

RCC Scrutiny Committee - Deputation: Gareth Jones - 1 Tyler Close, Edith Weston, Oakham, Rutland, LE158EX. Julie Gray - 59 Weston Road, Edith Weston, LE158HQ

This deputation is about scrutiny related to the Local Plan.

At the last Scrutiny Committee we reflected our concerns on the risk of lack of trust in the Council. We feel that this Local Plan leads to an increase in magnitude and probability. This is because the Cabinet continues to follow a course of action for which there is not public support.

The Local Plan is being transformed from a successful and supported plan to a 'go large' strategy with major risks to the County budget and delivery of effective services for no apparent benefit to Rutlanders. To properly scrutinize the proposed plan there must be 'tests' applied. The Committee must have the resources (time, expertise and consultation with stakeholders etc) in order to meet the Committee's remit. To help you, here is a suggested checklist, where you need **YES** answers to provide effective scrutiny to the Cabinet.

1. **Are you able to do your job?** Is scrutiny conducted in a strong and supportive political and organisational culture, one in which **forensic and robust scrutiny** can take place? YES/NO. If NO what resource do you need?
2. **I am comfortable that there is no 'negative behaviour' impacting scrutiny?** There is no bullying, inappropriate pressure, conflict of interest or corruption in the system influencing production or voting on this plan. YES/NO
3. **Have we amplified the voices and concerns of public accurately?** Do we understand the **depth of negative public feeling** against the major change in policy from a successful and supported policy to a major larger developments in Rutland stance? What is the evidence? **Is the need proven?** YES/NO
4. **Risks attendant adopting this plan are understood?** Do we fully understand the risks (irreversible impacts, reputational, financial etc) and attendant resource requirements we are taking on with this plan? YES/NO
5. **Are the Benefits clear and are the risks worth it?** Have the benefits been identified and articulated in the Plan for this **radical change of policy?** **Does this plan enhance Rutland, improve our Services and live up to the values that drive our County?**. Will you be proud of this County changing plan for Rutland? YES/NO

So what:

- **If you cannot answer YES then you must take action.** if you have any doubts at all you must make recommendations to Cabinet before this meeting is closed. Or if you need more time, you must secure that and ensure that there is proper activity designed and scheduled to ensure you can do the job." You need to be secure if the 'lookback' test is applied.

We also suggest that you take time out to read the Good Scrutiny Guide. Good luck we are counting on you and **thank you** for doing this difficult role. If question 2 applies we expect robust action/resignation.