



MINUTES

Planning Committee

Date:	Wednesday, 14 October 2020
Venue:	Remote Meeting Via Zoom
Committee Members Present:	Councillor Trevor Fiddler (Chairman) Councillor Richard Redcliffe (Vice-Chairman) Councillors Chris Dixon, Kiran Mulholland, Jayne Nixon, Linda Nulty, Liz Oades, David O'Rourke, Heather Speak, Ray Thomas, Stan Trudgill.
Other Members Present:	Councillor Frank Andrews.
Officers Present:	Ian Curtis, Mark Evans, Paul Drinnan, Julie Glaister, Eddie Graves, Stephanie Shone, Andrew Stell, John Copestake, Lyndsey Lacey-Simone.
Members of the Public:	1 member of the public attended the meeting.

1. Declarations of Interest

Members were reminded that any disclosable pecuniary interests should be declared as required by the Localism Act 2011 and any personal or prejudicial interests should be declared as required by the Council's Code of Conduct for Members.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

2. Substitute Members

There were no substitute members.

Decision Items

3. Local Development Scheme 2020

Members of the Committee were provided with a report on the Local Development Scheme (LDS) 2020. Stephanie Shone, Planning Policy Officer was invited by the Chairman to present the report.

Members were advised that the last LDS (published in November 2019) was out of date. The report set out the purpose and context of the updated document and highlighted various changes made since the previous document; including a revised/updated timescale (as a result of the COVID19 pandemic) for the Partial Review of the Local Plan. The report also referred to Supplementary Planning Documents that would continue to be produced, with an amended timescale for their production and adoption. .

A copy of the updated LDS (2020) document was included as an appendix to the report.

In light of the unprecedented situation relating to the coronavirus pandemic, clarification was sought on the risks attached to the amended timetable for the Partial Review of the Local Plan. This was addressed by Ms Shone.

Following consideration of this matter, it was RESOLVED to agree to the content of the LDS 2020 for the purpose of publication on the Council's website.

4. Partial Review of the FLP32: Submission to the Secretary of State

Further to the decision of the Committee on 11 March 2020, Eddie Graves, Principal Planning Policy Officer was invited to present an updated report on the matter.

Members were advised that the Council had produced and, between 23rd July and 3rd September 2020, consulted on a Partial Review of the Fylde Local Plan to 2032 (FLP32). Mr Graves indicated that the Partial Review will address the two objectives of revising the plan to reflect policy changes that the National Planning Policy Framework 2019 (NPPF19) had made and examining the issue of Wyre's unmet housing need which was a commitment in the FLP32.

It was reported that a wide range of the representations had been received from 27 bodies/ individuals and these were provided in the accompanying documents of Appendices 8, 9 and summarised in Appendix 10 of the report. The Council's proposed responses to the representations were also set out in Appendix 10 of the report.

It was further reported that since the Partial Review consultation had commenced, the Government had published a White Paper on changes to the planning system, and a separate consultation on amendments to the current system. It was highlighted that several representations received made reference to the draft changes and stated that the Council should pause/abandon/alter the Partial Review accordingly. Members were advised that officers had sought legal counsel on the implications, and in light of the advice, recommended continuing with the submission of the Partial Review to the Secretary of State for Examination, as planned.

The full suite of submission documents was made available to the committee.

The following documents were made available as appendices to the report: SDPR01- The Partial Review of the Fylde Local Plan to 2032: Schedule of Revisions to the FLP32; SDPR05 - The Draft Statement of Common Ground and SDPR10 - Statement of Regulation 20 Consultation (Regulation 22(1)(c)(v)) Statement).

The following documents were made available via a link to the report: SDPR02- The Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment; SDPR03 - The Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening Report; SDPR04 - The Economic Viability Assessment Review 2020; SDPR06 - The Health Impact Assessment Screening; SDPR07- The Statement of Regulation 18 Consultation; SDPR08 - Copies of Representations Made Under Regulation 20 (Regulation 22(1)(d) Document) SDPR09 - Text of Representations Made Under Regulation 20 in Policy Order and EDPR05 - Five Year Housing Land Supply Draft Annual Position Statement (Partial Review).

At the conclusion of the presentation, the Chairman invited questions. In summary, these related to matters associated with the 5-year housing supply; the present position with Wyre's unmet housing needs; the application of GD4 infill development with reference to the countryside areas and villages; timescale for the SPD being published; perceived unbalance regarding some of the consultation responses to the partial review; issues of poor broadband on new housing developments; the time taken to bring forward larger strategic development sites to deliver housing and matters associated with Neighbourhood Plans. The questions were addressed in turn by Mr Evans, Mr Graves and the Chairman as appropriate.

Following detailed consideration of this matter it was RESOLVED:

1. To note the representations made to the Partial Review of the FLP32 in the documents accompanying the report;
2. To approve the Council's response to those representations in the Statement of Regulation 20 Consultation (Regulation 22(1)(c)(v)) Statement) as set out in Appendix 10 of the report.
3. To approve the Partial Review, supporting documents, technical assessments and responses to the Regulation 19/20 consultation for submission to the Secretary of State.

5. White Paper - Planning for the Future 2020

Julie Glaister, Planning Policy Manager was invited by the Chairman to present the report. It was reported that the Planning for the Future, a White Paper was published for consultation by the Government on the 6th August 2020 which would run for 12 weeks until 29th October 2020.

Ms Glaister reported that the Planning for the Future consultation proposes reform of the planning system to streamline and modernise the planning process. She added that it aims to bring a new focus to design and

sustainability, improving the system of developer contributions to infrastructure, and ensure more land is available for development where it is needed.

The report provided a summary of the main changes proposed by the White Paper which, amongst others included: Local Plan proposals/Local Plan production/timetables; the amount of housing development; resources; Infrastructure Levy and a fast track for beauty/building beautiful.

A more detailed analysis of the Design and Quality Aspects of the White Paper was included in Appendix 1 of the report. In addition, Appendix 2 of the report provided the Draft Response to the White Paper which was included for discussion and agreement by members.

Ms Glaister stated that officers would continue to work on the Council's response, until the 29th October 2020.

At the conclusion of the presentation, the Chairman invited questions/comments from the members of the Committee. These related to the following areas: concerns regarding the content/lack of clarity of the White Paper; proposed changes to the local/ democratic process; the absence within the document of matters associated with the concept of long-term health related development sites; proposals for the 1st homes scheme /delivery of affordable homes; sustainability; the pace of development at strategic sites within the borough; perceived weight given to developers/ responses to the consultation; proposals regarding the planting of trees; the absence of matters associated with climate change/ flooding; the need for the Council to make strong representations to the consultation with particular reference to the housing figure being set nationally and the concept of removing the local/democratic process presently permitted in the current planning system and the need to seek the support to the Council's approach with the LGA and the various town and parish councils. These matters were addressed in turn by Mr Evans, Ms Glaister and the Chairman as deemed appropriate.

At the conclusion of the debate, Mr Evans gave an undertaking to write to the various town and parish councils to bring to their attention the consultation on the proposed changes to the planning system with a view to urging them to submit their own responses to the consultation.

Following detailed consideration of this matter it was RESOLVED:

1. To note the changes proposed by the Planning for the Future White Paper.
2. To approve the issues for inclusion in the draft consultation responses detailed in Appendix 2 of the report.
3. To strengthen the consultation response along the lines outlined at the meeting with regard to the changes to current democratic process and the application of national standard methodology used to calculate the housing figure to allow flexibility to apply the figure locally.

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