



HEREFORDSHIRE
COUNCIL

Herefordshire Unitary Development Plan

Written Statement

Adopted March 2007

FOREWORD

I am very pleased to introduce the Herefordshire Unitary Development Plan.

Herefordshire has a unique character. Its natural beauty is second to none, with nationally acclaimed landscapes and a rich wildlife heritage. History and architecture abound. Its market towns and villages each have their own special sense of place – in terms of how they look, how they work, how they relate to each other. With the cathedral city of Hereford at the centre, they offer many vital services to the surrounding rural areas.

Herefordshire Council is keenly aware of the responsibility it has to respect this special character in providing for necessary development. The Plan has to provide for the new homes, jobs and facilities that people need, with growth in the towns balanced with support for rural regeneration. A particular concern is the provision of a range and mix of housing to meet the needs of all - including the young and the old, and those in need of affordable accommodation. At the same time, it is essential that such development is properly and effectively planned to ensure the protection and enhancement of our towns and countryside. Above all, we must make sure that future development in Herefordshire is truly sustainable, so that future generations can enjoy what we have today.

The Plan has been prepared to meet this challenging vision. It has been developed in a spirit of partnership working, with the Community Strategy for the County providing a key reference point. I thank all those who have contributed to the Plan and commend it to you.

Councillor Phil Edwards
Cabinet Member for the Environment
Herefordshire Council