



## PRESS RELEASE

From: Gary Stephens  
Enquiries to: Gary Stephens  
Telephone: 01926 456502  
Email: gary.stephens@warwickdc.gov.uk  
Date: 19<sup>th</sup> July 2010

Warwick District Council  
Riverside House  
Milverton Hill  
Royal Leamington Spa  
Warwickshire  
CV32 5HZ

### **Government revokes Regional Spatial Strategy**

**The Government has written to Warwick District Council confirming that it has revoked regional spatial strategies with immediate effect and has provided guidance clarifying the impact of this decision for Councils bringing forward their core strategies.**

The West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy had been under review and was set to be adopted later this year by the previous Government. It was likely to include a requirement for the District Council to allocate sites for around 11,000 new homes and some 90ha of employment land to meet future needs up to 2026, as well as the potential for additional sites for housing and employment growth south of Coventry.

These requirements were being considered and planned for by the Council through the preparation of its Core Strategy for the District. Public consultation took place last summer on how this level of growth could be accommodated.

The Government has urged local authorities to continue with their core strategies, but indicated that they may wish to review their plans in light of its decision. Further guidance on how Councils should proceed is expected in a 'Localism' Bill to be prepared later this year.

In response, the Council's Portfolio Holder for Development, Councillor John Hammon, commented that "we welcome the Government's decision to give greater control to local authorities in shaping the future development of their areas. We now need to respond to this decision and that requires an immediate review of our emerging Core Strategy and the District's future housing and employment needs. That review will need to be undertaken as quickly as possible to ensure that we maintain progress with the Core Strategy and reduce the period of uncertainty for local communities and developers as to where new development will take place in the District. We hope to be in a position to set out a clear way forward for the Core Strategy process by the autumn."

Ends.

Note for editors

Further details on the Government's announcement can be found at:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/planningandbuilding/1632278>

Further details on the Core Strategy can be found at

[www.warwickdc.gov.uk/corestrategy](http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/corestrategy)

For more information, please contact Gary Stephens on 01926 456502.

From: Rachael Carpenter,  
Communications Manager  
Telephone: 01926 456069  
Mobile : 07774 671804  
Email: [rachael.carpenter@warwickdc.gov.uk](mailto:rachael.carpenter@warwickdc.gov.uk)

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