PSM3

South Gloucestershire Core Strategy Examination

Position Statement for Matter 3: Spatial Portrait, Issues, Vision & Objectives

May 2012

South Gloucestershire
Council

Matter 3 – Spatial Portrait, Issues, Vision & Objectives

Q1   Does the Spatial Portrait provide a reasonable snapshot of the area and the issues which face it?

Council response –.Yes

1.1   The Spatial Portrait for South Gloucestershire is set out in Chapter 2 of the Core Strategy. By drawing on a range of factual and statistical information, this Portrait identifies the social, environmental and economic characteristics of South Gloucestershire as it is today.

1.2   From the Spatial Portrait and early engagement activity (Examination Library Ref: SD11/1), a list of key issues were identified. These issues were also aligned with the priorities of the Sustainable Community Strategy. The issues were subject to consultation at Issues and Options (summarised in Examination Library Ref:SD11/6 page 6) and, subsequently, refined before inclusion as Chapter 3 in the Pre-Submission Core Strategy. Further refinement of the key issues occurred prior to Submission.

Q2   Are the Strategic Objectives broadly consistent with the aspirations of organisations and the population and do they provide appropriate goals for the Council to pursue?

Council response – Yes

2.1   The Strategic Objectives for the Core Strategy were identified from 4 sources:

   i.   the key issues;

   ii.   feedback received during early engagement (Examination Library Ref: SD11/1);

   iii. feedback at Issues and Options (summarised in Examination Library Ref:SD11/6 page 5); and

   iv.   the Spatial Portrait.

   Following consultation on the Pre-Submission Core Strategy, the Strategic Objectives were refined prior to Submission.

2.2   The Strategic Objectives have been informed by:

   i.   the key issues for the Core Strategy which, themselves, are aligned with the priorities of the Sustainable Community Strategy;

   ii.   through engagement and consultation; and

   iii. testing and review through the preparation of the evidence base.

2.3   The Council is therefore confident that these Strategic Objectives, which form the basis of the Core Strategy's policy framework, are appropriate goals for it to pursue.

Q3   Are there any Visions which the Council has put forward which are inappropriate or unrealistic?

Council response – No

3.1   The Visions are appropriate and realistic. They reflect both the concerns, issues and priorities which have come through the various engagement and consultation activities undertaken in preparing the Core Strategy (summarised in Examination Library Ref:SD11/6), and existing visions – the vision of the Sustainable Community Strategy and the vision for the West of England. Following consultation on the Pre-Submission Core Strategy, the Visions were refined prior to Submission.