

JOINT DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE (CAMBRIDGE FRINGE SITES)

Report by: HEAD OF PLANNING
SERVICES

16 May 2012

Parishes/Wards affected: ALL

REPORT TITLE: JOINT DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE MEMBER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME -UPDATE

1. Executive summary

- 1.1. This report provides an update on the Joint Development Control Committee (JDCC) Member development programme, following on from the extended programme approved by the JDCC in January 2012, which authorised a number of further sessions to take place up to April 2012.
- 1.2. The overall programme has now been running since August 2011 and a total of eight sessions have taken place (see Appendix 2 for schedule of previous sessions). Following discussions with JDCC Members including the Chair and Vice-Chair throughout the recent programme of sessions, this report recommends extending the programme on a permanent basis until further notice.
- 1.3. A programme of topics for future sessions up to the end of 2012 is attached in Appendix 1. This includes provision for a Members Fringe sites tour to take place some time in June (final date to be confirmed as soon as possible).
- 1.4. Again, there will be additional opportunities for JDCC Members to take part in wider training programmes that may be organised either jointly by the three partner authorities or through one of the three local authorities on an individual basis.

2. Recommendations

- a) To agree the roll forward of the Member Development Programme on a permanent basis, until further notice.
- b) To approve the schedule of topics for future sessions as set out in Appendix 1.
- c) That: i) changes to topics/scheduling and ii) topics for future sessions post-December 2012 shall be agreed via Chair, Vice Chair and Spokes.

3. Background

- 3.1. On 10 August 2011, the JDCC first agreed a short programme of Member development sessions. On 25 January 2012, the JDCC approved an extension of the programme through to April 2012. A comprehensive schedule of previous sessions that have taken place to date is attached at Appendix 2.
- 3.2. The sessions have been well attended and the feedback from Members has been positive. Informal discussions about possible future topics of general interest that could be covered and the need to repeat some of the previous sessions for new Members on the Committee have taken place throughout the recent programme of sessions. Additional topics of interest relevant to the JDCC workload have been identified, some by Members.
- 3.3. Officers are therefore recommending JDCC Member development programme should be extended on a permanent basis, until further notice. In this context, a schedule of further proposed sessions running through until the end of 2012 is attached at Appendix 1, with suggested topics. The topics reflect those highlighted through discussions with Members during the recent programme.
- 3.4. In order to streamline the process, it is also recommended that the programme of topics for future sessions post-2012 should again be identified through discussions with and feedback from Members during the ongoing programme and that the programme of topics post-2012 should then be formally agreed via Chair, Vice Chair and Spokes. Any changes to topics and timings would also be agreed in this way.
- 3.5. Another Members Fringe sites tour will be organised for some time in June to assist the induction process for new Members on the Committee. City Committee Services have been asked to canvass possible dates in early June as a starting point. This can be discussed further at Committee on 16 May.
- 3.6. In addition to the above, other Member development opportunities will be available to JDCC Members. This may include jointly organised sessions on topics of general interest or sessions organised by one of the local authorities individually.
- 3.7. In terms of new JDCC Member induction processes, officers will be putting together a short introductory package of information on the Fringe sites that will be circulated to Members as soon as outcomes of the nominations process to the JDCC are known.

4. Consultation

4.1. Members' feedback has been sought informally as the programme has progressed Consultation has also taken place with the Chair and Vice-Chair.

5. Conclusions

5.1. The JDCC Member development programme has progressed well and has been positively received. Given the complexity of some of the Committee workload scheduled to be considered over the next twelve months or so, it is hoped that extending the programme on a permanent basis will further assist and support Members, and particularly any new Members on the Committee, over the coming months.

5.2. Members' attendance is important and confirmation of time given to development activities supports the delivery of quality planning services.

6. Implications

6.1 Financial Implication

Programme cost will be kept to a minimum and shared wherever possible.

6.2 Staff Implications

None.

6.3. Equal Opportunities Implications

None.

6.4. Environmental Implications

None.

6.5. Community Safety

None.

7. Background papers

These background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

JDCC report dated 10 August 2011 –JDCC Member Development Programme 2011/2012

JDCC report dated 25 January 2012 – JDCC Member Development Programme -update

8. Appendices

1. Proposed extended JDCC Member Development Programme up to December 2012.
2. Programme of previous JDCC Member Development sessions.

9. Inspection of papers

To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report please contact:

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Appendix 1

Updated Cambridge Fringe Sites Joint Development Control Committee Member Development Programme –June –December 2012

Topic/Lead officer (s)	Date 2012 /Time/Venue
Not applicable	16 May –no Member development programme event because of local elections. Report to be considered by JDCC.
Members Fringe sites tour – Sharon Brown	June –date/timings to be confirmed
Cambridge Fringe sites general refresher (Southern fringe and NIAB1) –Elizabeth Rolph, Helen Durrant, Mike Ovenden	Wed 13 June 9.30-10.30 –venue TBC
Planning Essentials refresher -TBC	Wed 11 July 9.30-10.30 –venue TBC
North West Cambridge – refresher and update –Mark Parsons/Michael Osbourn	Wed 8 August 9.30-10.30 -venue TBC
Localism Act/National Planning Policy Framework – City/SCDC Policy Team rep(s)	Thurs 6 September 9.30-10.30 –venue TBC
Flood risk, Sustainable Drainage and Water Management –Simon Bunn, Sustainable Drainage Officer, Cambridge City Council	Thurs 4 October 9.30-10.30 –venue TBC
Adoption processes and issues -County rep -TBC	Wed 31 October 9.30-10.30 -venue TBC
Principles of Good Urban Design –Glen Richardson	Wed 28 November 9.30-10.30 –venue TBC

Appendix 2 –JDCC Member Development Programme –Schedule of Previous Sessions to date

Topic	Date
1. Planning Essentials 1 –stages of applications, density and parameter plans	6 October 2011
2. Southern Fringe and quiz/ North West Cambridge – Area Action Plan and context	1 November 2011
3. Planning Essentials 2- S106 processes and use of conditions	1 December 2011
4. Affordable housing strategy and funding update	25 January 2012
5. Adverts and hoardings –advert/planning regulations and policy	22 February 2012
6. Transport modelling including sub-regional model and application to NW Cambridge	22 February 2012
7. Legal issues including declarations of interest, JDCC Terms of reference etc	21 March 2012
8. Design coding update	18 April 2012