

## **REPORT OF EXECUTIVE CABINET**

### **FORMALISING JOINT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK WORKING AND PRODUCTION OF JOINT CORE STRATEGY**

1. The Corporate Director (Business) submitted a report seeking the Executive Cabinet's instructions on the adoption of the most appropriate means of formalising the current joint working arrangements between Chorley, Preston and South Ribble Councils on the Local Development Framework (LDF) and other planning policies, with a view to the production of a joint Core Strategy for the Central Lancashire area.
2. The report explained and commented on the two options for formalised models of joint working as laid out in Sections 28 and 29 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. The Section 29 option involves a more formal joint working approach requiring the establishment of a Joint Committee. Section 28 of the Act, however, offers a more informal approach under which the three authorities can enter into an agreement to prepare a Joint Core Strategy. Provision can be made within that agreement for an informal Joint Advisory Body to make recommendations on aspects of the Core Strategy to the constituent authorities for their determination. This will ensure that decisions at key stages will still need to be taken by each Authority's Executive or full Council.
3. The Executive Cabinet accepted the suggestion from the three Councils' Joint Working Group that we adopt the less formal mode of working set out in Section 28 of the 2004 Act and we are, accordingly, recommending the Council to adopt this course. The adoption of the Section 28 option will allow the Council to continue with our joint working with Preston and South Ribble Councils on a formal basis that still requires decisions to be taken by the respective Councils. The other statutory option available through Section 29 of the Act requires a more formal route which will remove or reduce decision making powers from individual Councils.
4. A copy of the report of the Corporate Director (Business) considered by the Executive Cabinet is attached to this report so that Councillors are aware of all relevant factors before arriving at a decision.

#### **Recommendation**

5. The Council is recommended to support in principle the formalisation of the Joint Working arrangements between the Chorley, South Ribble and Preston Councils leading to the production of a joint Local Development Framework Core Strategy for the Central Lancashire area by the adoption of the procedures laid out in Section 28 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, subject to the detailed wording and later approval of a local agreement document.

COUNCILLOR P MALPAS  
Executive Member for Economic Development and Regeneration

There are no background papers to this report.

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