

RURAL ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

15 JUNE 2011

REPORT OF HEAD OF COMMUNITIES & NEIGHBOURHOODS

LEICESTERSHIRE RURAL FRAMEWORK- CONSULTATION

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 Members to note and comment on the draft Leicestershire Rural Framework 2011-14.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 **Members note and comment on the Leicestershire Rural Framework 2011-14 consultation documents.**

2.2 **Members delegate to the Head of Communities & Neighbourhoods, in consultation with the Chair of the Rural, Economic and Environment Committee a formal response to the consultation.**

3.0 KEY ISSUES/BACKGROUND

3.1 The Leicestershire Rural Partnership (LRP) was established in 1993 in order that partners could work more effectively, benefit from shared knowledge and resources, and jointly address issues of mutual concern.

3.2 The Leicestershire Rural Framework (LRF) is one of a number of key strategic documents developed by the LRP. It will influence the allocation of LRP resources, including staffing capacity and funding. It will also be used to influence local and national partners who deliver services in rural areas to ensure the needs of rural communities are met, and contribute to the deliver our refreshed 2026 Vision for rural Leicestershire.

3.2 The LRF identifies 4 Priority Theme Chapters, which are :

- Strong, safe and inclusive communities
- Thriving economy
- High quality and accessible services
- Countryside and the environment

The rural framework outcomes for each theme are described in the draft LRF which is attached as appendix A.

3.3 A third Leicestershire Rural Strategy (now named Framework) was launched in 2007, since then there have been significant changes, this includes current funding pressures and the emergence of new Government priorities – such as the Big Society. Within Leicestershire there are new governance structures, including the emerging Leicester and Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership and a refresh to the Leicestershire Together partnership.

3.4 The LRP has launched a public consultation on the refreshed Leicestershire Rural Framework, 2011-14 which will be open until 30th June 2011. The consultation is through a series of questions which has been included as Appendix B

4.0 POLICY AND CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Some areas of the LRF do link in with priorities within the Council’s Corporate Plan in the People and Place themes, specifically:

- Encourage people to take an active role in their communities.
- Maximise the potential of Melton Mowbray Town centre
- Meet the Economic needs of Borough
- Help provide a stock of housing accommodation that meets the needs of the community

5.0 FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no direct implications.

6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS/POWERS

6.1 No legal implications have been identified.

7.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY

7.1 The Strong, safe and inclusive communities chapter includes elements of tackling ASB and increasing user satisfaction with local crime and disorder services.

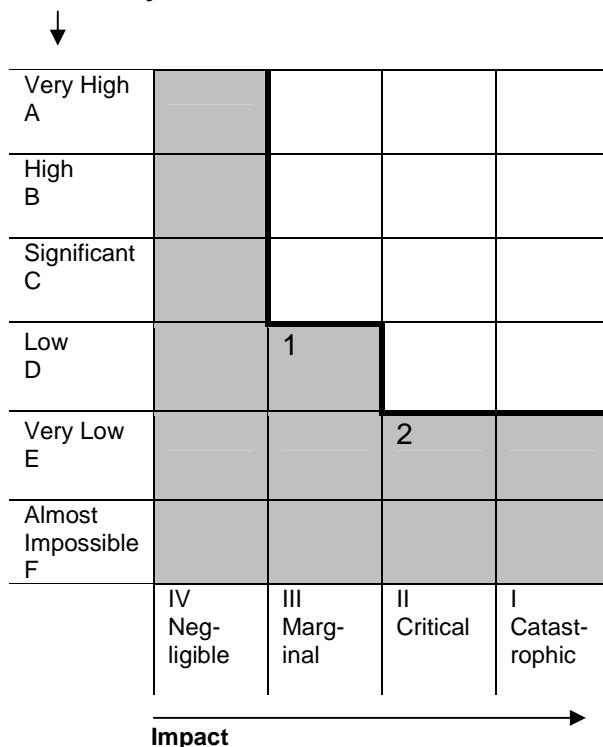
8.0 EQUALITIES

8.1 No equality impact assessment implications

9.0 RISKS

9.1 No risks associated with this report

Probability



Risk No.	Description
1	We do not respond to the consultation
2	Priorities within the LRF do not align with MBC’s corporate Plan
3	
4	
5	

10.0 CLIMATE CHANGE

10.1 The Countryside and the environment chapter refers to reducing carbon footprint and the uptake of resource efficiency.

11.0 CONSULTATION

11.1 The document is subject to formal consultation ending on the 30th June 2011.

12.0 WARDS AFFECTED

12.1 All wards are affected

Contact Officer:	Harrinder Rai
Date:	23 May 2011
Appendices:	Appendix A- Draft LRF 2011-14 Appendix B- Consultation Questions
Background Papers:	None
Reference:	X : Committees/REEA/08.06.11 –. HR LRF