

## 6. DEVELOPMENT PLAN UPDATE

The panel considered a report by the Head of Planning & Economic Development (copies of which had been circulated) which provided an update on the implementation of the development plan.

The panel recalled that when it had considered a report on the Strategy for School Consultations August 2011-February 2012 in June 2011, members had requested an update on the progress of the development plan, prior to the report being forwarded to the Education Executive.

The report provided the panel with full details and the latest information on:-

- The planned replacement of the Edinburgh & Lothian Structure Plan with a Strategic Development Plan.
- The decline of house building within the three Core Development Areas in West Lothian and an overview of variety of planning applications that had been received within each of the three areas.
- The impact the lack of infrastructure, including education infrastructure, was having on CDA and the measures that were being put in place by the council and the Government to encourage development.

The report concluded that the key to delivering an increase in new house completions was to address infrastructure constraints. The council was already providing assistance to delivering housing land, where appropriate, for example through review of school catchments and provision of school extensions. Further measures, along similar lines, to assist the house building industry, would continue to be explored and delivered, in so far as the resources of the council allow.

During the discussion, it was suggested that when the Strategy for Schools Consultation report was referred to the Education Executive it should include reference to having been considered by the PDSP. It was also suggested that officers should advise potential developers to give consideration to further consultation with the community of Winchburgh in relation to the development of the CDA.

### Decision

To note the terms of the report.