



Sedgemoor
IN SOMERSET

Local Development Framework CORE STRATEGY

Incorporating the Recommended Changes of the Inspector



Shaping the Future of Sedgemoor 2006-27

September 2011

4 Major Infrastructure Projects

4.62 The Council acknowledges the national status of the proposal, and recognises the support for the project and its potential benefits at the national level. The role the project could play at the local level in helping to deliver the Council's economic objectives is also recognised.

4.63 Associated or ancillary or related development that may be required to enable the construction and operation of the new power station is likely to include:

- transport infrastructure improvements for Bridgwater and its surrounds, including a Cannington Bypass and associated improvements in Cannington
- refurbishment of the wharf at Comwich and other associated development at Comwich
- freight consolidation and holding facilities;
- Park and Ride facilities with bus services to Hinkley Point;
- sites and buildings relating to housing management, induction, research, and educational functions;
- construction worker accommodation; and
- a temporary jetty (in West Somerset).

4.64 These types of associated or ancillary or related development may be significant in their own right, as well as being considered in the context of the project. It is therefore the Council's preference that any such development is, wherever possible, planned in accordance with the spatial strategy of the Core Strategy where this is possible having regard to national policy and the specific functional requirements of the project.

4.65 In recognition of the importance of the project both nationally and locally, the Council has been working with the project promoter to develop a shared vision and objectives for the project and these have been set out in a Planning Performance Agreement (PPA) between the promoter and the Council and in a document agreed following a workshop involving the promoter, SDC, West Somerset Council and Somerset County Council (known as the Dillington Vision).

4.66 .21 The Council recognises the significance of the investment into the local economy that the HPC project would represent and that it has the potential for significant benefits alongside impacts for Sedgemoor. The PPA vision of what the project should achieve in the local context includes:

- "A significant contribution of socio-economic benefits to the local community, both during construction and in operation, through local employment opportunities, training and workforce development, the provision of related leisure services, expenditure on local facilities and services, and business for the supply chain."
- "A positive contribution to local place shaping and transformation in line with regional and local priorities for regeneration, and to coordinated infrastructure investment to improve local outcomes and economic performance."

4.67 The potential significance of Hinkley Point C to the local economy in particular is recognised by the Council in the Sedgemoor Economic Strategy adopted in July 2009. The Strategy states that "One of the Sedgemoor's key commitments is that Sedgemoor will be one of the UK's leading centres for energy related business, employment and skills, with Hinkley as the foundation, and other initiatives based on renewable energy and technologies".

4.68 From this commitment in the Sedgemoor Economic Strategy, two 'key actions' are identified to be: