

COPELAND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME 2017

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: Councillor Lena Hogg

LEAD OFFICER: Chris Hoban

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PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform Members of the work programme between 2017 and 2019 to review the Core Strategy and complete the Local Plan and how this has been brought together in the Local Development Scheme 2017.

RECOMMENDATION

That Members approve the Local Development Scheme as the Council's work programme for producing the Copeland Local Plan between 2017 and 2019. This can then be presented to Full Council on 20th June for formal adoption.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The reports that were presented at the last LDF Working Party meeting on 26th April 2017 highlighted that the Council can no longer demonstrate a five-year supply of housing land and the implications of this.
- 1.2 One of the main implications of this is that Local Plan policies relevant to housing are considered to be out of date and carry less weight when making planning decisions. It was also considered that the Council is unlikely to regain a five-year supply of housing during the rest of the Plan period based on the proposed sites in the *Site Allocations and Policies Plan Preferred Options* document when the results of the housing market intelligence work was taken into account.
- 1.3 Members agreed at Full Council on 9th May to pause the production of the *Site Allocations and Policies Plan* to allow time to review the strategic policies in the adopted *Copeland Local Plan: Core Strategy and Development Management Policies* (which include the settlement hierarchy, development strategy and housing target) to address this issue. This review will then shape the site allocations process and ensure that an updated Copeland Local Plan is produced that maintains up to date housing policies.

- 1.4 Initial timescales for this work were presented to Members in April and this report seeks to gain formal approval for the work programme to produce the Copeland Local Plan. This work programme is contained within the Local Development Scheme 2017, which describes all the documents that will comprise the Local Plan, what they will contain, and how and when they will be produced.
- 1.5 The Local Development Scheme 2017 will replace the version that was approved by Full Council in September 2016.

2.0 THE CONTENT OF THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME 2017

- 2.1 The Local Development Scheme 2017 focuses on the production of the Local Plan documents and its supporting evidence base. It outlines the scope, content and status of each planning document that comprises the Local Plan together with the process and timescales for future documents that are still to be produced. It also outlines the resources required and available to the Council to enable the production.
- 2.2 The main piece of work that the Local Development Scheme outlines is the review of the Core Strategy and then combining this with the site allocations process to produce an up to date Copeland Local Plan.
- 2.3 In addition to this the Council will be producing a series of Supplementary Planning Documents. These are:
 - Conservation Area Design Guide
 - Planning Contributions
 - Copeland Design Guide
- 2.4 The *Conservation Area Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document* is being produced to help improve the quality of developments and refurbishments in the borough's conservation areas, making them more attractive for residents and visitors alike. This work will be led by the Council's THI officer.
- 2.5 The *Planning Contributions Supplementary Planning Document* will provide the framework for ensuring that developments make the greatest contributions to support local infrastructure.
- 2.6 The *Copeland Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document* will provide guidance on design matters to ensure that developments are of high quality, both in terms of the buildings and the spaces around them, and respect the local character.

3.0 KEY MILESTONES IN THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

3.1 The Local Development Scheme identifies the key milestones for producing each of the Local Plan documents as follows:

3.2 *Copeland Local Plan Update:*

- Evidence base updates – **Spring and Summer 2017**
- Consultation on Issues and Options (Core Strategy) – **September/October 2017**
- Consultation on Preferred Options (Local Plan) – **February/March 2018**
- Pre-Submission consultation (Local Plan) – **September/October 2018**
- Submission to the Secretary of State – **December 2018/January 2019**
- Public Examination Hearing Sessions – **Spring/Summer 2019**
- Adoption – **September 2019**

3.3 *Conservation Area Design Guide SPD:*

- Consultation on draft document – **June/July 2017**
- Adoption – **December 2017**

3.3 *Planning Contributions SPD:*

- Consultation on draft document – **June/July 2018**
- Adoption – **December 2018**

3.5 *Copeland Design Guide SPD:*

- Consultation on draft document – **April/May 2019**
- Adoption – **September 2019**

3.6 The full programme and milestones are shown in the Local Development Scheme in Appendix 1.

APPENDICES

- Appendix 1: Draft Local Development Scheme 2016 (to follow)