

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK WORKING PARTY

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 15 OCTOBER 2007

Present: Councillors P C Connolly; M McVeigh; G Scurrah; W Southward; C Whiteside

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors C Giel; A Mossop.

Officers: J Hughes, Regeneration Strategy Manager; M Bagnall, Planning Policy Assistant

Minutes of the Meeting held on 31 August 2007

The minutes of the meeting held on 31 August 2007 were signed by Chairman as a correct record.

LDF 12

Pow Beck Development Brief Supplementary Planning Document

Consideration was given to the representations received on the draft Pow Beck Supplementary Planning Document during the July-August consultation period (the draft was approved by the Council's Executive for consultation on July 10th 2007). A schedule of all representations and the Working Party's recommended changes to the document and its companion Sustainability Appraisal were agreed to go forward to Full Council (copies of the schedule and draft documents are available for inspection in the Members' Room).

RESOLVED - That Full Council is recommended to confirm adoption of the document, incorporating the amendments as recommended by the Working Party.

That a meeting of the Transport Working Group is convened as soon as practicable to discuss traffic management implications of development here and other parts of central Whitehaven.

LDF 13

Planning Advisory Service Update

Members discussed the proposed course for officers on project management being the first of the series suggested by the PAS to

improve the planning policy service. This led to a discussion on current staff shortages and their impact on the production of the Council's LDF.

RESOLVED – It was agreed to refer the subject of recruitment back to the portfolio holder and senior officers and that they report back to the Working Group's next meeting.

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Local Development Scheme

COPELAND BOROUGH COUNCIL

Local Development Framework



MARCH 2007



1.0 INTRODUCTION

This Local Development Scheme (LDS) sets out the documents that will be produced to form the Local Development Framework (LDF) for the Borough of Copeland (excluding the area within the National Park) over the next three years. It provides the starting point for the local community to find out what the current planning policies are for the area and sets out the programme for the preparation of Local Development Documents (LDDs) to replace existing planning policies over the next three years.

Background – A New Development Planning System

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act received Royal Assent on 13 May 2004, with its proposals for overhauling the development plan system coming into effect on 28 September 2004. The Act's reforms are intended to make the preparation of development plans and other non-statutory documents quicker and more flexible, with increased community involvement. The new system intends to widen the ambit of planning from focusing on the control of land use to reflect a wider, more inclusive and spatial approach. The new system seeks to facilitate earlier and more in depth public consultation.

The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) will remain the primary legislation for the land use planning system in England and Wales. However, the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 has modified the development planning system in England significantly. Planning policy is now governed by a cascade of planning documents from national to local. These are described below.

National Policy Guidance:

Planning Policy Statements (PPSs) are gradually replacing Planning Policy Guidance Notes (PPGs) and providing topic-based national planning policies. These are material considerations which must be taken into account, where relevant, in decisions on planning applications. Development plans at the regional and local level must conform with these statements of Government policy.

The Statutory Development Plan:

The statutory development plan for the purposes of Section 54A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, and determining planning applications will comprise both the **Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS)** (which is currently being assessed for recommendation to the Secretary of State by a panel of Planning Inspectors following its Examination in Public earlier this year) and a suite of **Local Development Documents (LDDs)** which the Council will prepare and of which there are two types: statutory (which will be subject to independent examination) and non-statutory.

The development plan at the local level will comprise several statutory **Development Plan Documents (DPDs)**, including a Core Strategy, Site Allocations, Area Action Plans (AAPs) and a Proposals Map. DPDs will be subject to independent examination by an Inspector provided by the Planning Inspectorate to consider the “soundness” of the plan (for further information regarding the tests of soundness the plans will be assessed against, see Appendix 4). The Inspector’s report will be binding on the local planning authority, with no modifications stage.

Sustainable development is central to the reformed planning system. Each LDD will be subject to a continuous process of **sustainability appraisal** to ensure its potential social, economic and environmental effects are explored and are incorporated into policy making stage.

Non-Statutory Planning Documents:

Non-statutory LDDs may also be prepared by local planning authorities. These **Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)** may cover a range of issues, both thematic and site specific, which may expand on policy or provide further detail to policies in a development plan document. SPDs may take the form of design guides, area development briefs, master plan or issue-based documents which supplement policies in a Development Plan Document. They will be consulted upon in draft form, but will not be subject to independent examination. SPDs will be material considerations and will therefore carry significant weight in decision-making.

Local Development Frameworks:

The LDDs described above are grouped together to form the **Local Development Framework (LDF)**. The LDF will comprise a portfolio of **LDDs** including both the statutory DPDs and non-statutory SPDs. From March 2005 Authorities are required to submit and keep updated a **Local Development Scheme (LDS)** outlining how they will develop the LDF over a three-year period; this is Copeland Borough Council's second LDS, updating the original document from March 2005. An Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), setting out the Authority's progress against the LDS is required to be published each year. The AMR allows close examination of the objectives behind planning policies a) in terms of relevance to the issues being faced by an area and its communities and b) in terms of their achievement in meeting particular targets. The monitoring of the effectiveness of policies within the Adopted Copeland Local Plan (2001-2016) helps to inform the Council on issues that the LDF should tackle.

Authorities are also required at the outset to produce a **Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)**, which again, has to be subject to independent examination. The SCI will explain how local communities and stakeholders can be involved in the preparation of LDDs and sets Council standards for facilitating this. Copeland's SCI has been approved by the Planning Inspectorate and has now been adopted by the Council. A diagram showing the linkages between the local development documents, extracted from PPS12: Local Development Frameworks is shown below.

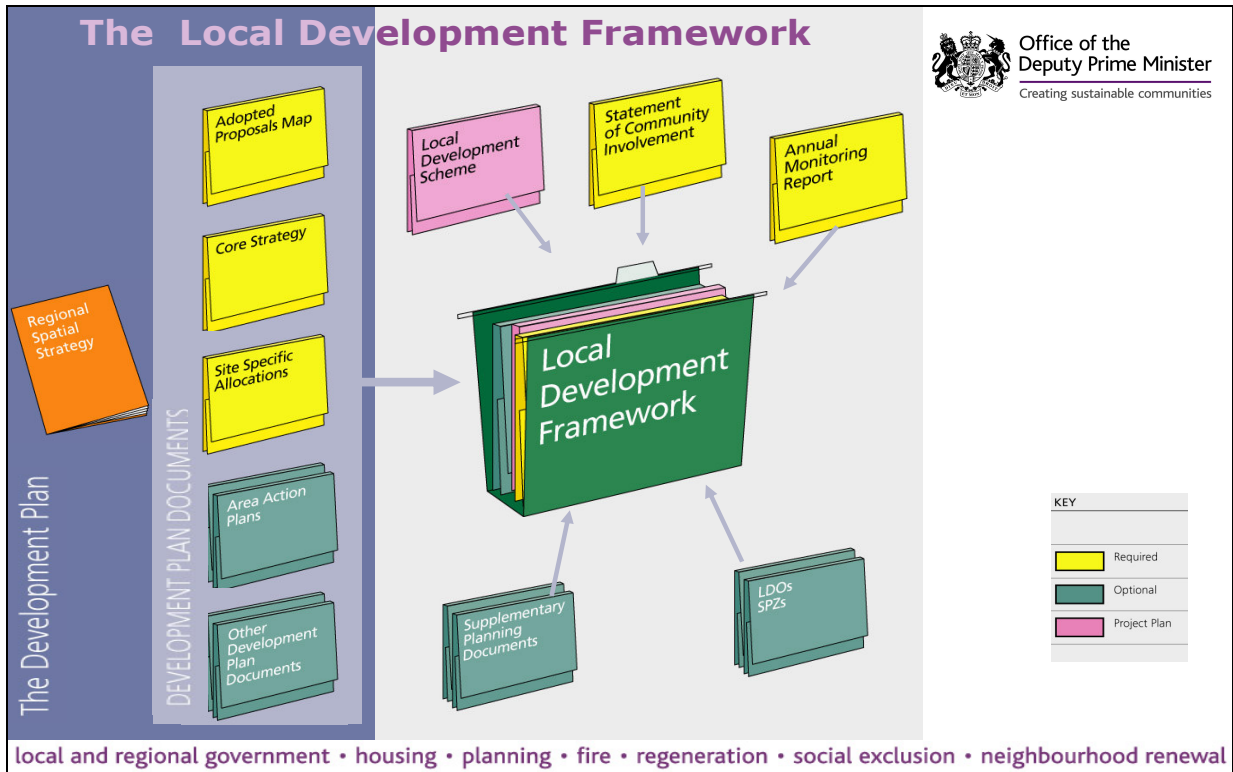


Figure 1: The Local Development Framework
Source: ODPM, now known as 'Department of Communities and Local Government' (DCLG)

APPENDIX 1 SCHEDULE OF LOCAL DEVELOPMENT DOCUMENTS

Document Title	Status	Brief Description	Geographical Coverage	Chain of Conformity	Pre-Production & Document Preparation	Consultation on options / draft and on sustainability appraisal	Submission to SoS	Public Examination	Adopt Document
Statement of Community Involvement	Non-development plan document	Council's service level agreement with stakeholders and the community, covering engagement in the plan-making process.	The Borough of Copeland excluding the National Park	Must be in conformity with regulations	May – September 2006	October – November 2006	April 2007	July 2007	October 2007
Core Strategy	Development Plan Document	Sets out visions, objectives and district spatial development strategy	The Borough of Copeland excluding the National Park	Must be in general conformity with RSS. All other LDD's must be in conformity with core strategy	July 2007 – June 2008	July – August 2008	March 2009	October 2009	June 2010
Site Specific Allocations and Policies: <i>Open Space and Recreation</i>	Development Plan Document	Provide the framework for development control and replace saved plan policies	The Borough of Copeland excluding the National Park	With saved Local Plan	May – December 2007	January – February 2008	May 2008	October 2008	April 2009

Document Title	Status	Brief Description	Geographical Coverage	Chain of Conformity	Pre-Production & Document Preparation	Consultation on options / draft and on sustainability appraisal	Submission to SoS	Public Examination	Adopt Document
Employment, Housing & town centres	Development Plan document	Provide the framework for development control and replace saved plan policies	The Borough of Copeland excluding the National Park	With saved Local Plan	February – December 2008	January – February 2009	September 2009	March 2009	November 2010
Whitehaven Town Centre & Harbourside Area Action Plan	Development Plan Document	Area Action plan to address the redevelopment opportunities. It will include new Town Centre boundaries to accord with PPS6, Design Guidance, Public realm strategy, development brief and an implementation plan.	Whitehaven Town Centre and Harbourside	With saved Local Plan	July 2007 – March 2008	April – May 2008	October 2008	April 2009	November 2009
West Whitehaven Area Action Plan	Development Plan Document	Area Action plan to address development opportunities in a wide area involving HMR issues, coastal park, afteruse of chemical works	Area to the south and west of the town centre including the coastal fringe	With saved Local Plan	February-October 2008	November – December 2008	May 2009	November 2009	July 2010

Document Title	Status	Brief Description	Geographical Coverage	Chain of Conformity	Pre-Production & Document Preparation	Consultation on options / draft and on sustainability appraisal	Submission to SoS	Public Examination	Adopt Document
Pow Beck Development Brief SPD	Supplementary Planning Document	Regeneration site identified in Local Plan involving recreational and employment development opportunities	Land adjoining Whitehaven town centre	With Saved Local Plan	November 2006 – April 2007	May – June 2007	N/A	N/A	September 2007
Millom MTI SPD	Supplementary Planning document	Development Brief-style document to assist implementation of Market Town Initiative Programme	Millom and Millom Without parishes	With saved Local Plan	September 2007 – February 2008	March- April 2008	N/A	N/A	July 2008
Egremont MTI SPD	Supplementary Planning document	Development Brief-style document to assist implementation of Market Town Initiative Programme	Egremont and St Johns Beckermest parishes	With saved Local Plan	September 2007 – February 2008	March- April 2008	N/A	N/A	July 2008
Cleator Moor Regeneration SPD	Supplementary Planning document	Development Brief-style document to assist regeneration programme	Cleator, Cleator Moor and Arlecdon and Frizington parishes	With saved Local Plan	March – August 2008	September – October 2008	N/A	N/A	January 2009

Document Title	Status	Brief Description	Geographical Coverage	Chain of Conformity	Pre-Production & Document Preparation	Consultation on options / draft and on sustainability appraisal	Submission to SoS	Public Examination	Adopt Document
Improving Housing Quality SPD	Supplementary Planning Document	Guidance on improving general levels of design and finishes esp in higher density developments.	West Cumbria	With saved Local Plan	January – July 2008	August – September 2008	N/A	N/A	January 2009
Onshore Wind Energy	Supplementary Planning Document	Technical advice and guidance to encourage positive wind energy development	The Borough of Copeland excluding the National Park	With saved Local Plan	April – September 2006	October – December 2006	N/A	N/A	September 2007
Landscape Character	Supplementary Planning Document		The Borough of Copeland excluding the National Park	With saved Local Plan	June 2007 – March 2008	April – May 2008	N/A	N/A	December 2008
Cumbria Highway Design Guide	Supplementary Planning Document	Guidance on lay-out of highway and transport infrastructure.	The Borough of Copeland excluding the National Park	With saved Local Plan	September 2007- March 2008	April – May 2008	N/A	N/A	September 2008

Copeland Local Development Scheme Overall Programme

Document Title	2007												2008												2009													
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D		
Replacement Local Plan																																						
Local Development Scheme		≡									A																											
Statement of Community Involvement				S	≡					R	A																											
Core Strategy																																						
Site Specific Allocations and Policies																																						
Employment, Housing & Town Centres																																						
Open Space and Recreation																																						
Area Action Plans																																						
Whitehaven TC & Habourside																																						
West Whitehaven																																						
Supplementary Planning Documents																																						
Pow Beck (Development Brief)											A																											
Millom MTI Regeneration																																						
Egremont MTI Regeneration																																						
Cleator Moor Regeneration																																						
Improving Housing Quality																																						
Landscape Character (1)																																						
Highway Design Guide (1)																																						
Onshore Wind Energy (1)																																						
Proposals Map																																						
Annual Monitoring Report												A																										

Key:



Pre Production and Document Preparation (*inc background studies*)

Public Consultation

Consideration and Review



Sub

Pub

Sav

Pos

Pre-

Notes: (1) Supplementary Planning Document to be prepared by County Council

LDF 15 Date of next meeting

RESOLVED – that the next meeting of the Working Party will take place when required.

The Meeting Closed at 11.45 am.

Chairman