

MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL

13 FEBRUARY 2007

GROWTH IN MILTON KEYNES

SUBSTANTIVE MOTION

- “1. That this Council reaffirms that it is committed to securing growth that is advantageous for Milton Keynes, subject to the timely provision of infrastructure.
2. That this Council resolves to ensure there is proper community engagement in decisions on how and where Milton Keynes grows and to make every effort to involve hard to reach and minority groups in this process through the preparation of a communications strategy produced in conjunction with Milton Keynes Partnership and under the editorial management of Milton Keynes Council’s Corporate Communications Manager.
3. That this Council supports Milton Keynes’ ambition to become a major UK city with the wide range of leisure facilities, jobs and choice of housing that this entails.
4. That this Council is committed to:
 - (a) Developing infrastructure that meets the aspirations of a major UK city;
 - (b) Continuing to work for solutions to enable East West rail, a direct EuroStar link to Paris and Brussels and a new University for Milton Keynes to be delivered;
 - (c) Ensuring that growth plans develop the necessary conditions to sustain economic growth over the next twenty five years (with a rolling three year review mechanism) with sufficient high quality jobs for the growing population;
 - (d) Ensuring that no areas are left behind as the city becomes more successful and that new development is completed in equal stages on the east and west flanks so that it does not result in a two-speed city.
5. That the Council agrees that plans for the growth of the city should:
 - (a) Aim to achieve carbon neutrality;
 - (b) Promote public transport whilst maintaining ease of car movement;
 - (c) Not make changes to the existing grid road system;

- (d) Protect the green spaces and open nature of the city as they make a significant contribution to the high quality of life;
 - (e) Ensure that new developments are sensitive to the impact on the identity and character of the rural areas and of the existing New City estates;
 - (f) Provide sufficient affordable housing to meet local needs;
 - (g) Include a significant role for democratically elected town and parish councils across Milton Keynes through a return to the preparation of Town and Village Plans produced through co-operation with Milton Keynes Partnership (or its successors), Milton Keynes Council and each individual local town or parish council;
 - (h) Ensure that proper consideration is given to the primary principles of “organic growth” for Milton Keynes, catering for the residential needs of the people living here today and of the current Milton Keynes based expanding business communities that are the life blood of the city.
6. That this Council agrees that transport is one of the key challenges facing Milton Keynes as the city grows and that the implications of growth on congestion, parking, public transport and access to jobs and services cannot be underestimated.
 7. That this Council agrees that it is crucial to the continuing success of Milton Keynes for solutions to its future transport challenges to be identified, understood by local people, owned and delivered by the Council, Milton Keynes Partnership, the business community and the Council’s many other partners.
 8. That this Council is committed to accelerating the regeneration of the more deprived areas of Milton Keynes but agrees that it must be driven by local residents, and not imposed from above.
 9. That the Council promises to ballot local residents where any regeneration schemes come forward from the community and to honour the results of those ballots, as in Fullers Slade.
 10. That this Council reaffirms its opposition to the separate proposals of Buckinghamshire County Council and Aylesbury Vale District Council to
 - (a) Target the area east of the M1 for future development; and
 - (b) Propose a doubling of the number of houses within the current city, above that originally proposed in the growth strategy.

11. That this Council restates its belief that the area to the south west of Milton Keynes affords the best rationale for an urban extension in support of sustainable development and cross-regional linkages. Development to the south west will also assist in the delivery of the Council's and community's plans for the redevelopment of Bletchley;
12. That this Council is committed to:
 - (a) A Development Corporation, with its focus solely upon Milton Keynes, and with the Board being accountable to the Cabinet of Milton Keynes Council;
 - (b) Continuing to lobby for the massive receipts being accumulated by English Partnerships from developments in Milton Keynes to be retained within Milton Keynes to help fund the new infrastructure requirements, rather than being passed to the Treasury; and
 - (c) Continuing to lobby for sufficient capital and revenue funding to meet the needs of existing and future communities.
13. That the Council ensures that the highest standards of design and environmental standards are applied to all new homes and estates.
14. That as part of the growth process, cultural success such as the Theatre and Gallery be complemented and developments should include expansion of both the Theatre's facilities, to include a multi-use area, and of the Gallery to provide greater opportunities for artists and visitors. The implementation and delivery of the action plan of the newly developed Cultural and Public Arts Strategies, especially, 'advocacy, promotion and support to facilitate capital works initiatives' must be supported, as should the collaborative work of partners in the public, private and voluntary sectors, such as the Cultural Alliance, to promote, at least, the areas defined in the Department for Culture, Media and Sport's definition of culture.
15. That, following the successful development of the MK Dons Stadium and establishment of the National Badminton Centre and National Hockey Stadium, the Council supports the proposed Ice Facility at the Leisure Plaza, the new Denbigh arena for MK Lions and seeks to attract other major sporting facilities to the area including a new national cricketing venue of international quality and centre of excellence / academy."