both Councils.

## **5 RISK IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 The timetable for the preparation of the JAAP is challenging and dependent on the availability of resources to ensure that the various stages leading to the Submission version of the plan are fully considered and that the required evidence base is assembled.
- 5.2 I expected that the government will shortly publish revised processes and procedures for the preparation of development plan documents. That being the case, the key stages in the preparation of the JAAP may need to be revised, but the date for submission will remain as set out in the report.

## **6 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The JAAP proposes options for major redevelopment and regeneration and the environmental impacts of these changes must be carefully considered.

## **7 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 The preparation of the Issues and Options document has been funded through a grant from the east of England Development Agency and

contributions from LABGI. It is estimated that a further £100,000 may be required in total (£50,000 from each Council) to employ an experienced strategic planner and carry out the additional studies required to prepare the submission version of the Joint Area Action Plan.

I confirm that the above recommendation does not depart from Council policy and that appropriate consideration has been given to any budgetary and legal implications.

SMT Lead Officer Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Head of Planning and Transportation**

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#### **Background Papers:-**

Notes of a meeting of the London Southend Airport and Environs Action Plan Forum  
– 19 May 2008

London Southend Airport Joint Area Action Plan Issues and Options document, June 2008

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