

***WM RSS - Phase 2 Revision
Consultation event
26th July 2007***

“Where are we now?”

***David Thew
Head of Planning
WMRA***

RSS Phase 2 Revision Spatial Options Consultation

- **Consultation – Jan/March 2007**
- **Some 1,300 responses received and analysed**
- **Consultant's report on website**
- **RSS Policy Leads also analysed responses**
- **Headline conclusions reported to Regional Planning Partnership – 31st May 2007**

RSS Phase 2 Revision – Timescale (1)

- **May:** report to Regional Planning Partnership 31st May
 - considered responses to the Spatial Options consultation report
 - agreed key principles to guide development of the Preferred Option
- **June:** Themed 'Reference Groups' workshop event
- **July:** report to RPP 20th July - informing Members of emerging draft policy principles
- **July 26th** - Consultation Event

RSS Phase 2 Revision – Timescale (2)

- **August 2007:**
 - consideration of outcome from consultation event
 - completion of technical studies
 - further development of policies
 - on-going Sustainability Appraisal of emerging policies
 - undertake 'Risk Assessment'

RSS Phase 2 Revision – Timescale (3)

- **September 2007 :**
 - Regional Planning Partnership – Sept 24th to provide a further steer on the ‘direction of travel’ for the draft policies,
 - September 28th – Informal Briefing Seminar – Birmingham Midlands Institute
- **October 2007:** Preferred Option to be submitted to RPP 22nd October for sign off

RSS Phase 2 Revision – Timescale (4)

- **December 2007: Submit the Draft Preferred Option to Secretary of State**
- **January / March 2008: 12 week formal consultation**
- **Sept / Oct 2008: anticipate RSS Phase 2 Examination in Public**

Developing the Preferred Option

Key factors being addressed

- The overarching policy context, including the existing RSS and other elements of Government policy
- Responses to Spatial Options consultation
- Potential regional needs and demands
- Potential impacts and implications

Policy context

- A **'Revision'** to the approved RSS, not a **'Review'**
- **Urban and Rural Renaissance** - key underlying principles of the RSS
- **New National policy** - PPS3 (housing), draft PSS1 Supplement (climate change), New Growth Points initiative, **Housing Green Paper**
- **Regional policy development**, e.g. Regional Housing Strategy, City Region initiatives, RSS Phase 1, RES Review

Technical Studies being completed

- **The Infrastructure Implications Study**
- **The Regional Housing Land Capacity 'refresh'**
- **The Redditch Joint Study**
- **The Centres Study update**
- **The Affordable Housing Study**
- **Housing and Economy Study (AWM)**

Regional Needs and Demands

- PPS 3 – Housing - proposes that one of the factors to consider in determining future housing provision should be the Government's latest household projections
- The 2004 household projections imply a growth of **380,000 (net) dwellings 2006-2026**
- LA responses to the Spatial Options indicate support for **340,000 (net) dwellings 2006-2026**
- On-going discussions are taking place with authorities to explore whether the **40,000** gap might be closed

Potential Impacts and Implications

- **Determining the final Preferred Option**
 - further steer from RPP 25th Sept
 - final decisions RPP 22nd October
- **The importance of the Sustainability Appraisal**
- **The importance of the 'Risk Assessment'**

Purpose of the event

- **Aims of the day**
 - to share latest information on the development of the Preferred Option
 - to present emerging conclusions from the Infrastructure Implications Study
 - to present draft emerging policies for discussion and debate
 - to present the current work on the Sustainability Appraisal
- **Themes:-** housing, transport, employment, centres and waste BUT other issues (e.g. around climate change, environment, infrastructure) must also be integrated