

•widening horizons

October 2010

Guide to
councillors

Review of Services
- join the debate

Age Takes Centre
Stage - full details

Playground
is a big
adventure!



North Tyneside Council

Keeping you informed | www.northtyneside.gov.uk

Mayor's message



Dear resident,

As you read this, the council will be moving towards the deadline for this round of consultation on the Core Strategy – a plan to help us discuss the future use of land in North Tyneside.

I am delighted that so many of you have engaged in the consultation and shared your views with us – on everything from housing and employment to the provision of gypsy and traveller sites.

I want to use this opportunity to reassure you that we are listening to your views and to explain how the process will progress.

The Core Strategy is a document that every council in the country was asked to produce by the government two years ago.

The aim of the document is to identify how land across the borough could be used – and also to discourage some uses in specific areas.

For example, we know that residents of a housing estate would have concerns if we allocated land within it for factory development. But it is also important

that we can identify land that can be used for employment, so we can ensure we work with our partners to attract investment and jobs.

The Core Strategy Preferred Options Report is our planning team's suggestions about how North Tyneside could allocate land and meet the borough's needs for development sites up to 2027.

I fully understand that not everyone will agree with those proposals. That is why we have embarked on an extensive programme of consultation with our residents and key partners – businesses, landowners, our young people and many more.

I have extended the consultation period by a month – until Friday, September 24, because I was aware there is so much interest.

I can reassure you that no decisions have been taken on any aspect of the Core Strategy report.

In fact, we know already that changes in the government's policies mean that amendments will be made to some of the current proposals. For example, the government has announced councils will no longer need to provide gypsy and traveller sites, so we will implement any new guidelines.

And there are plenty of opportunities for you to have your say on the report's contents in the future.

So what happens next?

All the comments we receive will be used in the preparation of the Draft Core Strategy, which will go to a meeting of the Full Council in January 2011.

There will be a further period of consultation on the Draft Core Strategy and all representations will be submitted with the plan when it is sent to government and subject to a public examination, probably during 2011 by an independent inspector.

Even after this extensive consultation, the public and stakeholders will still be encouraged to have their say. For example, under the normal planning process the public can comment on any planning application.

So finally, can I say thank you to everyone for getting involved. We are committed to ensuring that all our residents get every opportunity to help us shape our decisions and services.

And can I urge everyone to use their voice again on a new and very important consultation process that we have launched around our future services and spending review.

You can read about the review on the following pages - but as it's very much about the services we provide for you, and how we spend your money, we would appreciate your feedback.

Linda Arkley