

COPELAND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME 2019

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PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform Members of the work programme between 2019 and 2021 to produce the new *Copeland Local Plan 2017-2035*. The timescales and resources for achieving this have been brought together in the Local Development Scheme 2019 for Member approval.

RECOMMENDATION

That Members approve the Local Development Scheme as the Council's work programme for producing the new *Copeland Local Plan 2017-2035*. This can then be presented to Full Council on 19th November for formal adoption.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Council is producing a new Local Plan to replace the Copeland Local Plan 2013-2028: Core Strategy and Development Management Policies in order to take account of the following changes:

- Updates to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2018)
- The Council's new Housing Strategy (2018-2023)
- Production of the new Copeland Growth Strategy: *Copeland Vision*
- The Council's Corporate Plan
- Cumbria Local Industrial Strategy
- The pause of the Moorside project
- Changes to Sellafield's 'missions' and the opportunities that this can provide
- Availability of Government funding
- Changes to shopping patterns and the role and function of town centres

1.2 The new Local Plan will be informed by a robust evidence base and must undergo a number of public consultation stages and be tested for its social, economic and environmental impacts. The document then undergoes a public Examination by a Planning Inspector before it can be adopted by the Council.

1.3 The Local Development Scheme is the document that outlines the work programme, timescales and resources to produce the *Copeland Local Plan 2017-2035*.

- 1.4 The Local Development Scheme 2017 will replace the version that was approved by Full Council in September 2016.

2.0 THE EVIDENCE BASE AND ASSESSING THE IMPACTS OF THE LOCAL PLAN

- 2.1 The Local Development Scheme 2019 focuses on the production of *the Copeland Local Plan 2017-2035* and its supporting evidence base, which comprises:

- Strategic Housing Market and Objectively Assessed Needs Assessment
- Local Housing Needs Assessment
- Strategic Housing Availability Assessment
- Economic Development Needs Assessment
- Employment Land Assessment
- Infrastructure Delivery Plan
- Economic Viability Assessment
- Retail Study
- Highways Impacts Modelling
- Transport Improvements Study
- Open Space Assessment and Strategy
- Landscape Character Assessment
- Sports Strategy
- Playing Pitch Strategy
- Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment
- Wind Energy Technical Document

- 2.2 It outlines the scope, content and status of 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.

- 2.3 The Local Plan will be subject to a number of assessments during its production, including:

- Sustainability Appraisal (to consider the likely environmental, social and economic impacts of proposed policies and allocations and ensure development is sustainable)
- Habitats Regulation Assessment (to consider the potential effects of proposed policies on protected environmental designations)
- Health Impact Assessment
- Heritage Impact Assessment
- Equality Impact Assessment

- 2.4 In the future the Council is likely to produce some Supplementary Planning Documents that will provide greater detail to the policies and allocations in the new Local Plan, but these are not included at present as they will be identified as the new Local Plan

develops. Once they are identified they will be presented in an updated Local Development Scheme.

3.0 KEY MILESTONES IN THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

3.1 The key milestones for producing the *Copeland Local Plan 2017-2035* as follows:

- Consultation on Issues and Options – **November 2019 to January 2020**
- Consultation on Preferred Options – **May/June 2020**
- Pre-Submission consultation – **Winter 2020**
- Submission to the Secretary of State – **Spring 2021**
- Public Examination Hearing Sessions – **Summer/Autumn 2021**
- Adoption – **Winter 2021**

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

APPENDICES

- Appendix 1: Draft Local Development Scheme 2019