

WEST MIDLANDS REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

**Regional Planning and Environment Executive
22 September 2009**

**RSS Phase Three – Draft Summary of Options Consultation
Responses**

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To provide Members with some immediate feedback and an initial draft summary of responses to the RSS Phase Three Options consultation.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That Members note the initial draft summary of responses. The final analysis of responses will be presented to the next RPEE meeting.

3. Background

- 3.1 The topics being addressed by the RSS Phase Three Revision are:
- **Rural Services:** To identify and prioritise the services that are critical to the sustainability of rural communities, and to identify mechanisms for promoting their provision;
 - **Communities for the Future:** To identify the number of pitches required for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople;
 - **Culture, Sport and Tourism:** To improve the provision of, and access to, quality cultural and sports assets and provide opportunities to increase the rate of participation / attendance in cultural activities;
 - **Environment:** To further develop environmental policies in the RSS, including flood risk, air quality, renewable energy and Green Belt;
 - **Minerals:** To develop policies on safeguarding mineral resources and the future supplies of construction aggregates and brick clay.

- 3.2 Consultation on the RSS Phase Three Options took place between 29th June 2009 and 14th August 2009. The consultation included a launch event, sub-regional consultation events covering the whole region, bespoke consultation events with gypsies and travellers and a consultation event with the RSS Reference Groups. Around 440 consultation responses were received by the Regional Assembly.
- 3.3 The Assembly commissioned URSUS Consulting Limited to collate and analyse the consultation responses. A final analysis of the consultation responses will be produced for the 16th October RPEG Meeting. In the meantime, an initial analysis has been produced – attached as **Appendix A** – to provide an overview and a general indication of consultees views on the Options.

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