GREATER NOTTINGHAM ALIGNED CORE STRATEGY

CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUES AND OPTIONS



The Councils of Ashfield, Broxtowe, Erewash, Gedling, Nottingham City and Rushcliffe are working closely together to prepare the Core Strategy and this is the first stage. No decisions have yet been made, and this is the opportunity for you to influence the shape of Greater Nottingham in the future. Other topics in this series

- 1. Accommodating Growth
- 2. Green Belt
- 3. Regeneration
- 4. Economy and Employment Land
- 5. The Role of Nottingham and its City and Town Centres
- 6. Neighbourhoods and Place Shaping
- 7. Transport and Accessibility
- 8. New Infrastructure to Support Growth

- 9. Green Infrastructure and Landscape Character
- 10. Climate Change
- 11. Broxtowe local issues
- 12. Erewash local issues
- 13. Gedling local issues
- 14. Nottingham City local issues
- 15. Rushcliffe local issues

Leaflet 10 in a series of 15

June 2009

"ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE"

CLIMATE CHANGE is one of the themes that will be covered in the Core Strategy for the area and asks what should be the priorities for reducing carbon dioxide emissions and reducing flood risk.

The Core Strategy will be a set of policies that discuss the key issues facing the area and will guide development and growth up to 2026. It will be a key part of the Local Development Frameworks for Greater Nottingham, the new set of planning policies that will replace the each council's Local Plans.

The Issues and Options document, describing this first stage of the Core Strategy, expands on the topics in this series of leaflets. It is available at local council offices, libraries and on council websites, as well as at www.gngrowthpoint.com.

Climate Change affects us all and is a key priority of the UK Government to address. Reducing carbon emissions is a key priority for the council's of Greater Nottingham.

What can we do?

- We need to appreciate that the UK has a legal target to reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases by 12.5% by 2012, from 1990 levels.
- We need to decide how to reduce the effects of climate change in new developments.
- We could require large scale developments such as 'sustainable urban extensions' (See the Accommodating Growth leaflet for more details) to reduce their carbon emissions at greater levels than other development.

- We need to consider the impact of Climate Change and the need to avoid flood risk.
- We could not allow any development on sites that we know are at risk from flooding, except in very special circumstances.

What else is happening?

- The Government plans to make all new homes 'zero carbon' by 2016. This means that new homes will need to generate their energy from zero carbon sources such as wind turbines and solar panels. Homes will need to use energy more efficiently as well, through simple measures including good insulation and energy saving appliances as well as more radical measures such as ground heat pumps.
- The Greater Nottingham authorities have commissioned work to find out whether we can expect new developments to generate some of their energy requirements from low or zero carbon sources.
- The areas at risk of flooding are mapped by the Environment Agency and range from Zone 1 to Zone 3, where sites in Zone 1 are at the least risk of flooding and sites in Zone 3 are at greatest risk of flooding. The Local Authorities have produced a flood risk assessment for the area that identifies others sources of flooding, as well as areas identified as at risk by the Environment Agency.

We need your views: please print and return pages 3-4 with your comments

Things to think about

- The Building Regulations don't yet require any energy to be generated from low or zero carbon sources.
- The established standards for 'green' homes, which is called the Code for Sustainable Homes, would mean a cut in carbon emissions at the moment. However the standards aren't expected to change so would eventually mean little, as they will be overtaken by the changes in the Building Regulations. Additionally the established standards could only apply to housing development and would not do anything for other types of development.
- Requiring new developments to generate some of their energy requirements from low or zero carbon sources could help the district to contribute to national targets for carbon reductions.
- Requiring large scale developments to reduce their carbon emissions even more could allow us to help meet national targets.
- Past new development has sometimes increased the risk of flooding and we need to make sure that future development helps reduce flood risk. However, some brownfield sites are themselves at risk of flooding and may need to be built on to save greenfield sites.

Please fill in your contact details in order that we can register your comments and provide you with a written response. Please note, your comments cannot be kept confidential and will be made available for public inspection.

Address/ Email:	

Completed questionnaires should be returned by **31st July 2009** to:

M Gregory Growth Point Planning Manager Exchange Buildings North Smithy Row Nottingham NG1 2BS



Your personal information will be handled by the Councils in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. Your information will not be disclosed to third parties and will not be used for any other purpose.

How to get involved

We are now looking for your views on these issues. Your input at this stage will help us to prepare the Core Strategy and ensure that the final document includes the most appropriate policies for the future development of Greater Nottingham.

Please complete this simple questionnaire and send it to let us know your views - see over.

You can also visit our website at www.gngrowthpoint.com

Choices to make about Climate Change

CC1 How far should we go in accounting for the need to reduce carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions in new developments? What approach should be taken towards reducing energy use, reducing emissions and promoting the development of renewable energy?

Please say whether you agree with options 1a to 1d	Yes	No
Require a percentage of energy in new		
developments to be derived from renewable		
sources.		
Require new housing developments to comply		
with a high level of Code for Sustainable Homes		
standard as a minimum.		
Require large scale development to meet higher		
levels (higher than the options above) of		
reduction in carbon emissions.		
Do not apply any additional reductions in		
Carbon Dioxide (CO ₂) emissions		

CC2 What approach should we take towards ensuring that new developments do not increase the risk of flooding?

Please tick one option	
Aim to minimise the risk of flooding by refusing any new development on Flood Risk Zones 2 and 3 unless exceptional circumstances can be justified	
Allow development on Flood Risk Zones 2 and 3 on previously developed land where it is shown to be adequately defended or the sequential test has been applied	

Are there any other issues or options relating to Climate Change in Greater Nottingham?

Please suggest any ways you think the Core Strategy can
help:
(Continue on a separate sheet if necessary)