

## **Planning Committee January 2016 Policy Update**

### **Local Plan**

The six week period of consultation for the Local Plan Preferred Directions Regulation 18 Document is due to commence 11 January 2016 and close on 22 February 2016.

### **The Communications Strategy**

The details of the Communications Strategy have been approved by members of the Overview & Scrutiny Commission. The strategy sets out the key events required to ensure that the consultation reaches as many residents and groups as possible. During the consultation period Officers will be holding public events in all of the market towns and a number of the rural villages, along with briefings for parish councils as appropriate.

### **Evidence Base**

In terms of ongoing evidence base studies consultants for the Habitats Regulation Assessment, Dereham Transport Assessment, Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, Water Cycle Study and Plan Wide Viability are continuing.

An additional addendum to the Dereham Transport study is being scoped and valued. This additional area of work will look at the cumulative growth and transport issues between Dereham and Mattishall

### **Neighbourhood Plans**

The groups that have expressed an interest in producing a neighbourhood plan or those already working on a plan have been invited to a local plan briefing event on 18 January 2016. The purpose of the event is for Officers to explain the strategic priorities of the Local Plan and for attendees to consider how the neighbourhood plans can add value to the priorities.