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| Committee: Cabinet | Date: 2 September 2009 | Classification: Unrestricted | Report No: | Agenda Item: 8.1 |
| Report of: Corporate Director Aman Dalvi | | Title: LDF Core Strategy: Towards a sound Core Strategy. | | |
| Originating officer(s) Jennifer Richardson, Interim Strategic Planning Manager | | Wards Affected: All Wards | | |

1. **SUMMARY**

- 1.1 Council officers have been working toward preparing the Local Development Framework (LDF) – Core Strategy. The Core Strategy is the most important part of the LDF as it sets the spatial vision and the priorities for the next 15 years and beyond. This report introduces the final draft of the Tower Hamlets Core Strategy for publication (see appendix 1).
- 1.2 The LDF will gradually replace the Unitary Development Plan. However, a robust LDF should also go far beyond a simple development control document tool and set out a clear and achievable spatial vision for the places of Tower Hamlets, with policies and actions that will guide regeneration and development in Tower Hamlets over the next 15 years and beyond. It is, in essence, the spatial representation of the Tower Hamlets Community Plan.
- 1.3 The development of the Core Strategy has been subject to an extensive process of proactive consultation and engagement process, culminating in two successful public consultations in July 2008 and February 2009. Officers have also been developing a series of technical evidence documents, many of which have been developed in partnerships across the Local Strategic Partnerships (LSP) and will be used to inform future LDF, Council and LSP strategies.
- 1.4 The Core Strategy will now be published as the proposed submission document in accordance with Regulation 27 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2008. Representation will be invited from the public and key stakeholders. Following this consultation, a revised Core Strategy will be submitted to Full Council, to approve submission to the Secretary of State.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Cabinet is recommended to:-

- 2.1 **Note the supporting evidence base for the Local Development Framework (LDF) Core Strategy detailed in Appendix 2 to the report;**

- 2.2 **Approve the LDF Core Strategy attached at Appendix 1 to the report for formal consultation in accordance with Regulation 27 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2008;**
- 2.3 **Authorise the Corporate Director Development and Renewal, after consultation with the Leader of the Council and Lead Member Housing and Development, to:**
- (a) **Make any appropriate and necessary minor amendments to the LDF Core Strategy and its supporting evidence base prior to consultation.**
 - (b) **Make any appropriate and necessary amendments to the LDF Core Strategy and supporting evidence base, following the consultation and prior to submission to full Council on 9th December 2009.**
- 2.4 **Recommend that full Council:**
- (a) **Note the supporting evidence base for the (LDF) Core Strategy submitted for consideration by the Corporate Director Development and Renewal (included in Appendix 2) to be submitted alongside the Core Strategy, to the Secretary of State.**
 - (b) **Approve the (LDF) Core Strategy, submitted for consideration by the Corporate Director Development and Renewal (included in Appendix 1), for submission to the Secretary of State.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The preparation of the Local Development Framework has been reported to members on a series of occasions over the last 4 years. Following the withdrawal of the first round of LDF submission document in October 2007, the authority commenced work on a revised Core Strategy.
- 3.2 The Core Strategy is the principle development plan document in the Local Development Framework. It is a strategic document which sets out the 'core' strategies that the authority requires in order to deliver its local, regional, and national priorities. As the LDF is suite of planning documents, the Council will look to bring forward other development plan documents and supplementary plan documents, in accordance with the Local Development Scheme.
- 3.3 ***Recent Changes to Spatial Planning Legislation***
The Government changed the planning system in 2004 through the *Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act*. It replaced Unitary Development Plans with a Local Development Framework. The significant 'teething troubles' with that new system are now widely publicised, so in response the Government further evolved the plan making system in June 2008. Plan making guidance is now set out in *Planning Policy Statement 12: Local Spatial Planning and* amendments to the Act and Regulations in 2008. The Core Strategy has been prepared in accordance with the amended statutory and policy framework.
- 3.4 ***Where the LDF Core Strategy sits in the Local Policy Framework***
- 3.4.1 The LDF Core Strategy is the spatial representation of the Community Plan. It should also link to the Local Area Agreement as a delivery mechanism for the Community Plan

(although the LAA has a 3-year cycle and the Core Strategy must think at least 15 years into the future). The Core Strategy is a strategic document sitting just underneath the Community Plan and sets priorities for other local plans, policies, programmes and operational directorate plans. The Core Strategy can go further than the Community Plan by setting out commitments for strategic growth and regeneration areas, for example setting where housing and supporting infrastructure should be directed. The Core Strategy can also set out development principles and policies to guide planning decision. The Core Strategy is required to consider the full range of factors influencing the quality and design of places including the layout and organisation of homes, infrastructure, shops and commerce, open space, economic development and the environment.

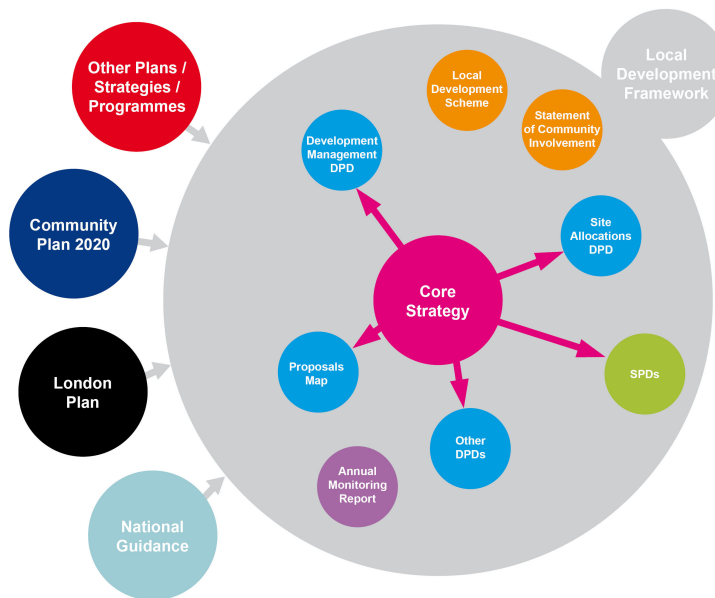


Fig 1: Local Development Framework's relationship with other plans

3.5 Requirements of Core Strategies

3.5.1 Under revised government guidance Core Strategies are required to be:

- a) **Justified** - meaning they must be i) founded on robust and credible evidence and ii) the most appropriate strategy when considered against the reasonable alternatives.
- b) **Effective** - meaning they must be deliverable, flexible and able to be monitored

3.5.2 Core Strategies must conform with national and regional guidance, such that the Core Strategy does not repeat policy. They also must be aligned with the Council's Community Plan and be prepared in accordance with the Government's principles for community engagement in planning and the Council's Statement of Community Involvement.

3.5.3 These are now the measures against which the Core Strategies 'soundness' will be tested at public examination.

Robust and credible evidence base

- 3.5.4 One of the main requirements of Planning Policy Statement 12 is that Core Strategies need to be based on robust evidence. Evidence should include feedback from local consultation as well as technical and statistical evidence.
- 3.5.5 The Strategic Planning team collated a wide range of technical evidence documents during the previous LDF and have continued to collate additional information to support the emerging plan. Appendix 2 identifies the suite of evidence base documents supporting the Core Strategy. The suite of evidence based documents includes Strategic Housing Market Assessment, Waste Management Evidence, Urban Structure and Characterisation Report, Core Strategy Research Report, Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, Employment Lands Study, Habitats Regulation Assessment, Sustainable Energy Research; Town Centre Spatial Strategy; the Capacity report from the Population Change and Growth; Infrastructure Delivery Plan and the Affordable Housing Viability – LDF Review.
- 3.5.6 Where possible, evidence base documents have been developed in conjunction with related Council departments and LSP partners and will provide supporting evidence across the Partnership.
- 3.5.7 In addition to those listed in Appendix 2, the Strategic Planning team have also used a series of published reports and strategies, including other Council and LSP strategies, best practice reports and national and regional guidance. All documents used have been referenced in the Core Strategy.
- 3.5.8 A key element of the evidence base is a Sustainability Appraisal and Equalities Impact Assessment. Both have independently assesses the previous options and alternatives documents against objective criteria. The findings of these reports have been made available, alongside the Core Strategy, during consultation.
- 3.5.9 All evidence will be published on the Council's website as it is completed and will be reviewed as part of a rolling research programme to ensure it is sufficiently up to date and robust.

Most appropriate strategy when considered against the reasonable alternatives

- 3.5.10 Government regulation requires that the proposed submission Development Plan Document (in this case the Core Strategy) contains the most appropriate strategy, when considered against the reasonable alternatives.
- 3.5.11 The two previous consultation documents, being the Core Strategy Options and Alternatives (published in July 2008) and the Core Strategy Options and Alternatives for Places (published February 2009) have provided the means for the local authority to test its reasonable alternatives. The proposed submission version of the Core Strategy represents the outcomes of this testing process.

Demonstrating Deliverability and flexibility

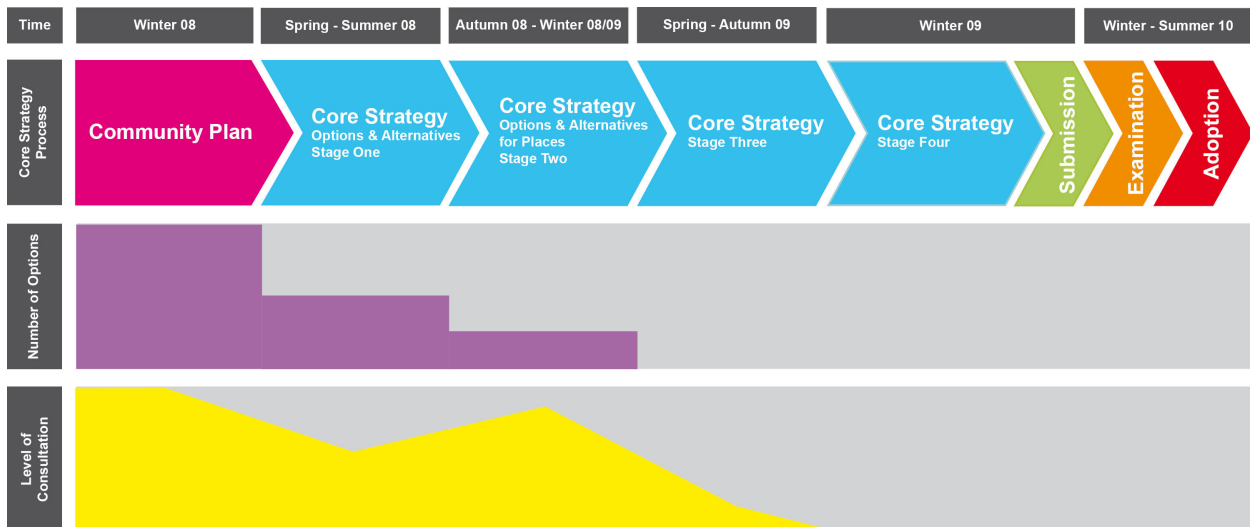
- 3.5.12 A key new requirement for Core Strategies, as identified in PPS12, is demonstrating the deliverability of the proposed policies. Key indicators of deliverability include:
- demonstrating joint working (and sign up) with key partners;
 - identifying how we are to deliver infrastructure including when and how;
 - identifying the additional mechanisms needed to implement the plan;
 - identifying contingency plans where required;
 - providing evidence that requirements from policies are generally achievable on most sites and financially viable (in particular for affordable housing policies).
- 3.5.13 Policies which cannot be demonstrated as deliverable will not pass the test of soundness, and will ultimately undermine the soundness of the plan.
- 3.5.14 Infrastructure delivery has been identified as being key to demonstrating deliverability, and as such an Infrastructure Delivery Plan is a new requirement to support Core Strategies. This document sets out what physical, social and green infrastructure is needed to enable the amount of development proposed for the area, taking account of its type and distribution. It is also required that this plan works in parallel influence with any strategies and investment plans of the local authority and other organisations.
- 3.5.15 A schedule summarising the strategic infrastructure requirements is included as an appendix in the Core Strategy document, whilst the full Infrastructure Delivery Plan is included in Appendix 2 of this report. This Plan identifies, as far as possible: infrastructure needs to support the projected growth, as well as the estimated costs; phasing of development; funding sources; and identifies those who are responsible for its delivery. The Strategic Planning team has worked with other internal officers as well as partners across the Local Strategic Partnership in this plans development. The Infrastructure Delivery Plan will continue to be an instrumental tool for the Council and the Local Strategic Partnership, outside the Core Strategy. It will enable the Council and the Tower Hamlets Local Strategic Partnership to more effectively and efficiently plan services to meet the needs of the growing population of Tower Hamlets. This plan will be regularly monitored and reported to the Assets Strategy and Capital Management Board.

3.6 Preparation of the Core Strategy

- 3.6.1 Work commenced on the Core Strategy shortly after the withdrawal of the LDF Core Strategy and Development Control, Proposals Map and Area Action Plans in October 2007.
- 3.6.2 In accordance with Regulation 25 and the governance requirements for consultation on planning document, engagement of stakeholders should be from the beginning, continuous and transparent. As a result, throughout the preparation of the Core Strategy the Strategic Planning Team's have undertaken the following engagement processes:
- We have been part of the Community Plan 2020 Steering Group.
 - Involvement in the Tower Hamlets 2020 visioning exercise (including a exploration of the spatial implications of each Community Plan theme);
 - Analysis of all existing consultation material including previous planning consultation material as well as the Community Plan consultation outcomes;
 - Gaps analysis of existing evidence base (through the Core Strategy Research Report)

- Gathering of primary evidence including Renewable Energy, Flood Risk, Town Centres, Urban Structure and characterisation report, Student Housing and Housing Land Availability.
- Targeted engagement events as a part of evidence base gathering including events for Biodiversity and Sustainable Energy, Town Centre Spatial Strategy, Green Grid, Strategic Housing Market Assessment,
- Regular engagement with the Local Strategic Partnership, through membership on the Community Plan Delivery Groups, Partnership Executive Support Group and regular updates to the Partnership Executive Group.
- Commissioning joint evidence base with the Local Strategic Partnership, specifically the Population Change and Growth Model;
- Regular engagement of the External Stakeholder Working Group comprising GOL, GAL, LDA, TfL, ODA, LTGDC, English Heritage, Environment Agency, Natural England.
- Ongoing bilateral discussions with officers across the Council;
- Regular reporting to senior management teams, and the Corporate Management Team both in the Council and the within the Local Strategic Partnership
- Regular meetings with officers from the NHS Tower Hamlets and the Healthy Urban Development Unit (including completing the Health Check)
- Front loading meeting and engagement with the Planning Inspectorate
- Attending existing forums and community groups including the Tower Hamlets Housing Development Forum, Tower Hamlets Developers Forum, Tower Hamlets Conservation and Design assessment Group (CADAG) as well as residents forums.
- Presentations to CABE's LDF expert panel on the progress of the Core Strategy
- Attending a series of Planning Advisory Service workshops on preparing sound Core Strategies
- Member of the Planning Officers Society High Speed Planners Group.

3.6.3 Below is a diagram outlining the level of consultation and engagement undertaken as the Core Strategy options and alternatives testing has progressed.



3.6.4 In accordance with Regulation 24 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2008, the Council will be also publish a 'Statement of public participation in the preparation of the Core Strategy' as a part of the submission documents. This Statement details the engagement process, which is outlined in paragraph 3.6.2 of this report and is included in Appendix 2.

3.7 *Overarching assumptions for the Core Strategy*

3.7.1 In developing the Core Strategy there was an overarching assumption that Tower Hamlets will be required to deliver the identified with national and regional government priorities including facilitating new housing and new jobs in accordance with the London Plan as well as a means to accommodate our apportionment target for waste and sites for gypsies and travellers.

3.8 *Testing reasonable alternatives in the Core Strategy*

3.8.1 As outlined above, the process of preparing the Core Strategy culminated in two major public consultations on Option and Alternatives documents. Each consultation document was subject to a Sustainability Appraisal and Equalities Impact assessment. The findings of these reports were published alongside the consultation material.

- Core Strategy – Options and Alternatives (July - September 2008)

3.8.2 This document proposed the 'Big Spatial Idea' - Reinventing the Hamlets. This proposed a means of place making, through identifying a series of places in the borough, based on the old (and newer) 'hamlets' of Tower Hamlets.

3.8.3 It then sought to test alternatives for 'how' the borough could deliver this vision, through two high level options to manage future development in Tower Hamlets.

3.8.4 This first options document proposed two major spatial options:

- Option A Refocusing on our centres - this option proposed to refocus and reinforce the hierarchy of town centres within the borough by focusing development and services into town centre.
- Option B Organic growth across the borough – This option proposed an organic, development- led approach which would facilitate mixed use development across the borough.

3.8.5 It also proposed a series of spatial themes, which tested specific options for how to achieve the Council goals for issues such as creating more open space and delivering affordable homes.

3.8.6 The consultation document was well received and feedback was received both through written comments and through feedback from consultation events. The feedback indicated a preference for Option A, with a precaution to ensure that this approach still enabled regeneration across the borough. The consultation findings were collated into a Consultation report, which has been made available on the Council's website.

Core Strategy – Options and Alternatives for Places (February- March 2009)

- 3.8.7 The next options document sought to identify and further define the preferred approach to the overarching options and spatial themes. It then sought to understand and, where relevant, test reasonable alternatives to how this preferred approach would affect each of the identified places. It included 24 place plans which were produced in partnership with Tower Hamlets Partnership outlining the vision, key priorities and principles for each place in the borough grouped around the four paired LAP's.
- 3.8.8 The consultation was again well received with over 1000 comments received from a wide range of groups. Extensive feedback was also received from consultation events, which were attended by over 200 local residents, land owners and other key stakeholders.
- 3.8.9 Key points raised through the consultation included:
- High level of support for the emerging strategy, particularly the place making section.
 - Housing policy – both supporting and objecting to a range of policies. There was recognition for further evidence on housing policies to be produced.
 - Health policy – welcomed the inclusion of linking spatial planning to health and well-being.
 - Olympics & legacy – there was a recognition for further emphasis to be placed on the importance of the Games and its legacy.
 - Ensuring flexibility, viability, deliverability was a consistent point, particularly the need to clearly outline monitoring and implementation of the final strategy
 - The needs for a robust evidence base, in accordance with government guidance was also identified
- 3.8.10 The consultation findings for this second round of consultation was also collated into a Consultation report, and has been made available on the Council's website.
- 3.8.11 Following the end of this consultation period, officers proceeded to draft the proposed submission version of the Core Strategy.

4.0 2009 CORE STRATEGY – PUBLICATION OF THE PROPOSED SUBMISSION DOCUMENT

- 4.1 The Strategic Planning team have now prepared the Core Strategy for pre submission publication consultation, in accordance with Regulation 27 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2008.
- 4.2 Below is an outline of the structure and key priorities within the Core Strategy 2009. The full document is included in Appendix 1 to this report. Appendix 2 identifies all the newly developed evidence base reports that have been produced to robustly justify the Core Strategy. These documents will all be made publicly available as a part of the upcoming consultation and will be submitted alongside the Core Strategy to the Secretary of State, as supporting evidence base. In addition to these reports, the Strategic Planning team have also relied on already published evidence base, national and regional guidance, papers and reports as well as other Council and LSP partner's strategies. All documents referred to have been referenced accordingly in the Core Strategy.

4.3 Style and Structure of the Core Strategy

4.3.1 The Core Strategy structure is outlined in the diagram below:



4.3.2 The structure of the document has been simplified and streamlined, following recommendations from the Planning Inspectorate and other external stakeholders including Government Office for London and the Greater London Authority.

4.3.3 The language used in the document is consistent with previous drafts. This was identified and has been recognised by CABEs (the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment) expert panel as being accessible and easy to understand.

4.3.4 Officers have also sought to use a mixture of maps and graphics to clearly illustrate the content of the plan.

4.4 *Big Spatial Vision – Reinventing the Hamlets*

4.4.1 The Core Strategies spatial vision – ‘Reinventing the Hamlets’ outlines the spatial vision of building One Tower Hamlets through developing a sense of place. This section outlines the key principles underpinning the strategy as well as defining the Programme of Delivery which underpin the Strategies delivery.

4.4.2 The spatial vision also looks strategically and identifies the need to deliver our regional role within London and maximise the benefits of the Olympics and its legacy. Also

includes policies which identify our approach to achieving wider sustainability including adaptation and mitigation of climate change and how the Council will consider the wider determinant of health through spatial planning.

4.5 Spatial themes & key policy directions

Following the vision section the document is divided into 6 distinct sections. These are described below.

4.5.1 Spatial theme 1 - Refocusing on our town centres

Key policy direction:

- Defines the town centre hierarchy, including a new district centre at Bromley by Bow and a series of new neighbourhood centres. It seeks to promote town centres as the primary location for retail, commercial, employment, leisure, civic and residential uses.
- Promotes the areas outside of town centres for primarily residential and other identified supporting uses that do not rely on higher levels of accessibility.

4.5.2 Spatial theme 2 - Strengthening neighbourhood well-being

Key policy direction:

- Seeks to deliver new housing target in accordance with the London Plan (circa 42,000 new homes to 2025). Sets a target of up to 50% affordable housing target, which it will seek to deliver through planning negotiations on all developments capable of delivering affordable housing (10 units or more) and public investment. It also sets a 70:30 social rented to intermediate, tender split. The strategy prioritises the delivery of family homes, as well as seeking improved energy efficiency of homes.
- Plans for the provision of health facilities for the borough and looks to address the health implications of planning in the borough.
- Seeks to set criteria to identify a site for a multi-faith burial ground for the residents of Tower Hamlets.
- Seeks to protect open space and looks at opportunities to improve and create additional open space.
- Seeks to secure land to facilitate a new waste management facility in the borough through identifying preferred areas of search.

4.5.3 Spatial theme 3 - Enabling prosperous communities

Key policy direction:

- Supports the economic growth of the City Fringe and Canary Wharf as preferred office locations.
- Seeks to locate employment in accessible locations including in town centres, along transport corridors and within designated clusters
- Identifies the potential to release surplus Strategic industrial land for other uses including housing.
- Identifies new school provisions, including four new primary schools and three new Idea Stores.

4.5.4 Spatial theme 4 - Designing a high quality city

Key policy direction:

- Focuses on the importance of high quality design for both building and places.

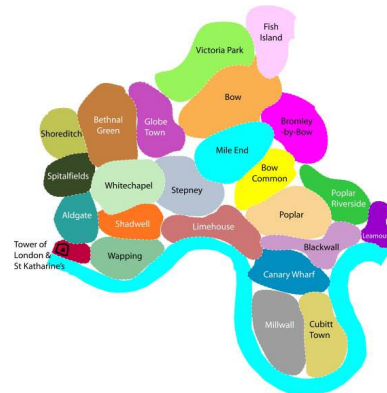
- Ensuring the delivery of an interconnected transport networks.
- Protecting the historical environment.
- Seeking to require adaptation to climate change through design, including Code for Sustainable Homes.
- Seeking a reduction of carbon emissions in line with our National targets through identifying areas of search for combine cooling and heat power plants and defining low carbon zones.

4.5.5 Spatial theme 5 - Delivering placemaking

Key policy direction:

- Identifies a vision, opportunities and growth and priorities and principles for each place.
- Fish Island is the place likely to undergo the most significant transformational regeneration. The vision for Fish Island proposes a mixed use sustainable community offering a unique place to live and work, next to the Olympic Park. The proposal seeks to ensure a managed and coordinated regeneration. This will include a phased reduction the existing Strategic Industrial Land designation. This will enable increased diversification of employment opportunities as well as housing (including affordable housing). Owing to its scale of change, the Core Strategy requires a 'managed' approach to change, including the creation of a detailed planning framework as well as collaborative working with partners, including the LTGDC and the GLA to ensure the delivery of the vision.

Places are identified in the following diagram



4.5.6 Delivery and implementation

Key policy direction:

- Identifies two strands for delivery and implementation. These include 1) Programme of Delivery and 2) developing an appropriate regulatory framework for development decisions (including the remainder of the LDF documents).
- The Programme of Delivery comprises:
 - Comprehensive regeneration areas (eg Fish Island)
 - Infrastructure Delivery Plan, (as discussed in paragraph 3.5.12/13 of this report and set out in Appendix Two of the Core Strategy document)
 - Housing Investment programmes
 - Policy and strategy programmes
 - Tower Hamlets Green Grid
- Identifies the Council's priorities for Planning Obligations.
- Identifies the process for monitoring the Core Strategy, through the Annual Monitoring Report.

4.6 **Next Steps**

- 4.6.1 In accordance with Regulation 27 of the Town and Country Regulations 2008, Cabinet are asked to approve this version of the Core Strategy for publication, to be subject to a 6 week consultation period.
- 4.6.2 Following consultation, the Core Strategy will be amended (taking on board consultation comments) and submitted to Full Council. Full Council will be then be asked to approve the Core Strategy for submission to the Secretary of State. It will then be subject to an Independent Examination by an appointed Inspector to determine whether the plan can be found sound.
- 4.6.3 If the plan is found sound, the Council will receive a binding report from the Planning Inspectorate. At that time the Council will be free to adopt the Core Strategy, subject to including the amendments outlined in the binding report within the adopted plan.

5. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

- 5.1 This report sets out proposals for the public consultation into the Core Strategy document which, at the completion of the full Local Development Framework process, will form the basis of targeted action plans for the Council working with its key partners.
- 5.2 Members will be aware that public sector finances are likely to be constrained for the foreseeable future. The agreed Core Strategy will underpin key decisions in relation to the allocation of the limited resources available within the Borough, and will influence the shaping of the Council's Capital Strategy.
- 5.3 The Infrastructure Delivery Plan (included within Appendix 2 of this report) in particular sets out some of the challenges that the Authority and its partners may face over coming years as a result of demographic and economic growth. Individual infrastructure developments will need to be subject to detailed planning at the appropriate time, including consideration of the financial impact on both partner organisations and on the Council.
- 5.4 The medium and long term financial planning of the Council will need to take account of the same growth pressures as contained within the Core Strategy. A robust monitoring process is being established that will review the reported outputs of the population change and growth model. This will include assessments of housing completions and their implications on infrastructure. Reports will be considered quarterly by the Council's Asset Management and Capital Strategy Board.
- 5.5 The main costs associated with the development of the Local Development Framework itself are staffing related and are supported through Housing and Planning Delivery Grant. The on-going consultation process will incur costs on items such as advertising, printing, hiring venues and facilitating public meetings. There is existing budgetary provision to fund this expenditure. The final stage in the LDF process is an 'inspection in public' for which the Authority must incur all costs, including those of the appointed inspectors. A growth bid of £300,000 was approved as part of the 2008-09 budget

process to contribute towards the funding of these costs in 2010-11, the year of the inspection.

6. CONCURRENT REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (LEGAL)

- 6.1 As indicated in the body of the report the Planning and Compensation Act 2004 introduced a new system in respect of the production of planning policy. The Local Development Framework (LDF) consists of a suite of documents which set out planning policy. One major element of that suite of documents is what is termed the Core Strategy.
- 6.2 The Core Strategy is the principal development plan document contained within the LDF. It sets out the general spatial vision and objectives for delivery of the LDF and can also include 'Strategic Site Allocations'. It is a crucial part of the local development framework in that it positions the Council as both a strategy maker and a deliverer of outcomes.
- 6.3 The Core Strategy also plays a key part in the delivery of the Council's sustainable community strategy by setting out its spatial aspects and providing a long-term spatial vision. The Core Strategy must be kept up to date and all other development plan documents must be in conformity with it and the Regional Spatial Strategy (or the Spatial Development Strategy in London).
- 6.4 In order to ensure that the Core Strategy represents an accurate reflection of the objectives of the planning policy which should shape the development of the Borough it is subject to a public consultation exercise and then an independent examination. As highlighted in the body of the report this is a legal requirement.

7. ONE TOWER HAMLETS CONSIDERATIONS

- 7.1 The Core Strategy delivers the spatial component of the Community Plan. It is the principal strategy that will deliver One Tower Hamlets through proactively planning and designing for the different places that make up Tower Hamlets.
- 7.2 The Core Strategy recognises that each place is different, and how they all have their role and function but all come together to help build an outward looking One Tower Hamlets. Through extensive consultation in conjunction with the Partnership, the quality and needs of each place have been addressed and visions have been generated to shape the future of each place in the borough.
- 7.3 Full consideration and engagement has ensured that the vision of One Tower Hamlets is embedded throughout the Core Strategy, in order to translate that vision in a spatial sense for the borough by delivering high quality places through placemaking.
- 7.4 The Core Strategy is also supported an Equalities Impact Assessment.

8. SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT

- 8.1 The Core Strategy has been subject to a Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment in accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and the Directive 2001/42/EC. The Core Strategy includes strategies and policies to assist mitigate and adapt to climate change and will assist the Council to meet its LAA target and Ni186, which looks to reduce CO2 emissions per capita across the borough by 60% in 2025 and contributes to meeting Ni197 for biodiversity improvements.

9. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 A risk management matrix has been developed for this project in accordance with Corporate Policy. The key risks have been regularly discussed with the Core Strategy Steering Group and reported to the Council's Corporate Management Team. Many of the identified risks have been successfully mitigated through robust evidence base, as well as proactively engagement of partners and key stakeholders. The most significant risk relates to the ongoing changes to national planning policy and legislation and the plan making guidance, although recent changes have allowed for a greater degree of flexibility.

10. EFFICIENCY STATEMENT

- 10.1 Much of the evidence base prepared to inform the Core Strategy has been designed to provide both evidence for the Core Strategy, as well as informing other reports and strategies. This shared evidence includes (but is not limited to), the Town Centre Spatial Strategy, the Population Change and Growth model, the Strategic Housing Market Assessment, the Waste Evidence Report, the Urban Structure and Characterisation report and the Infrastructure Delivery Plan. Where appropriate, costs have also been shared between parties.
- 10.2 One key example is Population Change and Growth model which the Partnership's Joint Intelligence Group will use to understand the nature and location of population growth across the borough and how that will impact on service provision in Tower Hamlets over time.

Brief description of “back ground papers”

Name and telephone number of holder
and address where open to inspection.

None

To be completed by author ext. xxxx

11. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Local Development Framework – Core Strategy Publication
Version September 2009

Appendix 2 – List of evidence base documents supporting the Core Strategy

APPENDIX 1

The LDF Core Strategy – Pre Submission Version September 2009

(Under separate cover)

APPENDIX 2 – List of the support evidence base documents for the Core Strategy

1. Sustainability Appraisal for the Core Strategy (Proposed Submission Document)
2. Core Strategy Equalities Impact Assessment
3. Statement of public participation in the preparation of the Core Strategy
4. Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Evidence Base
5. Core Strategy Research Report
6. Employment Land Study
7. Fish Island – Rationale for Regeneration
8. Flood Risk and the Tower Hamlets Core Strategy – General Sequential Test
9. Green Grid (Baseline report)
10. Habitats Regulation Assessment
11. Infrastructure Delivery Plan
12. LBTH Affordable Housing Viability – LDF Review
13. LBTH Core Strategy Waste Evidence Base Report
14. LBTH Strategic Flood Risk Assessment
15. LBTH Strategic Housing Market and Needs Assessment
16. LBTH Town Centre Spatial Strategy
17. Borough profile of Tower Hamlets – Providing the context for the development of a Town Centre Spatial Strategy
18. Retail Capacity Assessment
19. Town Centre Spatial baseline report
20. Opportunities for Sustainable Energy and Biodiversity Enhancement
21. Making Connected Places Research Paper
22. Planning for Population Change and Growth Baseline Report
23. Setting criteria for Gypsies and Travellers paper
24. Setting criteria for multi-faith burial grounds paper
25. Student Accommodation Report
26. Urban Structure and Characterisation Study

(Under Separate Cover - The above documents are included on accompanying CD)