

Joint Core Strategy

Gloucester • Cheltenham • Tewkesbury

Newsletter 5

JULY 2010

The Joint Core Strategy (JCS) is a partnership between Gloucester, Cheltenham and Tewkesbury Councils. It will set out the councils' approach to new development, climate change and the environment until 2026. It is important that local people get involved, so please read on and follow us at www.gct-jcs.org

Public Consultation



Preparing the JCS means making choices about how the area develops, so your views count and consultation is happening throughout the process. Many people contributed

to the first consultation, *Issues and Key Questions*, which ran from November to February and highlighted the following issues:

- ◆ **Flooding**
- ◆ **Provision of new homes and housing affordability**
- ◆ **Provision of new jobs**
- ◆ **Making the most of urban regeneration**
- ◆ **Supporting rural economies**
- ◆ **Conserving heritage and open spaces**

A full report on this work is available on the JCS website www.gct-jcs.org.

The issues raised - and possible ways of addressing them - were presented to local stakeholders in June. More than 150 councillors, businesses and community groups joined the debate.

You can join in too (until 5pm on the 9th August) by commenting on the draft *JCS Part 1* which describes:

- **What the JCS area is like now**
- **How the area should be in future, and**
- **What we must do to get there**

Just go to the JCS website and click on *Public Consultation*. There will be more opportunities to get involved - please watch the website and local press for details.

Changes to the Planning System

In May and July, the new Government announced major changes to the planning system which give more power to communities. The South West Regional Spatial Strategy - which set targets for housing and jobs - was scrapped and councils must now establish their own needs locally. The Government also committed to protecting the natural environment and promoting renewable energy for example.

These are important changes so the JCS team is monitoring all Government announcements while reviewing its work and timetables. The team is also working with other Gloucestershire authorities to assess the local housing and employment needs that the JCS will then seek to deliver. Further information is available on the JCS website.



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