

Copeland Local Plan 2021-2038

Statement of Common Ground between Copeland Borough Council (CBC) and South Lakeland District Council (SLDC)

This Statement of Common Ground has been prepared jointly between Copeland Borough Council and South Lakeland District Council.

The purpose of a Statement of Common Ground is to set out the confirmed agreements with regard to strategic cross- boundary issues between the two Local Authorities. This is the result of early, meaningful and continuous engagement between the Local Planning Authorities.

The statement is intended to assist the Inspectors during the examination of the Copeland Local Plan to show where effective co-operation and agreement on key issues has taken place. For more information on how Copeland has engaged with key stakeholders throughout the Local Plan preparation process, please see the Duty to Co-operate statement.

The two organisations have been working together throughout the preparation of the Local Plan in respect of seeking agreement on strategic cross-boundary planning issues, in particular housing, the economy, the natural environment and connectivity. All details of cross- boundary issues and how ongoing engagement has been achieved has been captured through the Duty to Cooperate Report.

The Local Authorities agree the following:

General

1. The impacts of Local Government Re-organisation have been discussed between the authorities and it has been agreed that continued cross-boundary co-operation is vital.

Housing

1. Both Local Planning Authorities have agreed to and are delivering their housing need within their own plan area and do not require either authority to accommodate any unmet need. There is an agreement that the housing market areas for Copeland and South Lakeland are contained within the LPA boundaries and that there are no cross-boundary issues in relation to housing delivery.

Employment/ Economy

1. South Lakeland has completed a masterplan for the GSK site in Ulverston, which has potential as a strategic employment site and could provide employment opportunities in Copeland.
2. Millom is to benefit from £21 million from the 'Town Deal' fund. Projects will include regeneration of the former ironworks site (inc. Millom Pier) at Hodbarrow and a new leisure pool. SLDC is supportive of the proposed improvements for Millom and also

of policies in the Copeland Local Plan which strengthen Millom's role as a service centre with wider benefit for parts of South Lakeland.

The Natural Environment

1. Extension to offshore wind farm 'Round 4' off south west Cumbria may impact on seascape. National Park extension proposals are now with central government, but these may have a positive impact on the natural environment for both South Lakeland and Copeland. The SLDC Local Plan contains policies to protect the setting of the Lake District World heritage Site and the National Park.
2. The Copeland Local Plan proposes an on-shore wind designation which identifies suitable areas and screens out unsuitable ones. In southern Copeland, the proposed designated area includes a small corridor north of Millom and Haverigg, which may have an impact on South Lakeland.

Connectivity

1. The emerging CBC Local Plan supports improvements to the A595 which will help improve connectivity between Millom and South Lakeland. An example of this is support for improvements to the Duddon Bridge crossing which links Copeland to South Lakeland. Both authorities are also supportive of the Grizebeck by-pass which will improve connectivity between south Copeland and the M6, and also improve connectivity between Copeland and Barrow for travel to work.
2. The Local Plan also supports rail improvements which will better connect South Lakeland to the west coast and Carlisle. It is agreed that this will improve connectivity between the boroughs.

Signed on behalf of Copeland Borough Council

Name and Position: Chris Hoban, Strategic Planning Manager

Signature: 

Date: 28/07/22

Signed on behalf of South Lakeland District Council

Name and Position: Alastair McNeill, Senior Specialist (Strategy)

Signature: 

Date: 17/08/22