

Report 9: Local Plan Timetable Update

1. Purpose of Report

- a. To seek approval from Members of minor changes to be made to the timetable for the production of the new Local Plan.

2. Recommendations

- a. **Approve the revisions to the Local Development Scheme (LDS) timetable.**

3. Implications

- a. Financial: The Local Plan review costs are included within the Medium Term Budget.
- b. Equalities: An equalities assessment has been carried out as part of the Local Plan Process. There are no equalities issues raised with the minor amendment of the Local Plan timetable.
- c. Business Plan: Developing a new Local Plan for the National Park is a key action of Aim 4 'Contributing to Thriving Communities'.

4. Background

- a. The Local Development Scheme (LDS) is the project timetable for the production of the Local Development Plan and associated documents. All Local Planning Authorities are required to produce a LDS under section 15 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. The LDS was approved by the Authority in March 2018.
- b. The LDS must be made available publicly and kept up to date. Government guidance states that it is important that local communities and interested parties can keep track of progress.
- c. A copy of the approved LDS is attached as Appendix 1. It is only the timetable on page 8 that is proposed to be revised. No other changes are proposed

5. Revisions to the Local Plan timetable (LDS)

- a. Progress in Local Plan production is measured against the timetable set out in a Local Planning Authority's LDS with national comparison tables being published and assessed on a six-monthly basis by the Planning Inspectorate. Failure to meet the targets in the LDS would mean that the government could intervene effectively taking over the Authority's plan-making function.
- b. The current LDS (2018-20) states that the 'Publication' Draft Plan will be completed in March to May 2019 and submission to the Planning Inspectorate in July to August 2019 (See below).

Table 2: NNPA Local Development Scheme Programme 2018 – 2020

Local Development Plan Document	Public participation on scope and content ³	Publication	Submission	Adoption
Local Plan Document	July-August 2018 (Preferred Options Draft Plan)	March-May 2019 (Publication Draft Plan)	June - August 2019	December 2019

- c. It is proposed a minor adjustment to the timetable is made to the Submission to the Planning Inspectorate. The factors affecting the timetable:
- The late publication of the Publication Local Plan which has meant the Consultation ended mid-July 2019
 - The Head of Forward Planning leaving his position in June 2019
 - The Interim Head of Planning getting up to speed on Local Plan procedures
 - Late receipt of viability report (part of evidence base)
 - Need for a further sustainability appraisal of proposed 'Modifications'
 - Original timescale for submission of document base was not realistic given staff levels
- d. The approved LDS suggested that the adoption would be in December 2019 after the Examination held by the Planning Inspectorate. It is now apparent that the Planning Inspectorate is taking about 5 months between submission and Examination (this process is outside of the Authority's control). Then after the Inspector's report is received, any amendments made and possibly consulted on, the Full Authority would need to adopt the Plan.
- e. As a result of the above factors the revised LDS (2019-20) will include the following updated key stages for the primary Local Plan strategy document:
- Issues Paper (Spring 2017) [completed]
 - Options Paper (Autumn 2017) [completed]
 - Preferred Options Draft Plan (Summer 2018) [completed]
 - Publication Draft Plan (end May 2019) [completed]
 - Submission (Late September 2019) [on track]
 - Examination (Spring 2020) [Subject to Planning Inspectorate timing]
 - Adoption (Summer 2020) [Subject to outcome of Examination]

Local Development Plan Document	Publication Draft (Consultation started)	Submission	Examination	Adoption
Local Plan Document	31 st May 2019	Late September 2019	Spring 2020	Summer 2020

6. Conclusion

- a. Members are asked to approve the minor revisions to the Local Development Scheme to allow transparency and ensure that local communities and interested parties can keep track of progress of the Local Plan.

Contact Officer: For further information contact Susannah Buylla, Interim Head of Planning on 01434 611577 or e-mail: Susannah.buylla@nnpa.org.uk

Background papers:

Appendix 1: NNPA Local Development Scheme March 2018