

**CABINET
14 DECEMBER 2011**

AGENDA ITEM 4(b)

APPENDIX 12

**MINUTE OF THE EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
8 DECEMBER 2011**

65. PREFERRED OPTION LOCAL PLAN

The Committee considered a report of the Borough Planner which set out the Local Plan Preferred Options document, and its supporting documentation for public consultation in January / February 2012.

Comments and questions were raised in respect of the following:

- Provision of affordable housing
- Edge Hill University - expansion, Masterplan, Travel plan and multi campus options
- The railway infrastructure
- Consultation methods and forum format, venues and length of meetings
- Elm Place – land designation
- Beacon Golf Course – Need to clarify which Ward ie. Tanhouse / Upholland
- Lancashire County Council and West Lancashire Borough Council being listed individually as employers (paragraph 2.22)
- The 'Radburn' estate layout (paragraph 2.26) – not every estate in Skelmersdale
- The removal of the reference to 'poor quality housing' in Skelmersdale and the inclusion of the millions of pounds of investment in the area.
- The need for respite accommodation (Chapter 2.2 ' Key Issues)
- The negative image of Skelmersdale portrayed in the document which should be revised
- Burscough designation as a 'Market Town'
- Lack of reference to Lathom
- Future development in flood risk areas
- Retail development in Scarisbrick

The Committee was advised that the Plan would be submitted to Cabinet and Executive Overview and Scrutiny Committee following the consultation process.

- RESOLVED: A. That Members should forward any minor amendments to the document direct to the Borough Planner, in particular matters in respect of geographical locations/boundaries/designations.
- B. That the following comments be referred to Cabinet for consideration:
- i. That the Plan offers reasonable options in relation to affordable housing, Edge Hill University and Public Transport for members of the public and other interested parties to be consulted on.

- ii. That Policy EN3 be amended to remove the designation of Elm Place as a Childrens' Play area.
- iii. That consultation forum events be held for at least 2½ hours to enable general discussion of the whole area of the plan to take place and an additional event be held in Up Holland.
- iv. That Policy SP1 be worded stronger to prevent development in high flood risk areas.
- v. That Policy EC4 be strengthened to ensure that Edge Hill produce a Masterplan for the campus and undertake monitoring of any travel plan and that concern be expressed regarding the insufficient consideration that has been given to a twin site campus.
- vi. That Policy RS2 in respect of the threshold for the provision of affordable housing be reviewed with a view to raising the lower threshold for the provision of affordable housing.
- vii. That Policy IF1 be based on local 'West Lancashire' need rather than need from neighbouring Boroughs.