



East  
Northamptonshire  
Council

## Planning Policy Committee – 21 October 2013

### Rushden East Masterplanning

#### Purpose of report

The purpose of this report is to update Members on masterplanning for Rushden East and to seek agreement to establish a Rushden East Project Board

#### Attachment(s)

None

#### 1.0 Background

- 1.1 Members will be aware that Rushden is proposed as a growth town in the emerging review of the North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy, and Rushden East is proposed as a Sustainable Urban Extension. The following link provides useful background information <http://www.nnjpu.org.uk/docs/Rushden%20Urban%20Extension%20Background%20Paper.pdf>
- 1.2 Members will also be aware that other initiatives are also taking place at Rushden, for example the Town Council are commencing work on a Neighbourhood Plan.

#### 2.0 Masterplanning

- 2.1 On 2 October 2013, Rushden Town Councillors and Rushden Members of East Northamptonshire Council attended a Masterplanning day, organised by East Northamptonshire Council. The aim of the day was to consider the future of Rushden, and in particular Rushden East. The masterplanning day consisted of a site visit, followed by masterplanning sessions led by the Design Council/CABE. Also in attendance were representatives from the North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit, and ATLAS (an advisory service sponsored by the Department for Communities and Local Government and delivered by the Homes and Communities Agency), who can provide free advice to East Northamptonshire Council throughout the masterplanning process. For further details about ATLAS see [http://www.atlasplanning.com/page/about\\_atlas.cfm](http://www.atlasplanning.com/page/about_atlas.cfm)
- 2.2 The masterplanning session developed an appreciation of assets and constraints within the area; considered the relationship between green (i.e. open spaces, woodlands, hedgerows etc), blue (i.e. rivers, streams etc) and route infrastructure; and reviewed destinations and accessibility.
- 2.3 A report is being prepared by The Design Council/CABE to capture the session and mapping that took place during the day. The intention is to bring this report to the next Planning Policy Committee.
- 2.4 The aim of the masterplanning project is to draw up a vision and framework for the area, followed by more detailed masterplanning. This work can feed into the Core strategy review, East Northamptonshire Council plans and also link into the Neighbourhood Plan work etc. The next step is to establish a Rushden East Project Board, in order to progress and complete this project.
- 2.5 Members are therefore now invited to establish the Project Board, which shall consist of up to 4 ENC Members, 2 Rushden Town Council Members and 1 Northamptonshire County Council Member. It is envisaged that other organisations and agencies, such as the Highways Agency, Environment Agency, Northamptonshire County Council Transportation and

Education etc and obviously local landowners/agents etc will need to be involved in this project, however they will not form part of the Project Board itself. Instead, it is envisaged that such groups/individuals may sit on a working group(s), which will be established as the project progresses or be invited to attend main Board meetings from time to time.

### 3.0 Conclusion

3.1 This report is provided for member's information and to seek the establishment of a Rushden East Project Board.

### 4.0 Equality and Diversity Implications

4.1 There are no equality and diversity implications arising from this report.

### 5.0 Legal Implications

5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

### 6.0 Risk Management

6.1 There are no significant risks associated with this report.

### 7.0 Financial Implications

7.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

### 8.0 Corporate Outcomes

8.1 The relevant Corporate Outcomes are:

- Good quality of life: Sustainable development, Strong communities, Effective management of waste
- Effective partnership working
- Strong community leadership
- Effective management

### 9.0 Recommendation

9.1 Members are requested to consider this report for information and to establish a Rushden East Project Board.

*(Reason – to make progress on masterplanning for Rushden East)*

<b>Legal</b>	Power: <b>Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012</b>				
	Other considerations: None				
<b>Background Papers:</b>					
<b>Person Originating Report:</b>		Karen Britton – Planning Policy and Conservation Manager Ext: 2142 <a href="mailto:kbritton@east-northamptonshire.gov.uk">kbritton@east-northamptonshire.gov.uk</a>			
<b>Date:</b> 14 October 2013					
<b>CFO</b>		<b>MO</b>		<b>CX</b>	