

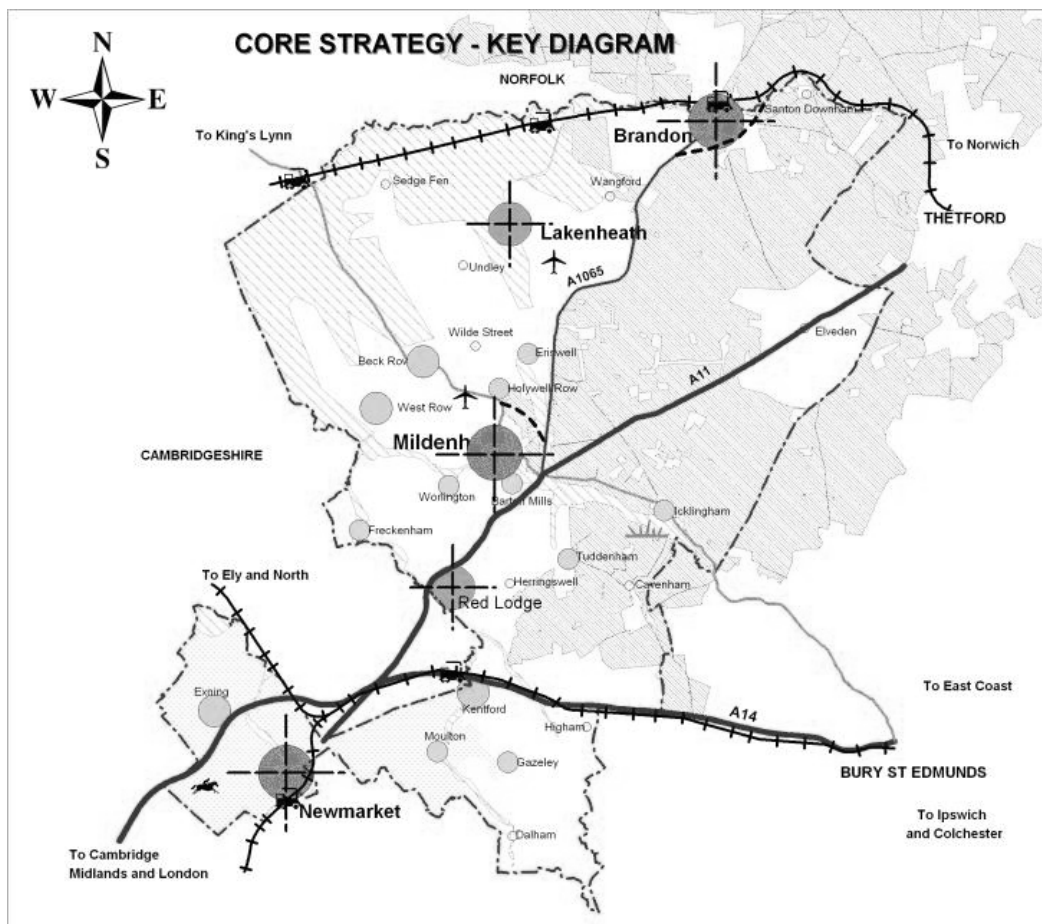


# Forest Heath District Council Core Strategy - Final Policy Option: Consultation (August 2008)

## INTRODUCTION

All Local Planning Authorities are required to prepare a Local Development Framework (LDF). The LDF for Forest Heath will replace the Forest Heath Local Plan (1995) and will cover the period to 2021 and then look forward to 2031.

The LDF is a “spatial plan”, meaning that it deals with places- how they function and relate to each other. It will be more wide ranging than just land use plans - involving other agencies in implementing development and delivering services, taking account of local needs and priorities and strategies for education, health, housing, transport, economic development etc. It aims to secure the best achievable quality of life for all communities, without wasting scarce resources or spoiling the environment.



## THE CORE STRATEGY

The Core Strategy will set out:

- A vision for the future of Forest Heath, to 2021 and then on to 2031
- Objectives to achieve the vision
- Development strategy to meet the objectives and the needs for new development and services
- Strategic policies to guide and control; the overall scale, type and location of new development and to protect the environment

It does not include any land allocations or detailed development control policies. These will be proposed in later documents, after further consultation.

The purpose of the Core Strategy is to set the framework for future development and services and to narrow down the options to broad locations.

## CORE STRATEGY KEY THEMES

The Core Strategy features key themes are divided into five categories, the themes include:

- **Economy** - To diversify Forest Heath's economy to create strong, competitive areas which encourage sustainable business and improves the mix and quality of jobs
- **Housing** - To provide enough decent homes to meet the needs of Forest Heath's urban and rural communities in the most sustainable locations
- **Culture** - To promote the retention and enhancement of key community facilities in our urban and rural areas
- **Environment** - To conserve and enhance the many habitats and landscapes of international, national and local importance within Forest Heath
- **Transport** - To ensure new development is located where there are the best opportunities for sustainable travel and the least dependency on car travel

## PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

It is important we get the widest public involvement in the preparation of the new LDF. This leaflet and the full Core Strategy - Final Policy Option document are the latest stages in consulting you.

Previous responses to the "Preferred Options" consultation (2006) have been taken into account in this "Final Policy Option" document.

## OBTAINING A COPY

The Core Strategy Final Policy Option document and accompanying Sustainability Appraisal Report are available at the following places:

- 1) FHDC District Offices, College Heath Road, Mildenhall
- 2) FHDC Brandon Office, High Street, Brandon
- 3) FHDC Newmarket Office, Guineas Centre, Newmarket
- 4) The Forest Heath District Council website [www.forest-heath.gov.uk](http://www.forest-heath.gov.uk) under the heading Local Development Framework
- 5) Various other deposit points: Brandon Library, Newmarket Library, Mildenhall Library

For further information on the document or to obtain hard copies please contact the Forward Planning team on 01638 719446 or e-mail [ldf@forest-heath.gov.uk](mailto:ldf@forest-heath.gov.uk)

The closing date for comments is **5pm, 22 SEPTEMBER 2008**