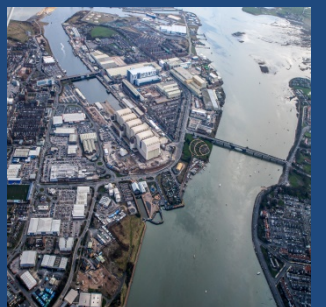
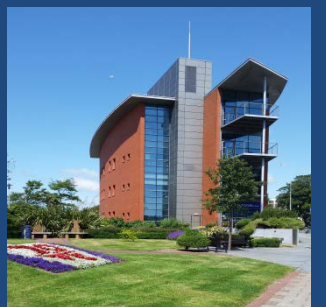
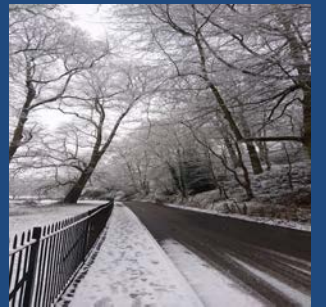


Local Development Scheme 2018

Barrow Borough Local Plan - Barrow Borough Council



Contents Page

1. Introduction	1
2. Core Planning Documents	2
3. Local Plan Preparation	4
4. Evidence Base	7
5. Slippage against 2016 LDS	9
6. Project Management	9
7. Risk Management	10
8. Local Plan Timetable	12
9. Contacts	13

1. Introduction

1.1 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by the Localism Act) states that local planning authorities must prepare and maintain a Local Development Scheme (LDS). The LDS sets out the Council's timetable for preparing planning policy documents.

1.2 The Council is currently producing a new Local Plan which guides development over a 15 year period from its adoption. The Plan allocates sites for specific uses and contains policies for use when determining planning applications. Following its adoption, the Plan will replace the current Local Plan 2001 and Housing Chapter Alteration 2006. It will sit alongside the Barrow Port Area Action Plan 2010 to form the Borough's Development Plan.

1.3 The LDS covers to period up until the Plan's adoption although the monitoring of policies within the Plan will continue beyond this period.

1.4 The Council has met the objective set out in the Council Priorities 2015-16 which required the publication of the Preferred Options Draft in 2015. Several further drafts of the Plan have been produced since then and the Local Plan has now been submitted to the Secretary of State for examination.

2. Core Planning Documents

2.1 The Government sets out its approach to planning in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG).

2.2 The NPPF requires local planning authorities to produce a Local Plan for their area and states that any additional Development Plan Documents should only be developed where clearly justified.

2.3 The Council have formally 'saved' the following local planning policy:

- Barrow-in-Furness Borough Council Local Plan Review 1996-2006; and
- Barrow-in-Furness Borough Council Local Plan Review 1996-2006 - Housing Chapter Alteration, 2006.

2.4 The Barrow-in-Furness Borough Council Local Plan Review 1996-2006 (the Local Plan Review) policies were automatically saved under the provisions of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 for a three year period from the commencement of the Act (i.e. until 27th September 2007).

2.5 A request to extend the saved period for most of the policies within the adopted Local Plan Review was submitted to the Secretary of State on the 30 March 2007 and a Direction to that effect was received on 18 September 2007.

2.6 The policies of the Barrow in Furness Borough Council Local Plan Review 1996-2006 - Housing Chapter Alteration 2006 (the Housing Chapter Alteration) were automatically saved under the provisions of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 for three years from their date of adoption.

2.7 A request to extend the saved period for all but one of the policies within the Housing Chapter Alteration was submitted to the Secretary of State on the 19th December 2008 and a Direction to that effect was received on 3 February 2009.

2.8 The policies were saved with the caveat that "*the extended policies should be read in context. Where policies were adopted some time ago, it is likely that material considerations, in particular the emergence of new national and regional policy and also new evidence, will be afforded considerable weight in decisions.*"

2.9 As neither the Local Plan Review, nor the Housing Chapter Alteration were adopted in accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, it is important to note that weight is afforded these policies according to the degree of conformity with the NPPF.

2.10 The Barrow Port Area Action Plan (the Action Plan) was adopted in July 2010. As the Action Plan was adopted post 2004, the NPPF afforded it full weight in planning policy consideration until 27 March 2013, even if there is limited conflict with the NPPF. After this date, the policies, like those of the Local Plan Review and the Housing Chapter Alteration now, will be afforded weight according to their consistency with the NPPF.

2.11 Apart from the Local Plan and Barrow Port Area Action Plan, other core planning documents of relevance are:

- The Proposals Map(s)
- Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)
- The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)
- The Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)

2.12 The Proposals Map identifies existing land allocations and designated sites. It illustrates which policies are specific to those sites.

2.13 Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) provide detail on the policies and proposals in the Local Plan. At present, the Council has regard to the following SPDs when decision making:

- Cumbria Development Design Guide (Cumbria County Council, 2017)
- Shopfront & Advertisement Design SPD (Barrow Borough Council, 2010)

2.14 The Council has produced two draft SPDs (Green Infrastructure SPD and Biodiversity & Development SPD) which will be subject to public consultation in Spring 2018. It is hoped that the SPDs will be adopted prior to the Local Plan examination.

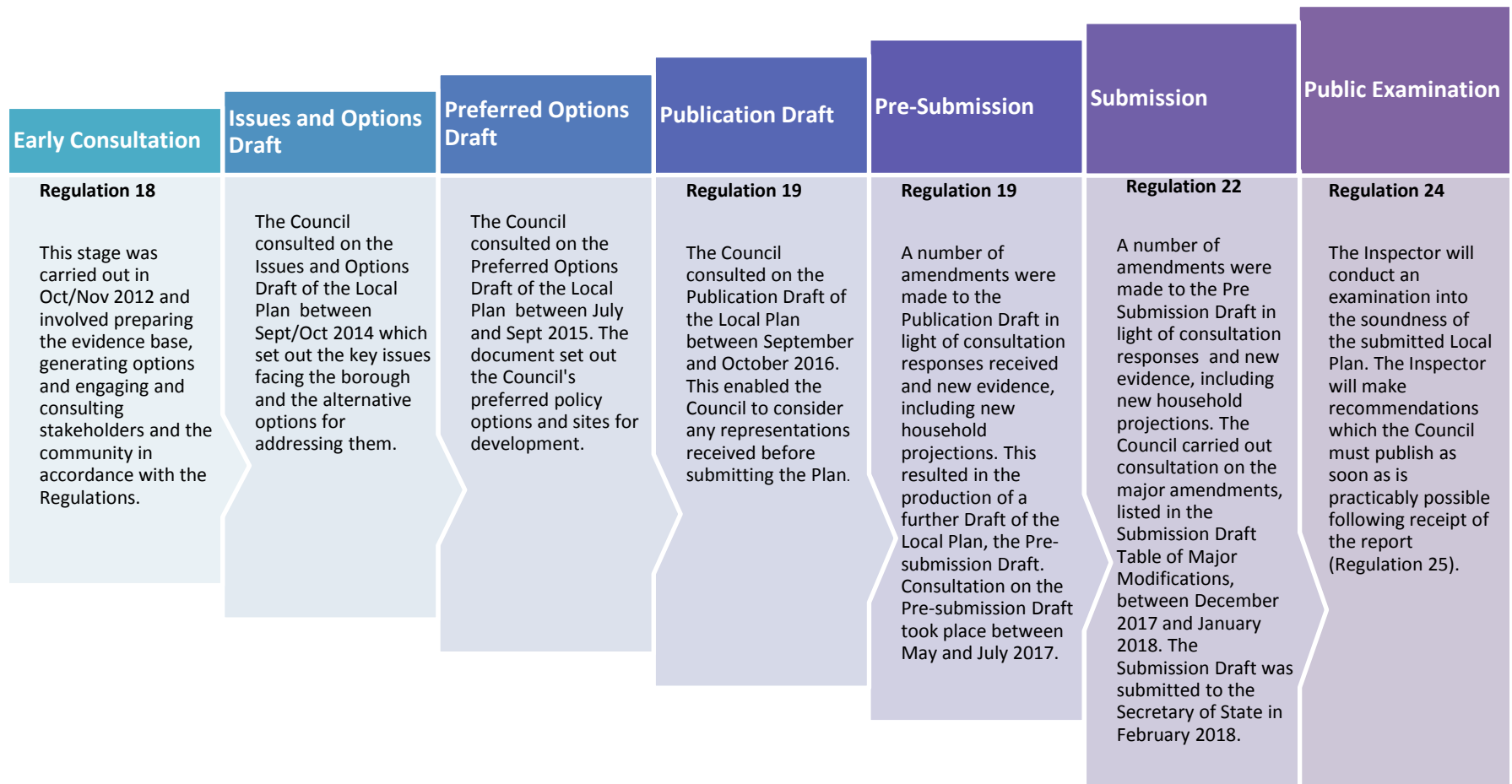
2.15 The Statement of Community Involvement describes how the Council will engage with the community and others in preparing other planning policy documents and also in dealing with planning applications. The SCI was originally adopted by the Council in July 2007 and updated versions were adopted in 2010 and 2016.

2.16 The Council has also produced a Consultation Statement to accompany the submitted Local Plan. This sets out how the Council has undertaken community participation and stakeholder involvement in the production of the Local Plan, setting out how such efforts have shaped the Plan and the main issues raised during consultation. The document will form part of the Local Plan Examination Library.

2.17 The Annual Monitoring Report is an important tool to show progress against the Council's Local Development Scheme, details of development plan policies and how they are to be reviewed, and the number of dwellings delivered against any targets. The Council produces an AMR annually: the latest AMR was published in April 2016 which covered the 2014-15 monitoring year. The forthcoming AMR will be produced in Spring 2018 and will cover the 2015/16 and 2016/17 monitoring years.

3. Local Plan Preparation

3.1 The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (2) sets the process of preparing and adopting Local Plans. A summary of this process is outlined below.



Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

3.2 SAs and SEAs are tools which are used to appraise planning policy documents. Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is a requirement of the EU Directive 2001/42/EC (more commonly known as the SEA Directive). Local planning authorities are required to carry out an SEA of all planning policy documents likely to have significant environmental impacts under these regulations. Sustainability Appraisal considers wider social and economic effects. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and the NPPF require all emerging Development Plan Documents to be subject to SA.

3.3 The Council has produced a joint SA and SEA and has assessed each of the policies and site options in each of the draft Local Plans. The results of the assessments are included in the Sustainability Report 2017.

Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA)

3.4 The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended) states that a Habitats Regulations Assessment should be carried out where it is considered likely that the Plan will have significant effects on European habitats or species. HRAs assess the potential impacts of a Local Plan on Natura 2000 sites. Such sites are of European importance in respect of rare, endangered or vulnerable natural habitats and species and include the following:

- Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated under the European Union “Wild Birds Directive”,
- Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) designated under the European Union “Habitats Directive”,
- Ramsar Sites, which are wetlands of international importance designated under the Ramsar Convention

3.5 As the Habitats Directive applies the precautionary principle, plans can only be adopted if there is likely to be no adverse impact on the integrity of the site(s) in question. In order to comply with the Regulations, a Screening Assessment was undertaken of the Issues and Options Draft. The Assessment highlighted that several of the policy options were likely to have an adverse impact upon Natura 2000 sites. Given this, an Appropriate Assessment was carried out which determined that adverse impacts could be avoided/mitigated. The results of the assessment are included in the HRA Screening and Assessment Report March 2017 and the November update.

Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

3.6 The Council has carried out an EIA of the Local Plan to ensure that equality is placed at the centre of policy development, review and service delivery. The purpose of the EIA is to analyse the likely impact of Local Plan policies on different groups in the community and how the needs of such groups have been taken into account in the development of policies.

Health Impact Assessment (HIA)

3.7 The Council has carried out a HIA of the Local Plan. This seeks to measure the potential health impacts of any policies or proposals within the Local Plan on the wider population. The HIA aims to reduce health inequalities and contribute to improved health and better decision making.

4. Evidence Base

4.1 The NPPF requires that Local Plans are founded upon a robust evidence base. Paragraph 158 states that the evidence base should be proportionate and should be based on adequate, up-to-date information about the economic, social and environmental characteristics and prospects of the area.

4.2 The emerging Local Plan has been developed based upon a comprehensive evidence base, which comprises a combination of internally and externally prepared documents and assessments. It continues to be reviewed and updated when necessary in order for it to remain relevant.

4.3 The following table identifies the key documents which have been produced so far. Completed studies and updates are available to view on our website.

Table 1: Evidence Base Documents – Progress to Date

	Authors	Year Published
Sub-Regional Documents		
Cumbria Landscape Character Guidance & Toolkit	Cumbria County Council	2011
Cumbria Wind Energy Supplementary Planning Document	Cumbria County Council	2007
Vertical		
Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation Assessment	Arc4	2013
Cumbria Extra Care Housing Strategy 2016-2025	Cumbria County Council	2016
Cumbria Development Design Guide	Cumbria County Council	2017
Local Documents		
Sustainability Report (Incorporating Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment)	Barrow Borough Council	2017
Sustainability Report Update (Incorporating Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment)	Barrow Borough Council	2018
Habitats Regulations Assessment Pre-Screening Report	BDP	2014
Habitats Regulations Assessment (March 2017)	Barrow Borough Council	2017
Habitats Regulations Assessment (November Update)	Barrow Borough Council	2017
Updating the Demographic Evidence	Edge Analytics	2017
Strategic Housing Market Assessment	Arc4	2016
Strategic Housing Market Assessment Addendum 2017	Arc4	2017
Housing Land Need and Supply Topic Paper	Barrow Borough Council	2017
Employment Land Review Update	Barrow Borough Council	2017
Barrow Borough Housing Land Statement	Barrow Borough Council	2017
Proposed Housing Site Assessments Document	Barrow Borough Council	2017

Non-Selected Sites Document	Barrow Borough Council	2016
Settlement Profiles for Barrow Borough	Barrow Borough Council	2017
Infrastructure Delivery Plan 2018	Barrow Borough Council	2018
Barrow Transport Improvements Study	WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff	2016
Barrow Borough Local Plan Transport Modelling Report	Cumbria County Council	2016
Stoneleigh Close Transport Technical Document	WYG Transport Planning	2017
Barrow Local Plan Viability Assessment	Keppie Massie/WYG	2016
Retail and Town Centre Uses Study	NLP	2013
Barrow-in-Furness Town Centre Parking and Movement Study	Barrow Borough Council/Cumbria County Council	2016
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment	Capita	2015
Suitable Areas for Wind Energy Technical Document	Barrow Borough Council	2017
Walney Island Flood and Coastal Erosion Strategy	Barrow Borough Council	2014
Draft Green Infrastructure Strategy	Barrow Borough Council	2016
Green Wedge Review	Barrow Borough Council	2014
Sports and Recreational Facilities Assessment	Barrow Borough Council	2017
Heritage Impact Assessments	Barrow Borough Council	2017

Table 2: Evidence Base Documents – Other Supporting Documents

	Authors	Year Published
Local Documents		
Duty to Cooperate Statement	Barrow Borough Council	2017
Equality Impact Assessment	Barrow Borough Council	2017
Health Impact Assessment	Barrow Borough Council	2017
Statement of Community Involvement	Barrow Borough Council	2016
Annual Monitoring Report 14-15	Barrow Borough Council	2016
Council Plan 2017-20	Barrow Borough Council	2017

4.4 Further more detailed technical studies may be required on individual sites to allow them to progress through the Local Plan process. These may include the following and will be the responsibility of the landowner/developer:

- Ecological and habitat surveys
- Heritage assessments
- Travel plans and transport assessments
- Landscape assessments
- Flood risk and surface water modelling
- Drainage surveys
- Noise assessments
- Tree and hedge surveys
- Ground stability and contamination surveys

Community Led Plans

4.5 The parish of Askam and Ireleth have produced a Parish Plan 2014 which can be viewed on the Parish Council website

<http://www.askamandirelethparishcouncil.org.uk/communityPlanning.html>

4.6 The parish of Dalton and Newton are currently preparing a Parish Plan; more details can be found on their website

<http://www.daltoncouncil.org.uk/1160359056.html>

5. Slippage against 2016 LDS

5.1 The Council's previous LDS was published in 2016.

5.2 There has been slippage against the timetable set out in the 2016 LDS which predicted that the Local Plan Submission Draft would be completed in January 2017 and submitted to the Planning Inspectorate in April 2017, with adoption in November 2017. This slippage has occurred for a number of reasons, including the emergence of new evidence (including new household projections), the production of an additional draft; the Pre-Submission Draft and subsequent further rounds of consultation.

6. Project Management

Resources and responsibilities

6.1 The preparation of the Local Plan is the responsibility of the Assistant Director of Regeneration. The Development Services Manager is responsible for the management of staff and resources and therefore the day to day management of plan preparation.

Planning Policy lead on the production of the Local Plan and other policy, the team is comprised of the following members of staff:

- 1 Principal Planning Officer (full time)
- 1 Planning Officer (full time)
- 1 Planning Officer (part time)
- 1 Admin Assistant (full time, fixed term)
- 1 Planning Policy Assistant (part time)

An element of technical support (mapping, monitoring etc.) is provided by staff within Development Services.

6.2 The Planning Policy Team must balance work on the Local Plan with other planning functions for example producing evidence base documents, responding to consultations from other Council departments, other authorities and government bodies (e.g. responding to planning applications, planning policy documents and proposals for changes to national

policy and guidance), producing evidence for appeals, enabling and supporting the delivery of economic schemes.

6.3 Consultants will be engaged on specific tasks or projects where specialist skills are required or there is a resource shortage.

6.4 The preparation of a Local Plan also has financial implications for the Council and the progress of the Plan is dependent upon the allocation of budget beyond committing staff resources. Such costs for example relate to hiring consultants, consultation events, examination in public etc.

6.5 The production and adoption of the Local Plan is identified as a Council priority in the Council Plan.

7. Risk Management

7.1 In preparing the LDS, a number of risks have been identified which may delay progress on the Local Plan. These should be kept under review.

Table 2: Potential Risks to Local Plan production

Risk	Problem	Potential Mitigation
Staff turnover or redundancies	Staff turnover is difficult to predict. Significant and constant turnover would severely affect ability to achieve timely progressions on the Local Plan.	Ensure that vacant posts are filled promptly and if appropriate secure resources to allow for the use of consultants, temporary staff or internal secondments.
Pressure on staff time due to competing work streams	It is difficult to predict the number of consultations which the policy team must respond to. Any increase in the number could result in slower than anticipated progression on Local Plan.	The Local Plan is a Council priority therefore resources required for its production should be protected in the short to medium term. In the longer term the Council will be required by the NPPF to carry out regular reviews of the Plan to ensure it remains up-to-date.
Capacity of the Planning Inspectorate	Examination of the Plan can only take place according to the Planning Inspectorates availability and timescales. This issue is out of the Authority's control.	Ensure that the Planning Inspectorate is kept up to date on the progress on the Plan and the likely date of submission.
'Soundness' of the Local Plan	The Plan will only be capable of adoption if it is found to be sound by the Planning Inspector through the public examination process.	Minimise the risk of producing an 'unsound' document by working closely with consultees, statutory bodies and interested parties and agencies.
Length of Examination	It is difficult to predict exactly the length of the examination process.	The Council has aimed to minimise the number of issues to resolve at examination by engaging communities and bodies throughout the plan process and basing the Plan upon a robust evidence base in

		the hope of reducing the number of objections to the Plan.
Impact of new legislation, guidance or regulation	The introduction of new legislation, guidance or regulations could delay the process and require revisions to the Plan and/or further evidence work	It is not possible to plan for further changes to the planning system however the Council can try to stay aware of proposals for change.
Impact of emergence of new evidence e.g. new household projection figures	The introduction of new evidence could delay the process and require revisions to the Plan	It is not possible to plan for the emergence of new evidence.
Legal challenge/suspension of EIP	Delay in adoption could result in the lack of a full, up-to-date policy framework	The risk of legal challenge can be reduced by ensuring the Plan conforms with the relevant regulations, policy and guidance and that correct procedures have been followed.
Impact of national budget cuts	Government reduction in support grant to local authority. Leads to budget cuts and spending reviews across council services.	Production of a Local Plan remains a priority for the Council; therefore resources required for its production should be protected in the short to medium term. In the longer term the Council will be required by the NPPF to carry out regular reviews of the Plan to ensure it remains up-to-date.

8. Local Plan Timetable

Year:	2016		2017												2018												
Month:	A	M	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	
Local Plan Submission Draft																											
Local Plan Submission to the Planning Inspectorate																											
Local Plan Examination																											
Adoption of Local Plan																											
Statement of Community Involvement																											
Annual Monitoring Report																											

KEY

Document Completed

Formal Consultation

Document submitted to Planning Inspectorate

Local Plan Examination (TBC)

Adoption of Local Plan (TBC)



9. Contact

9.1 For further information on the preparation of Local Plan documents, please contact the Planning Policy Team:

Development Services Manager

Development Services

Barrow Borough Council

Town Hall

Duke Street

Barrow-in-Furness

LA14 2LD

Telephone: 01229 876363

Email: developmentplans@barrowbc.gov.uk

Website: www.barrowbc.gov.uk/residents/planning

Working together to support sustainable development within the Borough of Barrow-in-Furness

