



Report of	Meeting	Date
Joint LDF Officer Team	Central Lancashire LDF Joint Advisory Committee	15 March 2011

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To inform members of the outcome of progress in preparing a joint Local Development Scheme (LDS).
2. To outline the key timescales of the Local Development Framework (LDF) over the next three years.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

3. That the attached joint Scheme be supported.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT

4. The LDS is the timetable for the production of the LDF. It identifies a series of milestones for the production of the various planning documents (including the proposed Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule) and sets out the various community engagement/preparation stages.
5. The LDS also includes the risks and resources in producing an LDF and the link between the old style Local Plans with their 'saved policies' and the documents in preparation.
6. It is a statutory requirement to produce an LDS and intended to remain so with the enactment of the Localism Bill.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S) (If the recommendations are accepted)

7. To make Members aware of the LDS and the timescales for the production of the LDF, over the next three years.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

8. None as it is a required document.

BACKGROUND

What is a Local Development Scheme?

9. The LDS is the business plan for the production of an LDF. It identifies and sets out the timescales for the production of Development Plan Documents (DPD's) and can include as is proposed here timescales for the production of Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD's) and other associated planning documents such as the Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule. The LDS covers a three year period and should ideally be updated annually to provide realistic and up to date timescales. Once agreed the LDS is a publicly available document, which will be placed on the Councils' websites, as well as in paper form, if requested in that format.
10. There are currently three LDS's – one for each of the Central Lancashire District Councils.
 - Chorley's LDS currently runs from 2009 to 2012
 - South Ribble's LDS currently runs from 2007 to 2012
 - Preston's LDS currently runs from 2007 - 2010

However, due to recent planning changes at the national level there have been a number of delays in the production of the LDF documents and as a result all three LDS's need to be updated.

What has been carried out so far?

11. A draft joint LDS for the three teams has now been produced, covering the period up until 2014 – see attached Appendix 1. This document is intended to replace the three individual LDS's and provide an update of the timescales for the production of the documents, the level of staff resources available, a risk assessment of meeting the timescales and preparation progress.
12. This document would be the first joint LDS for the three authorities and has been produced arising out of joint working on the Core Strategy and forthcoming Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD's).

KEY ISSUES

13. The LDS provides a timescale for the continuing production of the Core Strategy. The key milestones including its submission by the end of March 2011, the examination hearings during June 2011 and adoption in November 2011 is the timetable previously agreed with Members.
14. The LDS also provides timescales for the three individual Site Allocation and Development Management Policies DPD's. However, the timescales for the production of these DPD's varies between authority and as such the periods of community engagement would occur at different times of the year, as a result it is likely there would be individual examinations.
15. Included within the LDS are potential timescales for the proposed Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule, which if accepted, is likely to be out for draft consultation in September/October 2011, examination in February 2012 and adoption in June 2012.

16. Although not a requirement of an LDS, the authorities have chosen to include anticipated dates for the production of SPD's to enable clear project management of these documents and provide transparency. There are a number of proposed SPD's, some relating specifically to one authority and others are going to be prepared jointly. With the exception of the New Central Business District, Preston SPD (which has been drafted and is due for adoption in April 2011), the draft SPD's are programmed for consultation in September/October 2011 and adoption in February 2012.
17. As well as providing an update on anticipated timescales, the LDS also covers such issues as the resources required to produce the LDF and the risks associated with its production. These have been updated and additional risks included such as: the risk of changing legislation and financial restrictions.
18. The LDS also covers the link between other plans such as the Lancashire Waste and Minerals Strategy and existing Local Authority Local Plans and provides information on how the 'saved policies' from the three Local Plans are being taken forward into the LDF.

There are no background papers to this report.

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