

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING COMMITTEE	10 DECEMBER 2020	AGENDA ITEM: 10(iii)
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Report prepared by Councillor Phillip Howells – Chair of Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) Working Party

RECOMMENDATION IN RESPECT OF DECISION-MAKING APPROVAL

The Council is agreed with the need to complete the new version of the NDP as quickly as possible for which there are several reasons. To have a settlement boundary in place, to ensure compliance with the likely lifetime of the current Herefordshire Core Strategy before it is updated and to hopefully pre-empt probable planning law changes. The aim is to give the new NDP up a 2-year effective life-span from adoption and the timescales are very tight to go through all the necessary processes to attain a planned adoption before the end of 2021 latest and a Reg 14 version (by when it has some legal standing) by July 2021.

The NDP WP of Monday, 27 January 2020, later approved by ED&P and Council, gave authority to an NDP Steering Group of 3 to make sure the project plan is up to date, to co-ordinate communications and keep to timescale. It has met regularly since and is the driving force for making sure we are making the required progress. The challenge now is to get timely approval of SG proposed actions and documents between meetings of the WP, ED&P and full Council so the progress of the plan is not delayed awaiting these approvals. The following is requested for ED&P to recommend to full Council to help expedite keeping the momentum going.

Recommendation

That the Economic Development & Planning Committee approve and recommend to Council that decisions the NDP SG feels need making between meetings are referred to the Chairman of ED&P for agreement to proceed on the understanding that the next meetings of the WP, ED&P and Council then retrospectively confirm them. If funding is involved then the Chairman of the Finance, Policy & General Purposes committee should also be referred to for similar approval to proceed between meetings when necessary. The Clerk also to agree with the decision agreements made.