

(5) PUBLIC QUESTIONS

The following question has been submitted:-

(1) From Mr M Pratley of Cirencester to Councillor NJW Parsons, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Forward Planning

'In their Joint Core Strategy report, neighbouring authorities Gloucester, Cheltenham and Tewkesbury have included a note on their definition of a Strategic Site.

In it they state the following:-

*There is no established single definition for what constitutes a large scale housing development (RTPI 2013), so ultimately this is a matter for each local planning authority to determine having regard to their **particular local context**.*

*ATLAS have been providing and continue to provide critical support to the delivery of key sites within the Joint Core Strategy area. It is recognised that ATLAS sites must be large; either housing led projects (**minimum 500 houses**) or mixed-use regeneration projects (**minimum 200 houses**). The Joint Core Strategy authorities have adopted the housing led scheme approach with a figure of circa 500 homes as an appropriate measure.*

The Joint Core Strategy is concerned with the strategic levels of development for the three authorities and the strategic response to this is through urban extensions to Cheltenham and Gloucester i.e. making the important decisions on the principally important elements of the planning framework to 2031. This is the local response of three local planning authorities when considering development needs arising within their joint plan area. When considering where to set an appropriate approximate threshold, the Joint Core Strategy authorities viewed the approach taken by Atlas, to be an appropriate measure.

Will CDC please explain the following:-

- 1) Their definition of a 'strategic' site.
- 2) The rationale behind applying that definition.
- 3) How does CDC's definition sit within the NPPF?'

Note:

The above question was submitted on the afternoon of the day prior to the Council Meeting. As such, a written response will be provided within five working days; and copied to all Councillors.

(END)