

West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy

*Phase 2 Revision -
Developing the Preferred Option*

*Themed Workshops
6th June 2007*

RSS Phase 2 Revision Process

- Phase 2 Spatial Options 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

- **May:** report to RPP 31st May – considered consultation responses and agreed key principles to guide development of the Preferred Option
- **June:** Themed workshops event 6th June
- **June/July:** develop draft Preferred Option to report to RPP 20th July; Public consultation event 26th July
- **August / Sept:** S.A. of draft Preferred Option and further refinements
- **October:** Preferred Option submitted to RPP 22nd October for sign off
- **December 2007:** Submit the Draft Preferred Strategy 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 to be 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

- ‘Revision’ to the approved RSS, not a ‘Review’
- Urban and Rural Renaissance - key underlying principles of the RSS
- Recent new National policy - PPS3 (housing), draft PSS1 Supplement (climate change), New Growth Points initiative
- Regional policy development, e.g. RHS, City Region initiatives, RSS Phase 1, RES Review

On-going Studies

- The Infrastructure Implications Study
- The Regional Housing Land Capacity 'refresh'
- The Redditch Joint Study
- The Centres Study update
- The Affordable Housing Study

Purpose of the event

- Aims of the 'themed workshop'
 - to consider the outcome of Spatial Options consultation and key issues arising;
 - to report on the policy steer provided by Regional Planning Partnership on 31st May;
 - to provide an opportunity for RSS Reference Groups and other stakeholders to make an input into development of the Preferred Option
- Themes:- housing, transport, employment, centres and waste BUT issues around climate change, environment, infrastructure, monitoring and implementation must also be integrated

Structure of the event

- Setting the Scene
- RSS Phase 2 – Sustainability Appraisal
- Workshops Stage 1: Housing – presentation followed by discussion in 3 working groups
- Lunch break
- Workshops Stage 2: Transport, employment, centres and waste – presentations and discussion on cross-cutting issues
- Feedback/discussion/round up