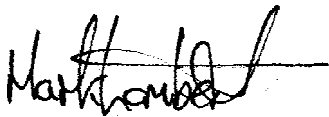


# COUNCIL

## SUMMONS

To the Mayor and Members of Carlisle City Council

You are summoned to attend the Special Meeting of Carlisle City Council which will be held on **Tuesday, 10 February 2015 at 18:45**, in the **Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Carlisle, CA3 8QG**



Director of Governance

## AGENDA

1. The Mayor will invite the Chaplain to say prayers.
2. The Town Clerk and Chief Executive will open the meeting by calling the roll.

3. **Public and Press**

To determine whether any of the items of business within Part A of the Agenda should be dealt with when the public and press are excluded from the meeting.

To determine whether any of the items of business within Part B of the Agenda should be dealt with when the public and press are present.

**4. Declarations of Interest**

Members are invited to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests, other registrable interests and any interests, relating to any item on the agenda at this stage.

**5. Announcements**

- (i) To receive any announcements from the Mayor
- (ii) To receive any announcements from the Leader of the Council
- (iii) To receive any announcements from Members of the Executive
- (iv) To receive any announcements from the Town Clerk and Chief Executive

**6. Questions from Members of the Council**

Pursuant to Procedure Rule 11.2, the Town Clerk and Chief Executive to report that no questions have been submitted on Notice by Members of the City Council.

**7. Notice of Motion**

Pursuant to Procedure Rule 12, the Town Clerk and Chief Executive to report that no motions have been submitted on notice by Members of the Council.

**8. Carlisle District Local Plan (2015 - 2030) Proposed Submission      5 - 254**  
**Draft**

Pursuant to Minute EX.142/14 and EX.11/15, to consider recommendations from the Executive concerning the Carlisle District Local Plan (2015-2030) Proposed Submission Draft.  
(Copy Report ED.09/15 and Minute Extracts herewith)

**9. Decisions Taken as a Matter of Urgency**

**255 -  
258**

Pursuant to Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 15(i), the Director of Governance to report on decisions taken as urgent decisions and dealt with as a matter of urgency without the need for call-in.

It is a requirement under the above Procedure Rule 15(i) for decisions taken as a matter of urgency to be reported to the next available meeting of the City Council.  
(Copy Report GD.15/15 herewith)

**10. Communications**

To receive and consider communications and to deal with such other business as may be brought forward by the Mayor as a matter of urgency, in accordance with Procedure Rule 2.1(xiv) to pass such resolution or resolutions thereon as may be considered expedient or desirable.

**PART 'B'**

**To be considered in private**

- NIL -



## REPORT TO COUNCIL

Agenda  
Item:

**8**

Meeting Date: 10<sup>th</sup> February 2015  
Portfolio: Economy, Enterprise and Housing  
Key Decision: Yes  
Within Policy and Budget Framework: Yes  
Public / Private: Public

Title: CARLISLE DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN (2015-2030) PROPOSED SUBMISSION DRAFT  
Report of: DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
Report Number: ED 09 / 15

### **Purpose / Summary:**

This report sets out the next key stages in the process towards the adoption of the Carlisle District Local Plan (2015 - 2030), including consultation on the proposed submission draft version of the Plan, and seeks the approval of Council in relation to a number of actions necessary to progress through these stages.

### **Recommendations:**

1. Approve the content of the Carlisle District Local Plan (2015 – 2030) Proposed Submission Draft for the purposes of a further six week (minimum) formal period of public consultation in accordance with Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) 2012 Regulations;
2. Delegate authority to the Director of Economic Development, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Executive Member for Economy, Enterprise and Housing, post consideration of the issues raised in response to the Regulation 19 consultation, to proceed with the submission of the Carlisle District Local Plan (2015 – 2030) to the Secretary of State for Independent Examination in accordance with Regulation 22 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) 2012 Regulations;

3. Approve the extension of a formal invitation to the person appointed to carry out the examination, to formally request that s/he recommend any necessary modifications to the Plan to make it sound, pursuant to Section 20(7C) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended);
4. Delegate authority to the Director of Economic Development, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Executive Member for Economy, Enterprise and Housing, to agree any minor amendments necessary to help secure the soundness of the Local Plan through the examination process;
5. Delegate authority to the Director of Economic Development, in consultation with the Executive Member for Economy, Enterprise and Housing, to make further editorial and technical amendments to the emerging Local Plan, which do not materially affect its content, prior to commencement of consultation and/or submission; and
6. Resolve to agree that once published for consultation, weight be given to the Carlisle District Local Plan (2015 – 2030) as a material consideration when exercising Development Management policy decisions, in accordance with paragraph 216 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

### **Tracking**

Overview and Scrutiny:	<b>13<sup>th</sup> June 2013</b>
Executive:	<b>1<sup>st</sup> July 2013</b>
Council:	<b>16<sup>th</sup> July</b>
Executive:	<b>15<sup>th</sup> January 2014</b>
Overview and Scrutiny:	<b>16<sup>th</sup> January 2014</b>
Executive:	<b>10<sup>th</sup> February 2014</b>
Council:	<b>4<sup>th</sup> March 2014</b>
Executive:	<b>15<sup>th</sup> December 2014</b>
Overview and Scrutiny:	<b>22<sup>nd</sup> January 2015</b>
Executive:	<b>26<sup>th</sup> January 2015</b>
Council:	<b>10<sup>th</sup> February 2015</b>

## **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) strongly advocates that local planning authorities should have an up-to-date Local Plan in place and that these should set out a positive vision for the future of the area and provide a practical framework within which decisions on planning applications can be made.
- 1.2 The Carlisle District Local Plan (2015 – 2030) (the Local Plan) responds to this by setting out a planning framework for guiding the location and level of development in the District up to 2030, as well as a number of principles that will shape the way that Carlisle will develop between now and then. With a drive for the District to strengthen and grow its economy, in a sustainable manner which does not prejudice those things that are important to Carlisle such as its rich heritage and high quality natural environment, the Plan identifies a number of sites to accommodate new homes, new employment premises, new community facilities and the infrastructure required to support this growth. In these regards the Local Plan will be a key catalyst for growth within Carlisle, and amongst the most influential strategies at play across the next fifteen years.
- 1.3 Work commenced on the preparation of the emerging Local Plan in its current form, as a comprehensive suite of strategic policies, development management policies and site allocations within a single document, following the introduction of the NPPF back in March 2012. Since this time a comprehensive evidence base has been developed upon which policies and proposals within the emerging Local Plan have been founded and there has also been extensive engagement with local communities and stakeholders at various key stages including most recently, in March 2014, on a Preferred Options (Stage Two) draft of the Plan. Approval from Council has been forthcoming for a series of actions to progress the Plan to its current stage but notwithstanding this further approvals are required to advance it towards adoption.
- 1.4 The process with regards to preparing Local Plans is governed by the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. These regulations set out a number of steps that must be followed prior to being able to formally adopt a Local Plan. This report sets out the next key stages in the plan preparation process and seeks the approval for steps necessary in order to progress the Local Plan towards adoption.
- 1.5 The Executive resolved at their meeting of the 15<sup>th</sup> December 2015 to make the proposed submission draft Local Plan available for consideration by the Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel, who subsequently considered it at their meeting of the 22<sup>nd</sup> January. Following further consideration of the proposed submission draft of the Local Plan by the Executive at their meeting of 26<sup>th</sup> January, within the context of feedback following scrutiny, the Executive resolved to refer an amended draft of the proposed submission Local

Plan to Council, and to seek approval from Council with regards to the recommendations set out within this report.

## **2.0 EVOLUTION OF THE PLAN SINCE THE PREFERRED OPTIONS (STAGE TWO) DRAFT**

- 2.1 Following previous approval from Council the Preferred Options (Stage Two) draft of the Local Plan was subject to a four week consultation commencing on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2014. Given that this stage of the process was informal, in that it was not required by the regulations, considerable flexibility was exercised with regards to the consultation deadline in order to maximise the response rate and seek to be as inclusive as possible.
- 2.2 In total some 800 representations were received from 173 individual people and/or organisations. All of the representations received have been considered and where the comments made have given rise to a need to amend or act to strengthen the policies within the draft Local Plan, these changes have been made. Generally the feedback was positive and objections constructive in suggesting how concerns could be overcome. As with previous stages of consultation a summary of the representations received and officer response, including indicating where changes would be made as a result, has been published on the Council's website to aid transparency in the process.
- 2.3 In addition to the previous consultation, there have been a number of developments which have also helped to further refine and shape the Local Plan including;
- updating key aspects of the evidence base including updates to the Strategic Housing Market Assessment and Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment;
  - further consultation on an advanced draft of the City Centre Development Framework;
  - introduction of new national planning guidance and further reforms to permitted development rights;
  - continued engagement and co-operation with key stakeholders on strategic issues including liaison with infrastructure providers;
  - ongoing and iterative Sustainability Appraisal, Habitat Regulation Appraisal, Equality Impact Appraisal and Health Impact Appraisal; and
  - a continual process of internal challenge and review including through the Local Plan Members' Working Group.
- 2.4 In summary, key changes to the content of the Local Plan since the Preferred Options (Stage Two) draft include;

- an expanded and more locally distinctive spatial vision for how the District will look in 2030 and a strengthened suite of strategic objectives;
- a refocussed and expanded suite of strategic policies including new strategic connectivity, health and heritage policies;
- a reduction in the housing target (from 665 dwellings per annum to 565) to align with the latest evidence on future need;
- refined list of housing allocations including a small number of new sites and the removal of some previously proposed;
- refined City Centre development opportunities;
- the inclusion of a separation distance between proposed wind turbines (which exceed a certain height) and residential properties;
- a dedicated policy for Carlisle Airport to provide a framework to assess any future development proposals at the site; and
- a number of policy mergers and deletions, in the interests of brevity, where to do so would not compromise any overriding objectives of what the plan is seeking and realistically able to achieve; and
- changes to bring the affordable housing policy and planning obligations policy in line with recently introduced national thresholds with regards to exempting sites from contributing to such matters.

### 3. NEXT STEPS IN PROGRESSING THE LOCAL PLAN

3.1 The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 make clear that prior to submitting a Local Plan to the Government for independent examination, the City Council must first publish and consult on a 'publication' draft of the Local Plan which is the version which they intend to 'submit'. Importantly the Council must at this stage consider the plan to be 'sound'. In order to be so the NPPF identifies that it must be:

- **Positively prepared** - the plan should be prepared based on a strategy which seeks to meet objectively assessed development and infrastructure requirements, including unmet requirements from neighbouring authorities where it is reasonable to do so and consistent with achieving sustainable development;
- **Justified** - the plan should be the most appropriate strategy, when considered against the reasonable alternatives, based on proportionate evidence;
- **Effective** - the plan should be deliverable over its period and based on effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic priorities
- **Consistent with National Planning Policy** - the plan should enable the delivery of sustainable development.

3.2 It is contended that the draft Local Plan fulfils these requirements and should therefore be regarded as 'sound'. In summary this reflects that the Local Plan is considered to have been founded upon, and importantly responds to, the issues

highlighted through a comprehensive and robust evidence base; has been subject to and importantly informed by extensive consultation; effectively addresses strategic cross boundary matters where the need to so has become apparent through fulfilment of the Duty to Cooperate; is supported by the findings of the Sustainability Appraisal and Habitat Regulation Assessment; and accords with current national policy and guidance.

- 3.3 Consultation on the 'proposed submission' draft of the Local Plan is intended as the final formal consultation on it, and at this stage it would be made available for consultation, alongside other relevant supporting documentation, for a minimum period of six weeks. This documentation would include the Sustainability Appraisal which has been prepared alongside and used to inform the content of the Local Plan, and similarly a Habitats Regulation Assessment, both of which are required to ensure conformity with appropriate European and National legislation which require an assessment of the social, economic and environmental effects of certain plans and policies.
- 3.4 Supporting documentation would also include a draft of how the updated Policies Map would look and an update of the Infrastructure Delivery Plan which highlights the investment in infrastructure needed to support the growth and specific proposals set out in the Local Plan. A series of background papers covering key policy areas may also be made available where deemed relevant to provide further clarification on the reasoning to support aspects of the plan but which it is not considered necessary, in the interest of ensuring a succinct and user friendly document, to include in the content of the Plan itself. Some of these supporting documents remain in draft and will continue to be added to and evolve as necessary up until the point of consultation, for example in response to a need to reflect any changes to the Plan as it progresses through the committee cycle.
- 3.5 The next stage in the preparation process, providing that the further consultation does not highlight any fundamental issues of 'soundness', will be for the City Council to formally 'submit' the Local Plan, and all relevant supporting documentation, to the secretary of State, who will appoint an independent Planning Inspector to hold an examination in Public (EiP) into the content of the Local Plan.
- 3.6 In order to submit the Plan as quickly as possible following the close of the next stage of consultation, it is necessary to delegate authority to proceed with submission, as recommended, to avoid the unnecessary and lengthy delay of going back to Council for a separate resolution. Such an approach is commonly employed by local planning authorities across England at this stage, and in the manner proposed, would ensure an appropriate degree of accountability nevertheless prevails.

- 3.7 If the decision was taken to proceed with submitting the Plan, the Council would not at this stage be able to make any further changes to the document including in light of the consultation. Instead the Council could suggest changes it was minded to make to address any comments made, but it would be the role of the Inspector to consider the need for any changes and recommend these to the Council at a later date. In the event it was considered that fundamental changes were necessary to address comments made through the required consultation, the decision would be taken not to submit the Plan as envisaged, and those changes considered necessary would be brought back before Council and would have to again be subject to consultation prior to then proceeding with submitting the Plan.
- 3.8 The EiP will focus on checking that the plan has complied with the necessary legal and procedural requirements which govern the plan making process. The Inspector will then focus on examining the 'soundness' of the Local Plan in accordance with the relevant and aforementioned tests set out in the NPPF.
- 3.9 Prior to the commencement of the EiP the appointed Inspector will determine and communicate which matters will constitute the focus of the examination. This will be aided by a report which the Council are required to prepare following the consultation on the proposed submission draft which sets out the main issues raised by respondents to it.
- 3.10 Following the close of the EiP the appointed Inspector will issue a report to the Council to say whether the Local Plan is considered to be 'sound'. This report may contain recommended changes that are necessary to ensure that the Local Plan can be considered sound, but in order to be able to do so the Inspector must first be invited by the Council, pursuant to Section 20(7C) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended), to do so. Approval to extend this invitation is being explicitly sought from Council.
- 3.11 It is important to note that changes necessary to make the Local Plan sound may arise from discussions at the Examination hearing sessions at which the Council may be asked by the Inspector to negotiate with other parties and agree changes prior to them being formally recommended by them. This reflects that in reality a key role of the Inspector is to consider differences in opinion between the Council and other participants in the plan preparation process with a view to trying to broker, but only where in their opinion needed and possible, compromise. In such circumstances it is simply not practical to keep deferring the examination to enable the consideration of such changes by Council or any other committee with an inherently lengthy lead in cycle. Consequently it is instead necessary to delegate authority, as recommended, to enable the examination process to proceed as intended, whilst again however ensuring a strong degree of accountability.

- 3.12 Upon receipt of an Inspector's report which advises that the Local Plan is deemed to be 'sound' or capable of being made 'sound' through the recommended changes, then the Council can, following a formal resolution to do so, proceed to formally adopt the Local Plan at which point it will replace the existing Carlisle Local Plan (2002 – 2016) and become the primary document against which planning applications for development within the District will be assessed.
- 3.13 The length of the EiP is difficult to accurately predict and will ultimately be dependent on the number and complexity of the issues identified for examination by the appointed Inspector. Nevertheless the anticipated timescales associated with the remaining key stages of the preparation of the Local Plan are set out in Appendix 2 of this report. Whilst these differ from those published in the most up to date Local Development Scheme (LDS), which sets out what planning documents the Council will be preparing and timescales for doing so, the LDS will be updated accordingly prior to commencement of the next consultation on the Local Plan.

#### **4.0 WEIGHT ATTRIBUTED TO THE DRAFT LOCAL PLAN**

- 4.1 It is important to note that prior to the formal adoption of the new Local Plan weight can, in accordance with national policy, be legitimately attributed to it (in most circumstances) from its date of publication as a material consideration in the determination of planning applications. In this regard the emerging Local Plan will take a degree of effect and positively influence development in the manner desired from the date at which the proposed submission draft is published for consultation. Notwithstanding the provisions to this effect in national policy (mainly para. 216 of the NPPF), it is considered necessary in the interests of clarity to put in place a formal Council resolution to this effect.
- 4.2 An initial briefing session with the Council's Development Control Committee will be organised to raise awareness of the need to have regard to the emerging Local Plan, with subsequent sessions held as necessary in response to any specific need to do so.

#### **5. CONSULTATION**

- 5.1 The Local Plan has been subject to public consultation at a number of key stages throughout its evolution in accordance with the arrangements set out in the Council's Statement of Community Involvement. Importantly the Plan has been amended throughout its evolution to take on board comments forthcoming through these consultations where appropriate to do so. The cross section of respondents and volume and nature of comments received demonstrates that consultation efforts to date have succeeded in ensuring that the plan making process has been inclusive.

- 5.2 Whilst the required consultation on the proposed submission draft will mirror the approach employed in the previous preferred options consultation, and again accord with the Council's Statement of Community Involvement, it will differ in that it constitutes a formal and statutory stage of consultation, and also in that it will seek views specifically on the 'soundness' and legal compliance of the Plan. It should also be noted that should the Council proceed with submitting the Plan for independent examination, that representations received in response to the consultation will be forwarded to the appointed Inspector for their consideration. This reflects that it is the role of the Inspector to consider representations received at this next stage, alongside their assessment of the soundness of the Plan.
- 5.3 Aside from public consultation the Plan has also been informed throughout its evolution by the Local Plan Members' Working Group. This is a cross political party group the purpose of which is to steer plan preparation through constituting a useful review and sounding board at key stages of its production. With regards to the current Proposed Submission Draft of the Local Plan, the working group has acted to review the Plan's revised vision and objectives; a number of new and those strategic policies which have been subject to greatest change since the Preferred Options Stage Two draft of the Plan; and the proposed land use allocations proposed for inclusion within the latest draft of the Plan. The working group has proved successful in adding considerable value to the Local Plan as it has emerged.
- 5.4 The 'Duty to Co-operate', introduced by the 2011 Localism Act, is also of relevance to note within the context of preparing the Local Plan through the involvement of others. The 'duty' places a formal requirement on the Council when preparing a Local Plan to engage constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis with neighbouring local planning authorities and other public agencies with regards to strategic cross boundary planning matters. It is contended that the 'duty' has been fulfilled by building on already strong and proactive relationships with such bodies, testament to which is that there are no outstanding unresolved cross boundary issues to date.
- 5.5 Statements setting out how the plan has been amended in light of consultation throughout the process of preparation, how the duty to cooperate has been fulfilled and what the main issues raised through the proposed submission draft consultation will, in accordance with the governing regulations and best practice, be made available alongside the Proposed Submission Draft and be updated as necessary and submitted alongside the Local Plan.
- 5.6 Finally the Local Plan has at various key stages of its preparation, in accordance with Article 4 of the Council's Constitution and its Budget & Policy Framework, been made available to the Council's Environment and Economy Overview and

Scrutiny Panel, with this process having equally aided the development of an appropriate, robust and what is considered to be 'sound' Local Plan. Most recently, following consideration of the Plan, the Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel resolved to inform the Executive of their support for the Plan as drafted subject to two recommended changes. These changes, which related to strengthening the vision to more fully encompass rural matters and further clarity within the supporting text of Policy HO 4 (in relation to affordable housing viability zones), were accepted by the Executive as acting to further strengthen the Plan, and serve to demonstrate the value of the scrutiny process.

## 6. CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1 The recommendations are necessary in order to enable the timely advancement of the Carlisle District Local Plan (2015 – 2030) towards adoption, in accordance with the process governed by the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. The Constitution makes clear that the approval of Local Plans rests with Council following their submission to the Executive, a requirement which is deemed to extend to each key draft stage of the Plan in the preparation process.
- 6.2 Delegated authority is necessary in the regards stated within this report in order to be able to practically progress the Local Plan through the Examination. The nature of delegation specified is considered proportionate to the matter to which it relates and importantly will ensure a degree of accountability prevails throughout the plan preparation process.

## 7. CONTRIBUTION TO THE CARLISLE PLAN PRIORITIES.

- 7.1 The Carlisle District Local Plan (2015 – 2030) will be influential within the District in terms of shaping how Carlisle will grow and look between 2015 and 2030. Accordingly the Local Plan will have a significant, direct and positive impact on a number of Carlisle Plan priorities including:

- ***Supporting the growth of more high quality and sustainable business and employment opportunities*** through protecting existing employment sites and locations and acting to identify new sites for investment;
- ***Addressing Carlisle's current and future housing needs*** through providing a strategy and identifying specific sites to meet the District's objectively assessed housing needs, including affordable and specialist housing;
- ***Developing vibrant sports, arts and cultural facilities, showcasing the City of Carlisle***, through acting to protect and where possible enhance the significance of existing facilities and assets and enabling growth in the visitor economy; and
- ***Working more effectively with partners to achieve the City Council's priorities*** through recognition that the Local Plan sets out a shared vision for

the future of the District having evolved with the buy-in of a wide array of stakeholders including the public.

**Contact Officer: Garry Legg**

**Ext: 7424**

**Appendices Attached to Report:**

- Carlisle District Local Plan (2015 – 2030) Proposed Submission Draft (v5) January 2015)
- Timescales for the preparation of the Carlisle District Local Plan (2015 – 2030)

**Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers:**

- Previous reports to Executive, Environment & Economy Scrutiny Panel and Council, including minutes, available on CMIS
- Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012  
[http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2012/767/pdfs/ukxi\\_20120767\\_en.pdf](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2012/767/pdfs/ukxi_20120767_en.pdf)
- Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004  
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2004/5/contents>
- Localism Act 2011  
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/20/contents/enacted>
- National Planning Policy Framework (2012)  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>
- Carlisle City Council Statement of Community Involvement (July 2013)  
[http://www.carlisle.gov.uk/planning\\_and\\_buildings/planning\\_policy/the\\_new\\_local\\_plan/statement\\_of\\_community\\_involve.aspx](http://www.carlisle.gov.uk/planning_and_buildings/planning_policy/the_new_local_plan/statement_of_community_involve.aspx)
- Local Development Scheme 2013 – 2015 (Dec 2013)  
[http://www.carlisle.gov.uk/planning\\_and\\_buildings/planning\\_policy/the\\_new\\_local\\_plan/local\\_development\\_scheme\\_lds.aspx](http://www.carlisle.gov.uk/planning_and_buildings/planning_policy/the_new_local_plan/local_development_scheme_lds.aspx)
- Previous versions of the Local Plan (Preferred Options Stage 1 and 2), schedule of responses to previous consultations on the Local Plan and the Local Plan evidence base:  
[http://www.carlisle.gov.uk/planning\\_and\\_buildings/local\\_development\\_framework.aspx](http://www.carlisle.gov.uk/planning_and_buildings/local_development_framework.aspx)
- Available on CMIS:
  - Equality Impact Assessment (v1.0)
  - Health Impact Assessment (v1.0)
- Available in hard copy upon request from Contact Officer:
  - Draft Updated Local Plan Policies Map
  - Draft Sustainability Appraisal of Carlisle District Local Plan (2015 – 2030) Proposed Submission Draft
  - Draft Habitat Regulation Assessment of Carlisle District Local Plan (2015 – 2030) Proposed Submission Draft
  - Draft Infrastructure Delivery Plan

## **CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS/RISKS**

**Chief Executive** – The Local Plan will help to deliver a number of the priorities set out in the Carlisle Plan. The Local Plan has been subject to ongoing Health Impact and Equality Impact Assessments at key stages of its preparation including the current Proposed Submission Draft stage. Communication and consultation strategies have been devised in concert with the communications team and similar joint working would continue moving forward. Risks associated with the Local Plan are recorded in the operational risk register through recognition that it constitutes a key corporate project. These risks will continue to be kept under review through existing protocols.

**Deputy Chief Executive** – The Local Plan contains a number of strategic and detailed policies which will help to support the development of vibrant cultural and leisure facilities and across the city.

**Economic Development** – See body of report.

**Governance** – The Local Plan is prepared and progressed in accordance with the provisions of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Planning Act 2008 and the Town & Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (SI 2012/767). In addition to the procedural requirements in the legislation, under Article 4 of its Constitution, the Council has reserved to itself “plans and alterations which together comprise the development plan”. Ultimately, it will be for the Council to approve the Local Plan.

**Local Environment** – The Local Plan contains a number of strategic and detailed policies which aim to protect and enhance key aspects of the local environment including green infrastructure, public open space and the public realm. A number of policies also ensure appropriate consideration is afforded to protecting residential amenity and environmental quality, in doing so complementing the efforts of the Directorate. Conversely the growth facilitated through the Local Plan will increase pressure on some service areas including open space management, waste collections, and street cleansing but the clarity provided by the Local Plan in identifying where, when and what levels of growth can be expected will aid service redesign, and assist in identifying the resources necessary to maintain service delivery.

**Resources** – A budget of £175k has already been allocated to support ongoing and future work associated with progressing the Local Plan through its next stages of preparation towards adoption. Any expenditure beyond this budget would have to be identified as a pressure through the process of the future Medium Term Financial Plan and/or reserves relied on.

# Carlisle District Local Plan 2015-2030

## Proposed Submission Draft

(Version 5 – February 2015)

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# 1. Introduction

## The New Local Plan

**1.1** The new Carlisle District Local Plan will be at the forefront of shaping how the District, its many settlements and vast rural area will develop between now and 2030. The Plan sets out a long-term spatial vision and strategic objectives to support the development of a thriving District through the identification of land to accommodate new development, and policies to achieve this growth in a positive, managed and sympathetic way, whilst ensuring the timely delivery of the infrastructure necessary to support growth.

**1.2** The publication of this Proposed Submission Draft of the Local Plan represents a further step in the course of plan preparation enabling anyone who wishes to help shape Carlisle's future to once again engage in the process. The Council intends to formally submit the new Local Plan to the Government for independent examination later in 2015. Once adopted the new Local Plan will replace the existing Carlisle District Local Plan 2001-2016 (adopted 2008).

**1.3** The policies and proposals within the Local Plan, and any other Development Plans in operation, will be those against which future planning applications within the District will be assessed. Ultimately the aim of the Local Plan is to facilitate sustainable development. It is therefore important to read the plan as a 'whole' i.e. with reference to all the policies that may be relevant, as it is these policies taken collectively which determine what will be regarded as constituting sustainable development. Policies should not be taken out of context and will not be applied in isolation.

**1.4** The Local Plan operates alongside a Policies Map, which illustrates the policies in the Local Plan which have an area or place specific implication, including those sites that are allocated for development and, where appropriate, committed sites that have been granted planning permission. Designations include existing land uses such as areas of housing, employment and the City and other retail centres, and areas of protected land such as the two Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site and its Buffer Zone, nature conservation areas, parks and playing pitches, amenity open space and Conservation Areas.

**1.5** New allocations identified on the Policies Map should be read in conjunction with the relevant policy in the Local Plan which will set out criteria that any planning applications will need to comply with. By setting out specific land allocations in this way, the Plan will provide local communities, land owners, developers and infrastructure providers with a clear indication of the future pattern of development across the District. Inclusion as an allocated site within the Plan indicates that the principle of development on such sites is acceptable.

**1.6** It is important to acknowledge at the outset that the Local Plan will operate alongside the Cumbria Minerals and Waste Local Plan (MWLP) which contains mineral and waste specific policies for use in determining planning applications for waste or quarry developments across Cumbria. Once the MWLP is adopted it may be necessary to update the adopted Local Plan Policies Map to illustrate Mineral Safeguarding Areas and other relevant designations and/or allocations.

**1.7** The Local Plan will also operate alongside any Neighbourhood Plans brought forward. The concept of Neighbourhood Development Planning (NDP) was introduced by the Localism Act 2011. NDPs allow communities to develop a vision of what their area should be like and make decisions on where certain types of development should go. They go through a formal preparation process but importantly need to be in line with the strategic policies within the Carlisle District Local Plan. One such plan is currently being progressed in Dalston. The Council will continue to work with and support those pursuing Neighbourhood Plans.

**1.8** Section 206 of the Planning Act 2008 (The Act) confers the power to charge Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) on certain bodies known as charging authorities. This came into force on 6 April 2010 through the CIL Regulations 2010 (now amended by the CIL (Amendment) Regulations 2011, 2012 and 2014). This provides the enabling powers for Local Authorities to apply CIL to development proposals to support infrastructure delivery which in turn will support delivery of this Development Plan. The Council is yet to make a decision as to whether a CIL should be adopted. Any final decisions will be subject to viability studies being undertaken and an Examination in Public.

**1.9** Monitoring is an integral part of the plan making and review process. A series of indicators have been identified to assess the relative effectiveness of the Local Plan with regards to achieving its desired outcomes. The Annual Monitoring Report reports on an annual basis the performance of the Local Plan, and in doing so, plays a leading role in identifying the need to review existing policies and proposals.

## **How the Local Plan has Emerged**

**1.10** The Local Plan has been prepared under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) and the Town and Country Planning (Local Plan) Regulations 2012.

**1.11** The Plan has to date evolved through extensive research and consultation to identify the key issues it needs to address and help in determining the best approaches to various challenges and in responding to opportunities. Active community involvement at each key stage of plan preparation has helped to mould the Plan and has been undertaken in accordance with the Council's adopted Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), which sets out how the Council will undertake consultation on key planning documents to ensure stakeholders and the community are engaged in the

process. A separate Consultation Statement has been published alongside the Local Plan to make clear which bodies and persons were invited to make representations under Regulation 18 and how these bodies were invited to make such representations; a summary of the main issues raised by those representations; and how those main issues raised have been addressed in the Local Plan.

**1.12** The Plan has also been prepared in accordance with national planning policy and has regard to other plans and strategies where relevant, including the Carlisle District Sustainable Community Strategy “*A Community Plan for Carlisle and District 2011-2016*” which was itself informed by extensive public consultation.

**1.13** The Local Plan has been supported by a comprehensive and robust evidence base proportionate to the key issues it is seeking to address. The majority of these studies focus on Carlisle District specifically, however there are some studies that have been jointly prepared with other Cumbrian authorities or produced by Cumbria County Council. A comprehensive list of these documents, and the documents themselves, are available through the Council’s website or upon request. This evidence includes the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) which identifies the strategic and local infrastructure required to deliver the development proposals outlined in the Local Plan. The IDP will be reviewed and updated throughout the lifetime of the Plan to continually identify and ensure the timely delivery of essential infrastructure.

**1.14** The Localism Act introduced a Duty to Co-operate, requiring the City Council to work with neighbouring authorities and a wide variety of public and private bodies on cross boundary planning issues and matters of common concern. The Duty to Co-operate ensures that there has been in the past, and will be in the future, a high level of co-operation in the plan making process. Regular liaison meetings have been held with the prescribed bodies under the Act to ensure that strategic cross boundary issues have been identified and addressed as the Plan has evolved. Notably, the Council has, and will, continue to work with all neighbouring authorities, Cumbria County Council and other statutory consultees where relevant and necessary. As an outcome of this co-operation the Plan seeks to recognise the economic, social and environmental linkages with neighbouring areas and has provided opportunities for joint working and policy development. This cooperation is outlined within the duty to cooperate statement accompanying the plan.

**1.15** The plan preparation process has also been informed through a variety of further statutory and non-statutory but beneficial appraisals and assessments. These include:

**Sustainability Appraisal (SA)** - SA is a statutory process integrated into the preparation of all aspects of the Local Plan. The process measures the potential impacts of the Plan on a range of economic, social and environmental considerations, and includes the requirements of Strategic Environmental Assessment legislation. All policies and proposals in the Proposed Submission Draft of the Local Plan have been subject to SA and, where appropriate, changes

made to the Plan to incorporate SA recommendations. Where the recommendations have not been incorporated into the Plan an explanation is provided. The detailed SA report and appraisal, including a non-technical summary, is available on the Council's website for consultation concurrently with this stage of the Plan.

**Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA)** - HRA is the statutory process to assess the potential impacts of the Local Plan on Natura 2000 sites. Natura 2000 sites are of exceptional importance in respect of rare, endangered or vulnerable natural habitats and species within Europe: they include Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated under the European Union 'Wild Birds' Directive; Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) designated under the European Union 'Habitats Directive'; European Marine Sites (EMS) and Ramsar Sites. 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 site(s) in question. In order to comply with the requirements of the Habitats Regulations, a Screening Assessment was undertaken at the Issues and Options stage of the Core Strategy. This work was rolled forward to encompass the Preferred Options (Stage One) and subsequent Preferred Options (Stage Two). The HRA process has continued to inform the Plan up to this Proposed Submission Stage. Each roll forward of the HRA has been submitted to Natural England for comment.

**Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA)** - This process aims to ensure that the Local Plan promotes equality and therefore ensure that any aspects which would result in discrimination are addressed. The Plan has been subject to a process of EQIA across all stages of its evolution. An Equality Impact Assessment on the Proposed Submission Draft of the Local Plan has been published separately alongside it.

**Rural Proofing** - This process seeks to assess the impact of policies and site allocations on the rural area. The Plan has been subject to Rural Proofing through its evolution which has helped to identify those policies that provide urban solutions that may not necessarily work for rural areas with dispersed populations and economy. This has allowed the adjustment of policies to optimise their impact.

**Health Impact Assessment (HIA)** - This process seeks to measure the potential health impacts of a policy, programme or project on the wider population. Carrying out a HIA on the Local Plan has helped to ensure that the proposals outlined in the plan have been judged against the effects it may have on the health of the population through recognition that planning has a key role to play in the delivery of healthy sustainable communities. Ultimately the HIA has aimed to reduce health inequalities, contribute to improved health and contribute to better decision making.

## Next Steps and How to Have Your Say

**1.16** The Proposed Submission Draft of the Carlisle District Local Plan 2015-2030 represents the version of the Plan that the Council intend to submit to the Government for independent examination. Accordingly representations on the ‘soundness’ of the Plan, and policies and proposals within, will be sought by the City Council for a minimum period of six weeks in accordance with Regulations 19 and 20 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Plan) Regulations 2012.

**1.17** Consultation on the Proposed Submission Draft represents the last opportunity to comment on the Local Plan prior to its submission to the Secretary of State for an independent examination by an Inspector. This reflects that, without prejudice to the outcomes of the consultation, it is not intended to be a stage which results in the Council producing another amended version of the Plan. Instead the purpose of the proposed submission stage consultation is to enable people to make comments which they want to have taken into account at the independent examination.

**1.18** The role of the independent examination is to assess whether the plan has been prepared in accordance with the: ‘Duty to Co-operate’; legal and procedural requirements; and whether it is ‘sound’. The tests of ‘soundness’ are defined in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), para. 182 as being:

- **Positively prepared** – the Plan should be based on a strategy which seeks to meet objectively assessed development and infrastructure requirements, including unmet requirements from neighbouring authorities’ where it is reasonable to do so and consistent with achieving sustainable development;
- **Justified** – the Plan should be the most appropriate strategy, when considered against the reasonable alternatives, based on proportionate evidence;
- **Effective** – the Plan should be deliverable over its period based on effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic priorities; and
- **Consistent with national policy** – the Plan should enable the delivery of sustainable development in accordance with the policies in the National Planning Policy Framework.

**1.19** Further information on how the Council will undertake consultation on the Local Plan is detailed in the Council’s Statement of Community Involvement. Specific details on how to get involved in the current stage relating to this Proposed Submission Draft are also published on the City Council’s website, or are available by emailing [lpc@carlisle.gov.uk](mailto:lpc@carlisle.gov.uk), by telephoning 01228 817569 or by writing to Investment and Policy, Carlisle City Council, Civic Centre, Carlisle, CA3 8QG.

**1.20** Representation forms and a guidance note to assist in completing the form have been published separately. Those wishing to comment on the Plan at this proposed submission stage, or any of the supporting documentation published alongside the Plan

including the Sustainability Appraisal and Habitat Regulation Assessment, can do so by completing and submitting this form.

**1.21** Following the close of consultation on the proposed submission draft all of the submitted representations will be considered. Providing no fundamental soundness concerns are raised then the Local Plan (and all relevant supporting documentation) will be formally submitted to the Government for examination in late Spring 2015.

**1.22** Subject to the Inspector finding the Local Plan to be sound, or capable of being made sound through modifications, adoption of the Local Plan will follow. This is currently anticipated to be in early 2016, at which point the Local Plan will constitute the statutory policy framework against which all planning applications in the District will be assessed. It should be noted however that, in accordance with paragraph 216 of the NPPF, weight is capable of being afforded to the Plan, in some circumstances, prior to its formal adoption.

## 2. Vision and Objectives

### Spatial Vision:

***In 2030.....*** the District of Carlisle, with the City at its heart, is successfully asserting its position, as a centre for activity and prosperity, as the capital and economic engine for a region encompassing Cumbria, the western fringes of Northumberland and extending into South West Scotland.

People are attracted to visit, live, work, invest and importantly remain in the District of Carlisle, a key driver of which is the setting of the historic City, as well as the District's market towns and villages, within a stunningly beautiful rural backdrop much of which is characterised by a rich and unrivalled collection of natural and cultural assets. The more significant of these assets, including Hadrian's Wall and its associated National Trail path and Solway Coast and North Pennines Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, continue to underpin a thriving visitor economy, as too does Carlisle's proximity and ease of access to the Lake District National Park.

Key to Carlisle's ongoing success has been an increased supply of new high quality market and affordable homes, the delivery of which have been instrumental in attracting and retaining an economically active workforce and in supporting thriving rural communities. Capitalising on excellent strategic transport connections, including the M6 corridor, rail connections and Carlisle Airport, land has similarly been made available to support the delivery of new business premises and jobs. Continued innovation and development within agriculture has acted to ensure farming remains economically vibrant. Economic performance across the District has been underpinned by continued investment in higher and further education. This has resulted in a skilled and responsive workforce which exhibits high levels of entrepreneurship, with the University of Cumbria and Carlisle College having been at the forefront of these efforts.

Policies and proposals have succeeded in strengthening and diversifying the City Centre offer, ensuring that its expanded retail and leisure focus is underpinned by a strong cultural offer which can be enjoyed by all. Opportunities have similarly been taken to support thriving rural communities through sustaining and enhancing a network of centres across the District's rural towns and villages.

Growth has been achieved through a framework which has sought to protect and enhance the very assets that make Carlisle unique, including its: important natural landscapes; wildlife species, habitats and geodiversity; and its cultural and heritage relics. Furthermore it has been enabled through a co-ordinated approach to the timely delivery of supporting infrastructure, adding to the availability of essential local services, facilities and connections.

Careful consideration has been afforded to the design of all new development in order to ensure that proposals have enhanced their immediate setting, strengthened local distinctiveness and helped to create environments which are safe and resilient to the effects of climate change. New developments and the regeneration of brownfield sites within the City have proved a valuable catalyst for addressing social inequalities and deprivation, and as a recognised Healthy City, a firm commitment to continue positively improving health and wellbeing outcomes for all of the District's residents has been at the forefront of decision making.

Looking to the future a Masterplan is in place to guide the continued realisation of a sustainable urban extension at Carlisle South, in doing so ensuring that Carlisle is well placed to continue responding to the growth needs of its next generation. The District in its widest sense continues to be alive to its potential and capable of harnessing momentum to turn this into reality.

## **Strategic Objectives:**

### **Spatial Strategy and Strategic Policies –**

- To promote a sustainable pattern of development, which will contribute to building a strong, responsive and competitive economy, to support the vision for managed growth.
- To support strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by meeting the housing needs of present and future generations, in a high quality environment with accessible local services.
- To contribute to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment (including improving biodiversity), using natural resources prudently, minimising waste and pollution, and mitigating and adapting to climate change including moving to a low carbon economy.

### **Economy –**

- Foster the right conditions to stimulate inward investment through increasing the working age population; strengthening and expanding the skills base available, diversifying the economy and improving enabling physical infrastructure.
- To create opportunities for economic growth by making land available to meet the current and future quantitative and qualitative needs of the business community and to maintain Carlisle's role as an economic driver for a wider geographical area.
- To focus new retail and leisure floorspace within the City Centre, and take opportunities to strengthen and diversify its offer, in order to enhance its role as a sub-regional service centre and leisure and cultural destination.

### **Housing –**

- To enable the development of a range of high quality, energy efficient housing, in a variety of appropriate locations, to meet the aspirations of the existing residents, including those with a need for affordable housing and those wishing to move to the area.
- To make land available to boost significantly the supply of housing to support economic growth, whilst ensuring new housing supports the creation of thriving communities.

### **Infrastructure –**

- To ensure the provision of efficient and integrated infrastructure networks, and their timely delivery, including sustainable transport, where needed to support new and existing development, facilitate economic growth and deliver the plan strategy.

### **Climate Change and Flood Risk –**

- To reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, including through securing energy from renewable sources, and avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of

flooding in order to ensure that the District is more resilient and less vulnerable to the effects of climate change and can successfully adapt to its effects.

**Health, Education and Community –**

- To create a thriving, successful and healthy community for all by promoting cohesive mixed communities and ensuring that everyone can have a decent home, in a safe environment, with good access to health care, educational provision and other community facilities by sustainable modes, including walking and cycling.

**Culture and Heritage –**

- To conserve, enhance and promote Carlisle's culture, heritage and important historic landscapes whilst ensuring that development proposals respect and enhance Carlisle's historic and cultural assets.

**Green Infrastructure –**

- To protect, enhance and increase the provision of the green and blue infrastructure across the District to create and maintain multifunctional, interconnected and attractive recreational and ecological networks for the benefit of residents, businesses, visitors and the wider natural environment.

## **Spatial Portrait:**

**2.1** This spatial portrait describes the District's current geography, environment, economy, social and cultural characteristics and movement patterns. In doing so it provides a snapshot of the District as it is now as well as highlighting future issues it faces.

**2.2** Today Carlisle's identity is largely shaped by its extensive rural hinterland. It has an important agricultural economy, and is set in an area of high landscape value, including a coastal and upland landscape recognised as being of national importance. The historic core of the city is traversed by rivers that are internationally important for biodiversity, and a World Heritage Site strides across the District.

**2.3** The District of Carlisle covers an area of approximately 1,042 sq km and is situated in the far north of the County of Cumbria, bounded by the Scottish border to the north, Northumberland to the east, Allerdale and the Solway Firth to the west and Eden to the south. The City of Carlisle forms the principal urban area and lies within the south western part of the District. The remainder of the District is predominantly rural in nature, with the exception of Longtown to the north and Brampton to the east, and a number of smaller villages which are scattered predominantly to the west and east of the city.

## **Local Character and Distinctiveness**

**2.4** Carlisle's local character and distinctiveness has been significantly influenced by its rich and turbulent history resulting from its location on the border between England and Scotland. Carlisle established itself as an important and well fortified Roman settlement primarily serving the forts along Hadrian's Wall. As an important frontier town it was frequently disputed and besieged by the English and the Scots during various campaigns and the area suffered from many attacks by the Border Reivers.

**2.5** By the time of the Norman conquest in 1066 Carlisle was part of Scotland. This changed again in 1092 when the region was invaded and Cumberland, including Carlisle, was subsequently incorporated into England. Carlisle Castle and the City Walls were constructed shortly after and whilst only the West Walls and the section around the Castle remain standing, the titles of the gates still remain in the names of key roads into the City Centre.

**2.6** In the 12<sup>th</sup> Century King Henry I allowed the founding of a religious establishment, later making the town a diocese thus turning the Priory into a Cathedral, which is today one of the smallest in England.

**2.7** Carlisle has been shaped in more recent times by its industrial heritage, - predominantly in textile manufacture. This was followed by the arrival of the railways which continue to be of significant strategic benefit to the City.

**2.8** As a result of Carlisle's extensive history the District is rich in heritage ranging from Hadrian's Wall World Heritage site which crosses the district from Gilsland in the East to Burgh by Sands in the West, to the remaining City walls, Carlisle Cathedral, the Old Town Hall and Tullie House. There are approximately 1139 Listed Buildings within the District and 19 Conservation Areas including areas within the City, the historic market towns of Brampton and Longtown as well as some of the other villages such as Dalston and Cumrew. There are also approximately 166 Scheduled Ancient Monuments, two designated parks and gardens, (Corby Castle and Dalston Road Cemetery); as well as one historic battlefield – the Battle of Solway Moss, at Longtown..

**2.9** Carlisle District also has a number of locally listed buildings and structures of architectural and historic significance which whilst not of national significance are important in creating the locally distinctive character that can be seen in parts of the District. Future additions to this list will ensure Carlisle's local history continues to be protected alongside both the nationally and internationally recognised assets. The District's Heritage is an extremely important asset, which contributes significantly to the character and attractiveness of the area and is a major draw for tourism.

**2.10** Carlisle also has an attractive and varied natural landscape. The District includes two Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), (Solway Coast and the North Pennines) as well as a network of ecologically important rivers, becks and burns. The North Pennines AONB is also a European Geopark. The River Eden and its tributaries are of international importance for their biodiversity, being designated as both a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and a Special Area of Conservation (SAC). Carlisle has a range of other sites of European nature conservation importance including the Upper Solway Flats and Marshes Ramsar site and Special Protection Area (SPA), the Solway Firth (SAC), the Irthinghead Ramsar site and the North Pennine Moors (SPA). These form part of a network of internationally important wildlife sites within the European Union known as Natura 2000.

**2.11** In addition, the District is home to many rare and endangered species such as the red squirrel, great crested newt and otters, as well as habitats such as lowland raised bogs, blanket bogs and upland hay meadows.

**2.12** The landscape and wildlife in Carlisle and surrounding districts underpins the economy of the area, through people's work and leisure activities, and their sense of local identity. Delivery of targeted biodiversity and landscape enhancements, therefore, has a significant contribution to make towards social inclusion and sustainable economic development, and logically forms an integral part of all aspects of the Sustainable Community Strategy (The Community Plan for Carlisle).

**2.13** The District has approximately 455 ha of public open space, which ranges from amenity open space (land which is recognised as making a contribution to the visual amenity and enjoyment of an area), to natural/semi natural greenspace, parks/gardens, allotments, play areas and outdoor sports facilities. Within the centre of the city, and

located immediately next to the River Eden are two linked and important urban parks, Rickerby Park and Bitts Park. Rickerby Park is a natural park with mature trees and grazed by sheep and cattle. Bitts Park has a more formal layout with landscaped beds and trees, together with playing pitches, children's play area and tennis courts etc.

## **Social Characteristics**

**2.14** Population data collated from the 2011 Census, released in July 2012, showed that the usual resident population of the District had increased by 6,785 from 100,739 in 2001 to 107,524, a rise of 6.7%. Whilst the rate was slower than the average for England and Wales it was the highest recorded in Cumbria.

**2.15** Census data shows that over the ten year period 2001 to 2011 there has been an increase of 15.8% in the over 60 age group. In the working age groups of 20 to 64 there has been an increase of 8.2% overall, but in the age bracket 30 to 44 there has been a decrease of 7.2%. The under 18 age group has also seen a decrease of 3%, but the most marked decrease has been in the 5 to 14 age bracket which has seen a reduction of 10% while the 0 to 4 age group has experienced an overall increase of 15.3%.

**2.16** Ethnic minorities within the District account for 5.6% of the population which is a two fold increase since the 2001 census. In the same time period the figures for Cumbria have also increased from 2% to 4.9%.

**2.17** In line with national trends, growth in Carlisle will most notably be seen in the number of older people living in the District where it is predicted that there will be a 57% increase by 2032. Approximately 68% of the population currently live within the urban area of Carlisle. In the rural areas a key feature is the sparse distribution of residents; on average there are 97 people per hectare in Carlisle's rural areas (compared to 477 regionally and 378 nationally).

## **Movement Patterns**

**2.18** The M6 motorway runs through the District linking the City of Carlisle to southwest Scotland, Northwest England and beyond. Carlisle benefits from four motorway junctions at Carleton (J42), Rosehill (J43) and Kingstown (J44), whilst junction 45 connects with the Scottish border at Gretna. Additionally the Carlisle Northern Development Route (CNDR) (the A689) provides a western link from the A595 to the M6 at junction 44. It also provides a combined pedestrian and cycle route along its 8.25km length.

**2.19** From Carlisle City there is a network of 'A' roads including the A69 which links the District to Newcastle upon Tyne in the North East, the A7 to the Scottish Borders and on to Edinburgh, the A6 to Penrith and the Lake District, and the A595 to Workington and Cockermouth in West Cumbria.

**2.20** In terms of rail travel and freight movements, the West Coast Main Line provides a north/south high speed rail link serving the City providing access to Birmingham and London and Glasgow and Edinburgh, as well as links via Northern Rail to Manchester Airport and Manchester to Glasgow and Edinburgh. There are rail links to Newcastle and the Cumbrian Coast providing access to Barrow and Lancaster. The historic Carlisle/Settle line, which is important for tourists, commuters and freight, links Carlisle to Leeds.

**2.21** Travel to work is heavily dependent on private car usage with 40.8% of people working in Carlisle District choosing to drive to work (Source: Office of National Statistics (ONS) Census 2011) despite the fact that nearly 50% of people travel less than 5km to their place of work. This level of car usage is partly due to accessibility to public transport across the District which varies considerably outside the urban area, with a number of areas having only limited services.

## **Housing**

**2.22** Housing Stock as of 31 March 2012 was 50,660 (source ONS Local Profiles). 85% of this stock is privately owned with Registered Providers of housing accounting for the remaining 15%.

**2.23** At the 2001 census owner occupation within the district was 71% which was slightly below the Cumbrian percentage of 72% but higher than that of the North West which was 69%. The percentage living in social rented properties were 18%, 16% and 20% with the private rented sector accounting for 8%, 12% and 8% respectively.

**2.24** A house condition survey undertaken in 2005 and Registered Social Landlord data from 2009 identified that 27% of the private sector and 12% of the social sector dwellings failed the decency standard in the urban area and 43% and 10% respectively in the rural area.

**2.25** Housing in Carlisle is generally more affordable in respect of house price/earning ratio at 4.7% than is the case for England which is 6.6% (source ONS Local Profiles 2012). However, variations in average house prices across the District identify parts of the rural area where average house prices are in excess of ten times the annual income, creating problems of housing need due to affordability.

**2.26** Average household size as determined by DCLG has reduced to 2.2 persons and is expected to further reduce to 2.17 by 2016 and 2.14 by 2021. This compares to 2.21, 2.18 and 2.15 respectively for Cumbria and 2.36, 2.35, 2.33 for England.

**2.27** Over the last 10 years 72% of housing built within the District has been within the urban area and 28% in the rural area. Housing development has significantly slowed over the last 5 years with the lowest increase in new housing being recorded last year (2013/14) with only 190 net new dwellings. This performance relates however to

national as opposed to local circumstances and predominately the effects of the most recent housing crash and subsequent recession.

## **Economy**

**2.28** Carlisle is a free standing city which is not directly influenced by a major conurbation. It acts as a significant employment base and the main professional centre for Cumbria as well as parts of south west Scotland.

**2.29** Historically, the economy of Carlisle was based around easy access to a railway network and the textile industry which has over time declined and been replaced by other forms of manufacturing. A large proportion of Carlisle's working population are still employed in the manufacturing sector. However, the wholesale/ retail trade provides employment for the largest proportion of the workforce. Employment in non-service industries, such as agriculture, manufacturing and construction are all higher than the national average. Carlisle is an important centre for agricultural services. Carlisle lies at the centre of a large rural livestock market. Within the rural area Brampton and Longtown act as employment hubs along with Dalston to a lesser extent. All three settlements have industrial estates which provide employment opportunities for people within their locality as well as the wider area.

**2.30** Whilst Carlisle benefits from good connections to the M6 as well as being situated on the West Coast Main Line, there can still be a perception by businesses from outside the area of remoteness and isolation which may detract from Carlisle's attractiveness as a business location. This is further compounded by a gap in skills as well as poor retention levels with regards to graduates. However, current work under the 'Sense of Place' banner aims to attract people to visit and live in the area, encourage those here already to stay, persuade investors and developers to see us as a place worth investing in and create and attract new jobs whilst keeping the ones we have.

## **Tourism**

**2.31** Tourism is of major importance to Carlisle as a generator of economic prosperity and employment with the District receiving over 7 million visitors in 2013 (STEAM Report). It is essential that the tourism potential of the District is promoted and exploited to maximise the benefits it can bring to the area, including a large number of jobs. Carlisle's heritage is central to its attractiveness as a tourist location with Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site and National Trail crossing the District, Carlisle Castle, the Cathedral, Tullie House museum and many more attractions attracting visitors in their own right.

**2.32** Carlisle lies at the heart of a wealth of historic and modern attractions ranging from Roman remains to Norman strongholds, medieval market towns to a contemporary city. Carlisle has museums, art galleries, national sporting events, outdoor and indoor recreation, heritage tours, award-winning parks and nature reserves. Carlisle

Racecourse lies on the edge of the City, whilst in the wider rural area are a wealth of historic churches, Talkin Tarn Country Park, Lanercost Priory founded in 1197 as an Augustinian Priory, and stunning countryside including the two Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

## **Culture and Heritage**

**2.33** Protecting heritage whilst supporting economic growth is something that the City Council is actively engaged in. The historic core of the city includes Carlisle Castle, Tullie House Museum, Carlisle Cathedral precinct, the Tithe Barn, the City Walls, the Courts, the Market Cross, the Old Town Hall and the Guildhall. These and other heritage and cultural assets, including the Sands Centre and proposed Warwick Streets Arts Centre, combine with the high quality environment in and around the District to contribute towards Carlisle's appeal as a visitor destination. Providing potential for economic diversification, particularly within the rural area, opportunities of this nature are already being supported along for example the route of Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site (officially known as 'Frontiers of the Roman Empire (Hadrian's Wall): World Heritage Site') National Trail with the development of accommodation and refreshment facilities.

## **Education**

**2.34** Educational achievement (measures as 5 or more GCSEs at A\* to C grade, including English and maths) at 15 years old in Carlisle is lower (52.2%) than both national (59.2%) and regional (59.9%) averages. The District also has a higher percentage of its population with no qualifications at 12.3% compared to the national figure of 9.3%. However in recent years there has been significant investment and restructuring of education services and institutions across the District, and standards are continually improving.

**2.35** All post 11 education in the District, which was managed by the County Council, now has Academy Status. The Richard Rose Academy (Central and Morton sites) have been established through an investment of some £30M. Trinity School has obtained Academy status and has again had significant investment to improve its facilities. In the rural area, Caldew School Dalston and William Howard School Brampton have also had significant investment to improve facilities.

**2.36** Carlisle College, based between Victoria Place and Strand Road, is the main provider of further education. The college also provides educational opportunities for students aged over 14 alongside vocational and skills training for a growing number of both young and mature students which is helping to expand the skills base locally. The facilities at the college have greatly improved in recent years as a result of significant investment being made to redevelop the college estate through refurbishment and replacement of outdated buildings.

**2.37** The University of Cumbria was established in August 2007 and after a period of uncertainty, has in recent years experienced significant levels of new students enrolling in courses based at its Carlisle campuses. Proposals for major campus redevelopments including a new administrative headquarters for the University, based within the City of Carlisle, have stalled due to the initial financial challenges faced by the university following its establishment. With recent reports of improved performance, increasing student numbers, and in an improving economic climate it is hoped that these proposals can be progressed once more.

## **Social**

**2.38** The English Indices of Deprivation 2010<sup>1</sup> (which updated the 2007 indices) show that Carlisle District is 109<sup>th</sup> out of 326 nationally (with 1 being the highest) with 5 Lower Super Output Areas<sup>2</sup> in the 10% worst nationally which indicates great disparity throughout the district and a slightly worsening position from the 2007 indices (ranked 122<sup>nd</sup> out of 354 nationally).

**2.39** The Green Infrastructure Study March 2011 further supports the inequality across the District as it identified that the 10 most deprived super output areas of the District have on average 27% less green infrastructure cover than the 10 least deprived.

## **Health**

**2.40** Carlisle became a World Health Organisation Healthy City in 2009. Since then, the City Council has worked closely with organisations such as the NHS, Riverside and Carlisle Leisure and has gained from the Healthy City approach and network. A healthy city is one that continually creates and improves its physical and social environments and expands the community resources that enable people to mutually support each other in performing all the functions of life and developing to their maximum potential.

**2.41** Life expectancy in the district is 78.5 years for men and 82.0 years for women. Whilst slightly lower than the national average this is higher than figures for the North West. However, there is great disparity across the district with men in the least deprived areas living seven years longer than those in the most deprived areas. Mortality rates per 100,000 persons at 609.3 is higher the national figure of 553.3 and early death rates from cancer remain above the England average.

## **Flooding and Climate Change**

**2.42** The position of Carlisle at the meeting point of three rivers makes it vulnerable to the risk of flooding. In 2005 the District experienced the worst floods since 1822 which resulted in the loss of human life and severely affected many homes and businesses.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/corporate/statistics/indices2010>

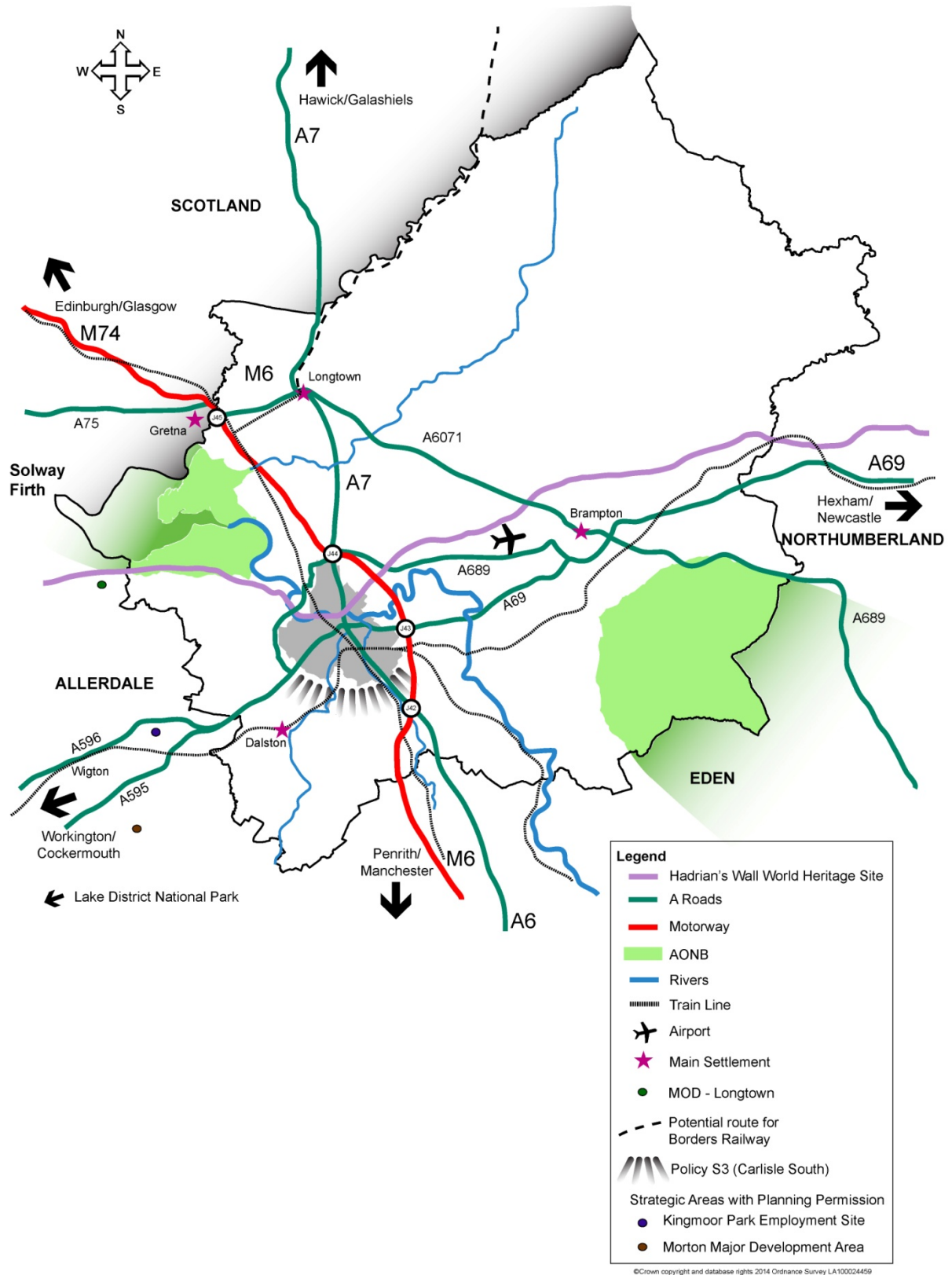
<sup>2</sup> **Lower Super Output Areas** – are homogenous small areas of relatively even size (around 1,500 people) of which there are 32,482 in England.

Flood defences have recently been completed offering a good level of defence against future flood risk. However, caution must still be taken when considering proposals for development in high risk areas benefitting from defences.

**2.43** Specific data for the impacts of climate change on Carlisle are not readily available, but information is available on a regional basis that gives a good indication of the potential impacts. Between now and 2080, if we continue to discharge high amounts of greenhouse gases, the District could expect an impact on the following:

- more extreme weather conditions causing disruption to front line services like refuse/ recycling collections;
- higher energy costs for buildings and transport as climate change impacts on markets and trade;
- health related problems for example waterborne diseases linked to warm weather impacting on health services;
- drier summers could lead to droughts affecting parks, allotments and nature reserves putting pressure on water resources and local biodiversity;
- wetter weather patterns in the summer affecting the agricultural economy through impact on crop and grass growth.

## Key Diagram:



### 3. Spatial Strategy and Strategic Policies

#### Objective

- To promote a sustainable pattern of development, which will contribute to building a strong, responsive and competitive economy, to support the vision for managed growth.
- To support strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by meeting the housing needs of present and future generations, in a high quality environment with accessible local services.
- To contribute to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment (including improving biodiversity), using natural resources prudently, minimising waste and pollution, and mitigating and adapting to climate change including moving to a low carbon economy.

#### Context:

This section of the Local Plan comprises of a suite of policies which set out key overarching and recurring principles and therefore strategic direction for the more detailed policies and specific proposals that follow. Collectively these strategic policies constitute the spatial strategy at the heart of the Local Plan and in this regard they are central to the realisation of the vision of how Carlisle will look in 2030. A number of these policies go beyond traditional land use planning in order to lend impetus to wider initiatives pursuing common goals, as well as to ensure that synergies with the planning process are maximised.

## Policy SP 1 - Sustainable Development

When considering development proposals Carlisle City Council will take a positive approach that reflects the presumption in favour of sustainable development contained in the National Planning Policy Framework. It will always work proactively with applicants, and communities, jointly to find solutions which mean that proposals can be approved wherever possible, and to secure development that improves the economic, social and environmental conditions of the District.

Planning applications that accord with the policies in this Local Plan (and, where relevant, with policies in neighbourhood plans) will be approved without delay, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

Where there are no policies relevant to the application, or relevant policies are out of date at the time of making the decision, then the Council will grant permission unless material considerations indicate otherwise – taking into account whether:

1. any adverse impacts of granting permission would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in the National Planning Policy Framework taken as a whole; or
2. specific policies in that Framework indicate that development should be restricted.

### Justification

**3.1** The current United Kingdom Sustainable Development Strategy ‘Securing the Future’ (HM Government, 2005) defines ‘Sustainable development’ as *“development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”*.

**3.2** The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out a presumption in favour of sustainable development. This presumption is considered to be the golden thread running through both plan making and decision taking. The NPPF emphasises the three dimensions to sustainable development, these being:

- an economic role – contributing to building a strong, responsive and competitive economy;
- a social role – supporting strong, vibrant and healthy communities; and
- an environmental role – contributing to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment.

**3.3** These roles are interdependent, and to achieve sustainable development, economic, environmental and social gains should be achieved through all aspects of planning.

**3.4** The Carlisle District Local Plan is the first reference point for those involved in the determination of planning applications. The NPPF makes it clear that local planning documents should reflect the presumption in favour of sustainable development and Policy SP 1 responds to this requirement.

**3.5** It is important to note that in accordance with other policies in the NPPF that the presumption does not apply to development affecting sites protected under the Birds and Habitats Directives and/or land designated, amongst others, as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), Local Green Space, designated heritage assets or locations at risk of flooding or coastal erosion.

## Policy SP 2 Strategic Growth and Distribution

To ensure that objectively assessed development needs are met, and met in the most sustainable manner, strategic growth within the District of Carlisle will be governed by the following principles:

1. Sufficient land will be identified to support the delivery of an annualised average of at least 565 net new homes between 2015 and 2030.
  - a. 70% of this growth will be focussed on the urban area of Carlisle, with 30% in the rural area.
  - b. Specific sites have been identified within the Plan, alongside an allowance for windfall developments, to accommodate the growth required until 2025. Carlisle South has been identified as a broad location to accommodate housing growth beyond this period.
2. Sufficient land will be identified to create the right conditions for economic growth.
  - a. The focus for development will be within the urban area of Carlisle and locations which can maximise the benefits of Carlisle's highly accessible position in relation to the M6 Corridor.
  - b. Whilst efforts will be focussed across the plan period on realising the residual capacity within existing employment areas, this approach will be complemented by the allocation of an additional 45 Hectares for employment related purposes.
3. Development of surplus land at Ministry of Defence (MOD) Longtown, which lies within the strategic M6 Corridor and benefits from excellent road and rail connections, will also be supported as a key element of the strategy to grow the economy, and to secure modal shifts in freight transport.
4. The City Centre will maintain and enhance its status by being the primary focus for further comparison retail development across the Plan period.
  - a. Specifically, sufficient land will be identified within the City Centre to accommodate an additional 18,700m<sup>2</sup> net comparison retail floorspace until 2030.
5. Provision for leisure and other 'main town centre uses' will be based on the need to protect and enhance the vitality and viability of the City Centre, District Centres and Local Centres as defined on the Policies Map.
6. Where possible and appropriate, the re-use and redevelopment of previously developed land will be encouraged across the District. Within the urban area of Carlisle the reuse and redevelopment of underused, vacant and derelict land will be supported in order to secure the continued regeneration of the City.
7. Within the District's rural settlements, development opportunities of an appropriate scale and nature, which are commensurate with their setting, will be harnessed to positively contribute to increasing the prosperity of the rural economy and to enable rural communities to thrive.
8. Within the Open Countryside, development will be assessed against the need

to be in the location specified.

## **Justification**

**3.6** Policy SP 2 sets out the level of objectively assessed development needs to be delivered within the District until 2030, and importantly a number of key principles to guide how, where and when these will be met in order to ensure that sustainable patterns of development prevail across the plan period. This policy therefore constitutes a key strategic policy which will be used to shape how the District develops in the future.

**3.7** The delivery of housing is a key thrust of the spatial strategy necessary in order to respond to changes in local demographics and equally in accommodating in-migration necessary to support economic growth through helping to sustain an economically active workforce.

**3.8** Policy SP 2 makes provision for an annualised average of at least 565 net new homes between 2015 and 2030, equating to a total minimum of 8,475 dwellings across this 15 year period. The District of Carlisle constitutes a self contained strategic housing market area and this level of growth therefore reflects what the Council consider to represent the District's objectively assessed housing need.

**3.9** The annual housing requirement of 565 is consistent with the findings of the Carlisle Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) Update 2014, and the latest 2014 POPGROUP modelling undertaken by the Cumbria Intelligence Observatory. POPGROUP is a software product designed to project populations, households and labour forces associated within specified future scenarios and is widely regarded as a credible tool to derive robust projections. To do this, it builds upon Office of National Statistics projections using further assumptions, for example: the continuation of longer/shorter term trends in birth, death and migration rates, future development proposals and the anticipated performance of the local economy.

**3.10** The POPGROUP "10 year migration scenario", based on historic migration trends, and the "Experian jobs led scenario", based on the latest job projections for the District of Carlisle, point to an annual housing requirement of between 383 and 592 new homes. The SHMA Update 2014 also produces projections which suggest an annual housing requirement of between 485 and 565 new homes. The proposed annual housing requirement of 565 is both within the ranges of both sets of housing projections identified in the POPGROUP modelling and SHMA and is considered reflective of the requirements set out in paragraph 47 of the NPPF.

**3.11** The spatial strategy seeks to focus the majority (70%) of new housing growth on the City of Carlisle which aside from reflecting that this is where the majority of housing needs arise within the District also reflects a desire to enhance the City's role as a sub-regional centre. Concentrating development on the City also reflects that this area is

well served by existing infrastructure which entails evident sustainability benefits. The remainder of housing growth (30%) will occur within the District's rural settlements including in Brampton and Longtown.

**3.12** Specific allocations have been identified within the Local Plan to contribute, alongside existing commitments and an allowance for windfall, to meeting the growth required for the first ten years of the Plan until 2025. Beyond this Carlisle South, which is subject to the provisions of Policy SP 3, has been identified as a broad location to accommodate housing growth in the latter years of the Plan and beyond.

**3.13** The supply of housing land is summarised in Table 1 with the anticipated rate of delivery illustrated through the trajectory at Figure 1.

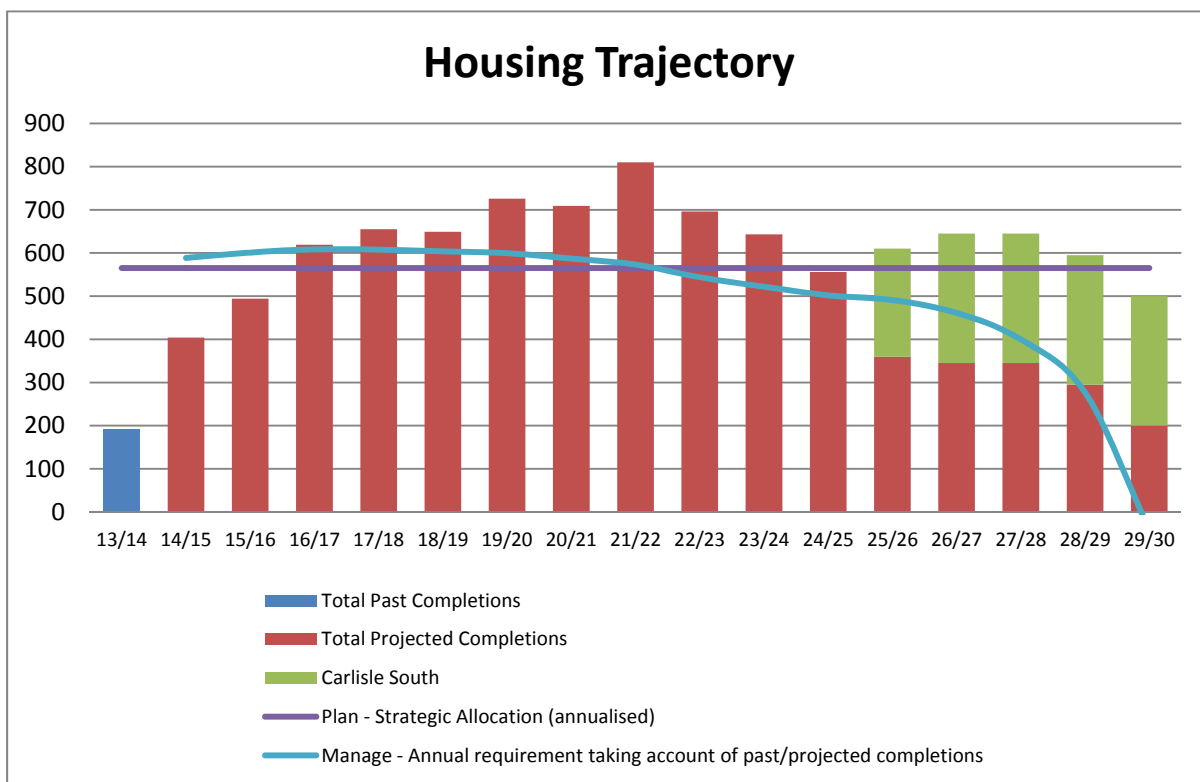
<b>Source</b>	<b>No. Of Dwellings</b>
Outstanding Planning Permissions	4,063
Proposed Local Plan Allocations <sup>3</sup>	3,472
Windfall Provision [@ 100 dwellings per annum across the plan period]	1,500
Strategic Allocation – Carlisle South	1,450
<b>Total Supply</b>	<b>10,485</b>

**Table 1 - Summary of Housing Land Supply (as at 1<sup>st</sup> October 2014)**

**3.14** Whilst Table 1 indicates a total supply which would support a higher rate of delivery than that proposed within the Local Plan, it is recognised that not all of the existing permissions and allocations may be built out in full within the plan period, which the trajectory reflects. Nevertheless, if economic and market conditions are favourable, it demonstrates that the Local Plan target could be exceeded.

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<sup>3</sup> Excludes the capacity of those allocations which have an outstanding planning permission in place in order to avoid double counting.



**Housing Delivery Trajectory as at 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014.**

**3.15** Despite historic under delivery owing predominately to unfavourable economic conditions and the recent global recession, there are encouraging market signals to support that the desired level of housing growth can be achieved particularly across the longer term. In this regard the Council is fully committed to directing its own resources to aid delivery efforts, with a housing action plan in place to guide interventions. A key part of this action plan is engagement with housing enablers to better understand future opportunities as well as risks and constraints.

**3.16** The delivery of housing to meet the Local Plan target will be monitored through the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), and if the rate of delivery is not as expected, the Council will seek to work directly with stakeholders to identify any barriers to development, and consider further interventions including bringing forward additional or substituting allocations. A review of the housing element of the strategy would also be instigated if evidence used to determine the housing requirement changes; monitoring shows the strategy is not meeting its objectives; or sustained market signals indicate a clear need for change.

**3.17** From an employment land perspective Policy SP 2 identifies that sufficient land will be identified to create the right conditions within the District for economic growth, which is a key priority of the City Council, Carlisle Partnership and the Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP). Evidence, in the form of the Carlisle Employments Sites Study (2010) and the Economic Review of Carlisle (2013), shows that one of the key economic issues to date within the District has been the lack of quality and choice of employment locations for companies to invest. The Local Plan seeks to address these

shortcomings through encouraging and facilitating investment in existing sites, and complementing this offer through the provision of new sites, particularly within the strategically important M6 Corridor which is a recognised Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership priority.

**3.18** Whilst 45 Ha of land is allocated for employment purposes within the plan period, there is also approximately 46 Ha of available land within existing and established primary employment areas, with the majority of this 42 (Ha) being within the City of Carlisle and 4 (Ha) within rural settlements. There have been encouraging signs of investment in existing employment sites, including the award of LEP funding to enable qualitative improvements, and the City Council are committed to ongoing engagement with stakeholders and joint working to secure further inward investment and promote opportunities within the District. Whilst the allocation and existing Primary Employment Areas will be the focus for new employment related development, this does not preclude additional employment developments coming forward out with these sites where such proposals would act to diversify and strengthen the employment offer in the District. In these circumstances the merits of individual proposals would be assessed on a case by case basis against the suite of relevant policies within the Local Plan

**3.19** The identification of surplus land (some 243 Ha) at the Ministry of Defence owned Longtown munitions base and its promotion for commercial purposes represents, owing to its scale, a significant economic opportunity within the District within the life of the Plan and beyond. The opportunity lends itself to manufacturing, storage and distribution related uses, through either making use of existing buildings or through the development of new ones. The site's greatest asset its ability to operate as a dry port owing to its excellent rail links, its proximity to the M6 and M74, and its potential to exploit linkages with the Port of Workington.

**3.20** Identification of the opportunity at the MOD Longtown site within the Cumbria LEP's Strategic Economic Plan 2014-2024, and recent award of LEP funding, is testament to the economic potential of the site with initial marketing of the opportunity, branded as 'Solway 45', revealing strong interest in it as a destination for inward investment. The City Council are committed to working with the relevant stakeholders, including those in Scotland given the proximity of the site to the border, to ensure that the potential benefits of developing the site are maximised and that importantly any adverse impacts of doing so are avoided.

**3.21** Whilst it is not considered appropriate to pursue a specific employment land uptake target through the Local Plan, take up rates will be monitored and this stance will be kept under review.

**3.22** Carlisle City Centre is recognised as the main retail, leisure, service and administrative centre for a sub region encompassing the majority of Cumbria and which extends into South West Scotland and the Scottish Borders. In catchment terms the City

Centre caters for almost 500,000 people and therefore provides a higher order role for both residents and businesses in the region.

**3.23** The Carlisle Retail Study (2012) identifies that whilst the City Centre was considered to be vital and viable, it was not achieving its full potential due to existing constraints such as its historic core (attractive asset but restricts change / expansion), small and historic retail accommodation (size and configuration of units) and department stores occupying multiple (irregular) co-joined units. Consequently the study identifies that improving the performance and overall future vitality and viability of the City Centre will only be achieved if new comparison retail provision is delivered which is of sufficient quality to add to the existing offer.

**3.24** In order to maintain and enhance its status, and in accordance with national policy, the City Centre will be the primary focus for further comparison retail development across the plan period. Land has been identified through Policy SP 4 within the Local Plan, through a potential future expansion of the Primary Shopping Area, to accommodate up to an additional 18,700m<sup>2</sup> net Class A1 comparison (non-food) retail floorspace over the period to 2030, which is identified as necessary by the Carlisle Retail Study (2012). As with other key elements of the spatial strategy the delivery and pipeline of additional comparison retail floorspace will be kept under regular review.

**3.25** Beyond the City Centre the Carlisle Retail Study (2012) highlights the importance of a network of local centres which perform an important top-up function from a convenience retail perspective as well as in providing access to other important local services and facilities. The network of local centres considered by the study has been reviewed and expanded as part of the Local Plan process, and a distinction has been made between District and Local Centres. Accordingly, the provision for retailing, leisure and other 'main town centre uses' will be based, in accordance with national policy, on the need to protect and enhance the vitality and viability of this hierarchy of centres.

**3.26** Evidence in the form of the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) and Employment Land Availability Position Statement support that there are relatively limited opportunities to meet development needs on previously developed land. This largely reflects that previous efforts and planning regimes have succeeded in bringing previously developed land across the District back into beneficial use. Opportunities will however be taken to re-use and redevelop previously developed, underused and vacant land where it exists, particularly within the urban area of Carlisle where such opportunities can also act as a catalyst for wider urban regeneration and renewal.

**3.27** In order to support the rural economy and thriving rural communities, development proposals of an appropriate scale and nature, which are commensurate with their setting, will be supported within the District's rural settlements. This approach will consider proposals on a case by case basis on their individual merits, and against other policies of relevance within the Local Plan, and is considered preferable to a

prescriptive approach particularly given the diversity of the many rural settlements within the District.

**3.28** Within the Open Countryside development proposals will be assessed against the need to be in the location specified. This approach is necessary to ensure that sustainable patterns of development prevail and that importantly unnecessary and unjustified encroachment into and urbanisation of the District's countryside and fine landscapes is avoided, in keeping with the objectives of national policy.

### **Policy SP 3 – Broad Location for Growth: Carlisle South**

A broad location for growth for a mixed use urban extension, focusing on housing, is identified on the Key Diagram at Carlisle South. The urban extension is expected to be delivered from 2025 onwards.

To support the housing development, there will be a requirement for primary and secondary schools, employment and retail sites, community facilities, open space, green and other infrastructure including highways and transport.

Piecemeal development proposals within the area which are likely to prejudice its delivery including the large scale infrastructure required for the area will not be permitted.

The development of this area will be in accordance with a masterplan which will be approved as a Development Plan Document.

The purpose of the masterplan will be as follows:

1. to provide more detail on how the strategic requirements set out in this policy will be delivered;
2. to set a framework to guide the preparation of future planning applications;
3. to provide a framework against which future planning applications will be assessed;
4. to enable and support the co-ordination and timely delivery of infrastructure provision; and
5. to facilitate the delivery of land release to help address the imbalance of employment land between the north and south of the city.

The potential for the future development of a southern relief road linking Junction 42 of the M6 with the southern end of the A689 will be an integral part of the masterplan.

To ensure that Carlisle South is deliverable when required, work on masterplanning the area will commence in the early years of the plan period.

## Justification

**3.29** The NPPF states that in order to deliver a wide choice of high quality homes, and to boost significantly the supply of housing, local planning authorities should:

*“identify a supply of specific, developable sites or broad locations for growth, for years 6-10 and, where possible, for years 11-15”.*

**3.30** The NPPF also states that the supply of new homes can sometimes be best achieved through planning for larger scale development, such as new settlements or extensions to existing villages and towns that follow the principles of Garden Cities. Paragraph 52 states:

*“Working with the support of their communities, local planning authorities should consider whether such opportunities provide the best way of achieving sustainable development. In doing so, they should consider whether it is appropriate to establish Green Belt around or adjoining any such new development”.*

**3.31** Policy SP 2 sets out the overall housing target and identifies that specific sites have been identified within the Plan, through Policy HO 1, alongside an allowance for windfall developments, to accommodate the growth required until 2025. Policy SP 3 makes provision for the development of housing and associated infrastructure from 2025 and beyond, by setting out a broad location for growth at Carlisle South.

**3.32** The broad location is of such a size that it would deliver a strategic number of houses and necessary supporting development such as schools, employment, retail and community facilities, open and green space and other infrastructure for the District, in a location bordering the southern edge of Carlisle, where the Plan indicates future development for housing and a range of complementary uses would be appropriate in principle. Future growth in this direction is considered the most appropriate option for meeting longer term development needs within the District including beyond the plan period.

**3.33** The delivery of Carlisle South as a strategic growth option may also help in delivering in the long term a southern link road from the A689 (western bypass) to Junction 42 of the M6, and afford opportunities to secure investment in employment premises in the strategic M6 corridor.

**3.34** Policy S3 makes clear that the development of Carlisle South as a broad location would be governed by future masterplanning work, and it would be through this process where consideration would be afforded to the detail of the scale and nature of the development and its boundaries and consideration afforded to the infrastructure necessary to support growth. Maintaining adequate distances between any urban extension and existing settlements in the wider locality, in order to avoid any

coalescence and preserve their distinctiveness, would be a valid and undoubtedly essential approach of any such work.

**3.35** Future masterplanning work would be undertaken in partnership with stakeholders and be subject to its own public consultation. Such work would take forward the outcomes through to the production of a Development Plan Document. It would then set the policy framework for any future planning applications.

**3.36** The identification of Carlisle South in the Plan does not imply that the whole area should be developed. Within this wider area, specific and linked development sites will be identified and allocated for specific uses, taking account of infrastructure needs and land constraints through the processes outlined.

**3.37** It would prejudice the strategy of the Plan if individual sites within the Carlisle South area came forward incrementally within the first 10 years of the Plan period. It would also prejudice the delivery of infrastructure.

## **Policy SP 4 - Carlisle City Centre and Caldew Riverside**

In order to maintain and enhance its status, Carlisle City Centre, as defined on the Policies Map, will be the principal focus for comparison retail within the District, in addition to leisure, office and other main town centre uses.

Development proposals within the City Centre should support its vitality and viability and respond to opportunities to:

1. create a diverse mix of uses, including city centre living, which support vitality through generating daytime and evening activity;
2. preserve or enhance the character, appearance and wider setting of the City Centre, Botchergate and Portland Square/Chatsworth Square Conservation Areas and contribute towards the delivery of objectives within their respective Management Plans;
3. create new and enhance the existing public realm through imaginative hard and soft landscaping;
4. improve connectivity within the City Centre specifically with regards to increasing pedestrian and cycle permeability and accessibility; and
5. bring back into beneficial use vacant and redundant buildings and upper floors particularly where to do so would increase city centre living or generate job growth.

Land to the north of Lowther Street including Rickergate has been identified for a potential future expansion of the Primary Shopping Area. Retail led development proposals within this area will be supported where they are in response to identified needs, are guided by a comprehensive strategy and where it can be demonstrated that the proposal would integrate effectively with the existing Primary Shopping Area. Proposals within this area which would prejudice the ability to respond to an identified need to deliver additional comparison retail floorspace will be unlikely to be supported, unless the benefits of doing so outweigh the benefits of safeguarding the potential expansion.

To the south of the City Centre a notable and significant opportunity exists in the locality of the Citadel, as defined on the Policies Map, to reuse and redevelop buildings and land for a mix of uses which could act as a catalyst to enhance the vitality and viability of the southern extent of the City Centre, including Botchergate, and further improve the sense of arrival for visitors using this important historic and iconic gateway. Consideration will be afforded to progressing a development brief for this locality to ensure that the opportunity to deliver a comprehensive and strategic development across this area is safeguarded. This approach will also ensure that the potential benefits are maximised and that any opportunities to accelerate delivery are identified. Proposals will be supported providing that they do not prejudice any longer term opportunities and respect the significance of the heritage assets which characterise this area.

Caldew Riverside, as defined on the Policies Map, constitutes a significant regeneration opportunity outwith but in close proximity to the City Centre, to bring back into beneficial use land for a mix of uses which would complement those found in the City Centre and in doing so aid its overall attractiveness. Development proposals for this site will be considered on their merits, with any proposed main town centre uses being subject to a sequential and impact test. Development proposals should demonstrate how they would contribute to the comprehensive redevelopment of the wider site and also respond to the opportunity to positively interact with the River Caldew, including enhancing the riverside walk/cycle way, as well as improving linkages with the City's West Walls and the City Centre beyond.

All proposals will need to consider their impacts on the transportation network.

## **Justification**

**3.38** Carlisle City Centre is the main retail, leisure, service and administrative centre for a sub region encompassing the majority of Cumbria and which extends into South West Scotland and the Scottish Borders. Due to its historic status and heritage assets it is also an important visitor destination, and a key economic driver which is reflective of the roles it performs and jobs these roles give rise to. In order to maintain this status and ensure that its offer keeps pace with a growing population and expectations, there is a need to plan positively for the future of the City Centre.

**3.39** The extent of the City Centre is defined on the Policies Map. This area will, in accordance with national policy and Policy SP 2 of the Local Plan, be the principal focus for main town centre uses, with comparison (non-food) retail further focussed within the Primary Shopping Area within the City Centre in accordance with Policy EC 3 of the Local Plan.

**3.40** The Council commissioned consultants to prepare the City Centre Development Framework (CCDF) to guide the consideration of future development proposals in the City to 2030. Policy SP 4 seeks to embed the key principles to emerge from this work within the Local Plan and to take forward the key development opportunities identified.

**3.41** The overriding objective for development within the City Centre will be to contribute to maintaining and where possible enhancing, in accordance with national policy, its vitality and viability. The need for proposals to contribute towards a diverse mix of uses reflects a desire to act to ensure vitality throughout both the daytime and evening economies, and in doing so expand the City Centre offer.

**3.42** The City Centre is covered in its entirety by Conservation Area designations which serve to reinforce it's historic status. Botchergate is currently identified as a Conservation Area at risk and it is therefore imperative that opportunities are taken to

contribute towards the achievement of actions within its adopted management plan in order to help reverse its decline. Whilst management plans are not yet in place for the City Centre and Portland Square/Chatworth Square conservation areas, proposals will be expected to contribute towards the delivery of objectives within these once in place.

**3.43** The public realm within the City Centre exerts a significant influence on the perceived quality of the City Centre and its overall attractiveness as a destination. Whilst there has been significant investment in public realm within key areas of the City Centre, there remains a need to improve its quality in other parts. The City Council have commissioned a public realm framework as a means of helping to identify and prioritise further enhancements, and development proposals should consider how they can assist such efforts. Major development proposals within or on the edge of the City Centre should also consider how they can help to expand the public realm network through opening up access to high quality public space.

**3.44** Connectivity between parts of the City Centre, and between the City Centre and adjoining areas and/or attractions, is not as good as it could be. Whilst in some regards connectivity could be improved through more simplistic measures such as enhanced signage, at the other end of the spectrum more creative solutions are required to overcome the severance effect of key vehicular routes which pass through the City Centre. Again development proposals should consider how they can assist to improve connectivity, not least through a high quality and inclusive design approach.

**3.45** There remains potential across the City Centre to bring back into beneficial use upper floors with the introduction of city centre living and/or proposals for offices and other uses which generate job growth proven to positively enhance vitality. Such proposals will, subject to conforming with other policies of relevance within the Local Plan, be supported.

**3.46** A key objective of the CCDF was to explore whether and where within the City Centre additional A1 comparison (non-food) retail floor space could be accommodated. The need to do so reflects the findings of the Carlisle Retail Study (2012) and both the quantitative and qualitative need for this form of additional floorspace within the City Centre within the plan period.

**3.47** The CCDF concludes that the most appropriate and logical expansion of the Primary Shopping Area within the City Centre would be to its north, on land to the north and east of Lowther Street. Accordingly this area, which is also that where land availability is currently greatest and market interest strongest, has been identified on the Policies Map as a future extension of the Primary Shopping Area. The extent of land identified reflects that a number of development options exist within this area, as evidenced through the CCDF and other private sector indicative proposals, through which the required development needs could be met. The identification of this land in this manner is considered to afford a strong degree of flexibility whilst at the same time providing a sufficient degree of certainty to aid investment decisions.

**3.48** In order to be supported a fundamental aspect of any proposal within this area will be demonstrating how the development scheme integrates effectively with the existing Primary Shopping Area, particularly from a pedestrian accessibility perspective. Furthermore, such proposals should be guided by a comprehensive strategy to ensure a strategic approach to the actual expansion of the Primary Shopping Area prevails. Proposals which would prejudice the ability of the land to the north and east of Lowther Street to respond to the identified need to deliver additional comparison retail floorspace will not be supported.

**3.49** The CCDF also identifies that a notable and significant redevelopment opportunity exists to the south of the City Centre centred on the Citadel and former Courts buildings. This reflects that these buildings are shortly (in 2016) to be vacated by Cumbria County Council, and equally that the adjacent properties fronting English Street and Victoria Viaduct are also in public ownership.

**3.50** Whilst the full potential of this area is unlikely, owing to existing lease arrangements, to be realised in the plan period, there nevertheless exists an opportunity to re-use and redevelop parts of the soon to be vacated site in the short term for a variety of main town centre uses, alongside residential, educational or institutional uses. The CCDF supports however that the site does not lend itself to major retail lead development which reflects that the majority of the site that will become available within the short term is 'backland' in nature and that opportunities to access the English Street frontage are strongly inhibited by the significance of the heritage assets at this location.

**3.51** In order to ensure that the opportunity to deliver a comprehensive and strategic development across the wider Citadel area in the future is not lost, the Council will consider progressing a development brief for the site in conjunction with Cumbria County Council. Importantly this process may also help to identify opportunities to accelerate the delivery of a more comprehensive redevelopment and ensure that the benefits associated with redeveloping this site in acting as a catalyst to improve the vitality and viability of the southern extent of the City Centre, including Botchergate, are maximised.

**3.52** Caldew Riverside constitutes a significant regeneration opportunity to bring back into beneficial use land for a mix of uses outwith, and although in close proximity physically distinct from, the City Centre. The site is not however without its constraints and is contaminated in parts and subject to the risk of flooding. Planning permission is in place for a food superstore on part of the site with the consent for this having been lawfully implemented. There remains a degree of uncertainty at the current time however as to whether this superstore will be delivered.

**3.53** The CCDF identifies that a mix of uses could potentially be accommodated on this site subject to addressing the relevant policy tests elsewhere within the Local Plan and providing these uses do not undermine the delivery of sequentially preferable site

opportunities within the City Centre including the proposed extension of the Primary Shopping Area and the redevelopment of the Citadel complex. In these circumstances development proposals for the site will be considered on their merits having regard to the potential to enhance existing walking and cycling links and in aiding the overall attractiveness of the City Centre through the delivery of uses which would complement those found within it. This approach is also considered to recognise the need for flexibility if the opportunity presented by the site is to be realised.

**3.54** Finally all proposals will need to consider their impacts on the transportation network, in accordance with Policies SP 5 and IP 2 of the Local Plan, to ensure that access to key sites and key routes are not adversely affected.

## **Policy SP 5 - Strategic Connectivity**

The City Council will support improvements to the transport network, in partnership with delivery partners and operators, including the Highway Authority, in order to support the District's growth aspirations and Carlisle's role as a strategic transport hub.

Proposals in line with the objectives of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Cumbria Local Transport Plan will be supported. Interventions to facilitate growth as identified in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan will be prioritised. Opportunities will also be taken to:

1. increase the provision for walking and cycling, including improved connectivity across the District;
2. retain and enhance existing public transport services and to improve and modernise key public transport infrastructure including Carlisle Railway Station and interchange;
3. promote economic growth and seek to attract new and growing investment along the M6 corridor;
4. improve transport networks for all modes to ensure access and movement are maintained;
5. develop a southern relief road linking Junction 42 of the M6 with the southern end of the A689 as part of developing the broad location of Carlisle South;
6. enhance the appearance of key gateways;
7. secure a modal shift in the transport of freight from road to rail and improve connections with the Port of Workington; and
8. support Carlisle Airport as a gateway for business, tourism and in helping to improve access to global markets and destinations.

The lines of disused railways which have the potential for future use as green corridors for walking and cycling, or to facilitate the reinstatement of public transport services, will be protected. Specifically, the alignment of the former Carlisle - Longtown - Borders railway will, as far as possible, be protected through recognition of the longer term aspiration to reinstate the Carlisle-Borders-Edinburgh rail connection.

Land will be safeguarded and/or allocated through the planning process to support the realisation of new or improved transport infrastructure.

### **Justification:**

**3.55** Carlisle fulfils an important role as a strategic transport hub for the wider Cumbrian sub-region. The strategically important M6 passes through the District from south to north and links to Scotland beyond as well as important east and west connections to Newcastle and the Northeast and West Cumbria including the Port of Workington and Britain's Energy Coast. Carlisle also hosts Cumbria's principle railway station with

Carlisle Station fulfilling an important gateway and rail interchange on the strategically important West Coast Mainline. A number of strategic green corridors and cycle ways traverse through the District and link to the Lake District, Yorkshire Dales and Northumberland National Parks. Carlisle Airport is also a strategically important transport asset for both Carlisle and the wider sub-region, with aspirations to increase its role and function over the next few years.

**3.56** Carlisle's strategic connectivity makes it an accessible and attractive location for investment and supports and services the wider County. The need to protect and further enhance this connectivity has however been identified as critical in supporting not only the District's growth aspirations but also those of the wider County. The need for this is echoed by the Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership which, through its Strategic Economic Plan, identifies connectivity as one of four key priorities stating that investment is required in the full range of Cumbria's strategic networks, including rail, road, cycleways and public transport to improve connectivity within and to the sub-region.

**3.57** The 3<sup>rd</sup> Cumbria Local Transport Plan (LTP) sets out objectives and plans for developing transport across Cumbria including within Carlisle. The overriding objective of the Cumbria LTP is to ensure a high quality and resilient highway and transport network that everyone can access, which supports the development of a sustainable and prosperous low carbon economy and ensures Cumbria's outstanding environment can be enjoyed. The policies and allocations within this Local Plan help to contribute to this ambition through acting to reduce the need to travel, reduce the need to use private vehicles, promoting accessibility to jobs, shopping, leisure and community facilities by public transport, walking and cycling and promoting more sustainable transport choices for both people and freight. Specific proposals which further aid the delivery of the LTP objectives will be supported.

**3.58** In order to facilitate the levels of growth set out in the Local Plan, interventions identified through the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) will be prioritised. The IDP acts to document and continually review infrastructure requirements, including transport infrastructure, and subsequently to monitor whether the delivery of infrastructure is keeping pace with development. The IDP has been developed with the co-operation of a wide range of infrastructure providers including transport partners and operators.

**3.59** Opportunities will also be taken where they arise to assist in the realisation of a number of strategic interventions listed in Policy SP5. These include improving opportunities for walking and cycling; modernising public transport infrastructure; acting to capitalise on the economic potential of the M6 corridor improving transport networks; enhancing the appearance of key gateways; securing a modal shift in the transport of freight from road to rail particularly within the context presented by the part commercialisation of surplus land at MOD Longtown and potential connectivity to the Port of Workington; and supporting Carlisle Airport as a gateway for business, tourism and in helping to improve access to global markets and destinations.

**3.60** The lines of disused railways offer unique opportunities to improve connectivity through their reinstatement as transport corridors. Every effort will therefore be made to protect the potential of disused alignments within the District as far as is possible. Of particular relevance within the District is the alignment of the former Carlisle - Longtown - Borders railway in light of the Campaign for Borders Rail and cross boundary longer term aspirations to reinstate the Carlisle-Borders-Edinburgh rail connection. Of relevance to these aspirations is the Scottish Governments decision to re-open the section of this route between Edinburgh and Tweedbank which is currently under construction, albeit that no firm proposals are however yet in place to further extend this route.

**3.61** Where land is identified as being essential to the delivery of transport interventions which have a reasonable prospect of delivery, it will be safeguarded where necessary through the planning process. No such safeguarding are considered necessary at the current time, but if needed throughout the life of the Local Plan will be achieved through the partial review of the Local Plan or acting to bring forward an additional Development Plan Document.

## **Policy SP 6 – Securing Good Design**

Development proposals will be assessed against the following design principles. Proposals should:

1. respond to the local context and the form of surrounding buildings in relation to density, height, scale, massing and established street patterns and by making use of appropriate materials and detailing;
2. take into consideration any important landscape or topographical features and respect local landscape character;
3. reinforce local architectural features to promote and respect local character and distinctiveness;
4. take into consideration the historic environment including both designated and undesignated heritage assets and their settings;
5. ensure all components of the proposal, such as buildings, car parking, and new connections, open space and landscaping are accessible and inclusive to everyone, safe and well related to one another to ensure a scheme which is attractive and well integrated with its surroundings;
6. seek to ensure that streets are designed, where appropriate, to encourage low vehicle speeds which allow the street to function as social spaces;
7. ensure there is no adverse effect on the residential amenity of existing areas, or adjacent land uses, or result in unacceptable conditions for future users and occupiers of the development;
8. aim to ensure the retention and enhancement of existing trees, shrubs, hedges and other wildlife habitats through avoidance, including alternative design. If the loss of environmental features cannot be avoided, appropriate mitigation measures should be put in place and on-site replacement of those features will be sought;
9. include landscaping schemes (both hard and soft) to assist the integration of new development into existing areas and ensure that development on the edge of settlements is fully integrated into its surroundings;
10. ensure that the necessary services and infrastructure can be incorporated without causing unacceptable harm to retained features, or cause visual cluttering;
11. ensure that the layout and design incorporates adequate space for waste and recycling bin storage and collection; and
12. When agreed by the Highway Authority, the reinstatement of existing traditional materials will also be sought, following repairs to roads, pavements, kerbs and underground services.

All proposals should be designed to maximise opportunities to employ sustainable design and construction techniques.

## **Justification**

**3.62** High quality design is an integral part of sustainable development and accordingly is a key thrust of the Local Plans strategic overarching strategy. The Plan recognises that good design is essential to creating accessible, inclusive, attractive, vibrant and sustainable places with a strong sense of place, in which people want to live, work and have fun. This policy applies across the whole spectrum of development, regardless of use type or scale; all new development is expected to be well designed and appropriate to its surroundings.

**3.63** Good design should enhance the quality of buildings and spaces by considering form and function; efficiency and effectiveness and the potential impact of a development on the well being of the people who will use and view it. It should be sympathetic to the needs and requirements of different use classes and localities.

**3.64** Good design should be the aim of everyone involved in the development process. The principles in this policy will help to ensure that the development itself is not only well designed, but also complements and enhances its local setting whilst being accessible and inclusive to everyone. Developments should also seek to encourage a healthy lifestyle through the provision of opportunities for walking and cycling, and safe places to play, where these are appropriate.

**3.65** In areas where there are no significant local building traditions or where positive character elements are lacking, proposals should seek to create a strong and attractive local identity through intelligent, innovative and imaginative design.

**3.66** Landscaping schemes are an essential consideration of the design process. Landscaping schemes can take two forms: soft landscaping which includes tree and shrub planting; and hard landscaping concerning paving, walls etc. Where appropriate, the Council may require the partial implementation of a landscaping scheme prior to the completion of the development in order to reduce the impact of the construction works on site in the interim period. The proposed development should be situated to reflect the mature growth of species above ground and landscaping schemes should take account of the position of underground services and utilities, ensuring any planting does not compromise their function.

**3.67** In addition to this policy consideration must also be given to any additional design guidance/policies or site specific supplementary planning documents including those set out in Neighbourhood Developments Plans.

## **Policy SP 7 - Valuing our Heritage and Cultural Identity**

The Council will, through planning decisions and in fulfilling its wider functions, proactively manage and work with partners to protect and enhance the character, appearance, archaeological and historic value and significance of the District's designated and undesignated heritage assets and their settings.

Opportunities will also be pursued, to aid the promotion, enjoyment, understanding and interpretation of both heritage and cultural assets, as a means of maximising wider public benefits and in reinforcing Carlisle's distinct identity.

Key elements which contribute to the distinct identity of Carlisle District, and which will therefore be a priority for safeguarding and enhancing into the future, include:

1. the outstanding universal value of the World Heritage Site associated with the Roman frontier including Hadrian's wall and associated Roman sites such as Bew Castle;
2. medieval castles and other fortifications including Carlisle Castle and the City Walls, the Citadel, Brampton Mote, Bew Castle, Naworth Castle, Rose Castle, Scaleby Castle and other bastles and fortified houses;
3. Solway Moss battlefield;
4. the historic quarter of Carlisle City including the Cathedral and its precinct, Carlisle Castle and the City Walls, Tullie House Museum, the Market Cross, Old Town Hall and the Guild Hall, as well as the important streets and spaces which interconnect and provide a setting for these assets;
5. important industrial heritage including Tindale, Foresthead Quarries and prominent and historically significant mill / factory buildings in West Carlisle including Dixons Chimney;
6. key religious sites and their settings including the Cathedral precinct, Brampton, Burgh by Sands, Lanercost, Wreay and Bewcastle Cross;
7. Conservation areas across the District and particularly Botchergate and the City Centre which fulfil important social and economic functions for the district and wider sub-region; and
8. key cultural assets encompassing parklands, landscapes, museums, art galleries, public art, local food and drink and local customs and traditions.

As well as fulfilling its statutory obligations, the Council will:

- i. seek to identify, protect and enhance locally identified heritage assets;
- ii. promote heritage-led regeneration including in relation to development opportunities in the City Centre;
- iii. produce conservation area appraisals and management plans;
- iv. develop a positive strategy to safeguard the future of any heritage assets that are considered to be 'at risk'; and
- v. adopt a proactive approach to utilising development opportunities to increase

the promotion and interpretation of the Districts rich archaeological wealth.

A more detailed suite of policies as a key mechanism through which to help safeguard the above assets and wider archaeological interest is set out in the historic environment chapter of the Plan.

## Justification

**3.68** The historic environment plays a vitally important role, both in terms of keeping the story of Carlisle's history alive for the people who live here but also for the economy in telling visitors that story – it is a source of local pride and identity, as well as being a valuable educational and economic resource. It is central to the character, quality and cultural identity of the District and contributes significantly, from a social perspective, to quality of life. The historic environment acts as a stimulus and inspiration to place making and plays a part in increasing the appeal of the area as a place to live, work, visit and invest in.

**3.69** The District contains a wealth of heritage and cultural assets and evidence which have, and will continue to, inform our understanding and interpretation of the development of the District's historic landscapes and townscapes, all of which contribute to its identity and local distinctiveness. In these regards it is pertinent to note that whilst much is known about the past, much equally remains to be discovered.

**3.70** Policy SP 7 serves to ensure that this evidence is given due consideration in planning decisions and, aside from planning and development proposals, reaffirms the Council's commitment to work proactively with partners where opportunities arise to preserve, protect and enhance the character, appearance, archaeological and historic value of heritage and cultural assets, as well as to better understand their significance. In these regards the policy sets a clear and important statement of intent with regards to both heritage and cultural considerations playing an integral part in local decision making.

**3.71** The Local Plan in its widest sense seeks to achieve this aim through ensuring that both heritage and cultural assets are safeguarded or enhanced for the future, both for their own heritage and cultural merits and for the wider benefits they bring, in line with national planning policy. Benefits should include improvements in the quality of the historic built environment, stimulation of high architectural quality in new buildings, creation of a stronger local identity and sense of place, increased sustainability, encouragement of local building craft skills, greater opportunities for interpretation and use of the historic environment in education and increased levels of investment and tourism. To ensure that historic assets make a positive contribution towards the wider economic, social and environmental regeneration of Carlisle District, it is important that they are not considered in isolation but are conserved and enhanced within their wider context. A holistic approach to the built and natural environment maximises

opportunities to improve the overall image and quality of life in the District by ensuring that the historic context informs planning decisions and provides opportunities to link with other environmental infrastructure initiatives, working with partners.

**3.72** Like most places, Carlisle District has a number of heritage assets that are considered to be 'at risk'. The Council will work with Partners to help secure the long term sustainable future of such assets and aims to reduce the number of buildings and areas at risk. As part of this, should a historic building (designated or undesignated) become vacant, under-used, or derelict, the council will, where appropriate, encourage its owner to promote its re-use, or its more efficient existing use where this preserves or enhances its heritage significance. As a last resort, the Council may employ more robust measures such as Amenity Notices, Urgent Works Notices and Repairs Notices, to safeguard finite historic assets from unwarranted loss.

## Policy SP 8 - Green and Blue Infrastructure

The Council will, through planning decisions and in fulfilling its wider functions, work with partners to develop a holistic approach to the protection and stewardship of the district's green and blue infrastructure through a comprehensive and connected policy approach.

Existing assets will be protected and, where possible, enhanced in order to establish a multifunctional, integrated and accessible green and blue infrastructure network which maximises wider public and ecological benefits.

New development will be required to work towards delivering, where appropriate and achievable, outcomes of the Carlisle Green Infrastructure Strategy. At a strategic level these include:

1. affording the highest level of protection to key blue and green assets and taking opportunities to enhance relationships with, views and the setting of aquatic assets such as the Rivers Eden, Caldew, and Petteril within the City;
2. recognising and enhancing the function of and connectivity to Bitts and Rickerby Parks as strategic green infrastructure hubs for the City and wider district;
3. supporting and enhancing strategic green links including Hadrian's Wall National Trail, the Cumbria Way, Cumbria Coastal Way and The Reivers Route;
4. supporting and enhancing those assets which fulfill a key visitor and leisure, or other productive economic function including Bitts and Rickerby Parks, Talkin Tarn and Kershope Forest; and
5. protecting the lines of disused railways and encouraging, where appropriate and possible, proposals for their reuse for green transport links such as cycleways and footpaths, or as important wildlife corridors.

Conditions, legal agreements and developer contributions will be sought to secure new or enhanced green and blue infrastructure provision on, or associated with, new development. Developers will be expected to provide some aspects of green and blue infrastructure within developments, ensuring that, where possible, they integrate with wider blue and green infrastructure networks.

Where unavoidable harm is caused to a green infrastructure asset through development, the developer will be expected to replace or mitigate for this damage. Any replacement or mitigation measure will be expected to be of similar or better quality to that lost, including fulfilling the same functions effectively, and should be deployed as closely as possible to the affected green infrastructure asset.

**3.73** "Green" infrastructure is a term used to refer to the living network of green spaces, water and other environmental features in both urban and rural areas. It is often used in

an urban context to cover benefits provided by trees, parks, gardens, road verges, allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, rivers and wetlands, but is also relevant in a rural context, where it might refer to the use of farmland, woodland, wetlands or other natural features. In some instances, Green Infrastructure can also provide important off-road walking and cycling links, contributing in part to the wider, integrated transport network. “Blue” infrastructure refers to the aquatic and hydrological networks such as rivers and canals which often entail wider corridors and therefore go hand in hand with Green Infrastructure.

**3.74** National policy expects planning authorities to plan positively for the creation, protection, enhancement and management of green and blue infrastructure networks. This reflects that beyond the key role these infrastructure networks play in providing a pleasant and green environment, they also constitute an important mechanism for building resilience against and countering the impacts and causes of climate change. They also have a proven and demonstrable positive impact upon peoples’ quality of life and health and well being, providing both pleasant and safe places for exercise but also the sense of comfort and connection to the natural environment, providing rich and varied habitats that allow the district’s flora and fauna thrive. Fundamentally they also play a key role in supporting and driving economic growth and regeneration.

**3.75** At the heart of Policy SP 8 is a presumption against the loss of any components of Green Infrastructure which fulfil or have the potential to fulfil valuable functions unless the loss of such assets can be mitigated. Productive landscapes also fall under the definition of green infrastructure and these landscapes, which help drive the rural economy through forestry, agriculture and tourism, will be protected from inappropriate development through this policy.

**3.76** The Carlisle Green Infrastructure Strategy (2011) sets out a vision which places adopting a progressive approach to Green Infrastructure at the heart of creating an excellent place for business, community and wildlife, which is confident in its own distinctiveness, strength and resilience, ultimately to assist in making Carlisle one of the best places in the UK to live, work, invest and enjoy life. In addition to a number of specific actions the strategy highlights four key benefits of using Green Infrastructure as follows:

- enhancing the image and perception of the District through improving the aesthetics and environmental quality of key areas over time;
- supporting spatial and economic growth by creating the setting and stimulus for this as well as making it sustainable;
- to improve quality of life through tackling health and wellbeing inequalities and deprivation; and
- enhancing sustainability and resilience through presenting an opportunity to future-proof the District

**3.77** The City Council will work with partners to help realise the ambitions of the Green Infrastructure Strategy and will aim to ensure that all opportunities are taken through the planning system to add to, enhance the quality of, improve the functionality and increase the connectivity of the Districts Green and Blue Infrastructure networks.

**3.78** Applicants for all development proposals will be expected to consider and be designed to maximise the full range of benefits of Green and Blue Infrastructure affording careful consideration to how they can add to and integrate with existing spaces and the wider network. Where appropriate, provision should be made on site for green infrastructure through, for example, landscaping and open space provision. In such circumstances consideration should be afforded to the functionality of such components, including, for example, how they can equally assist with climate change adaptation through for example providing natural shading and urban cooling or in creating valuable habitat to support and enable biodiversity to flourish or to improve ecological connectivity.

**3.79** The Carlisle Green Infrastructure Strategy highlights a particular lack of accessible green space within the City Centre, emphasising the value this places on those green spaces that are present. In these circumstances and in other areas where a deficit is identified, developers may be required to contribute towards new provision. This approach reflects the need to ensure that this form of Infrastructure keeps pace with development and ultimately that those proposals which place an increased demand on assets contribute to upgrading capacity. Such contributions may also be justified on the basis of necessary to improve the quality of existing assets and/or to improve their accessibility. In some circumstances contributions towards the maintenance of these assets will also be justified. The imposition of conditions or planning obligations will be used where necessary to secure such contributions.

## Policy SP 9 - Healthy and Thriving Communities

The Council will, through planning decisions and in fulfilling its wider functions, work with partners to proactively improve the health and sense of wellbeing of the district's population, and reduce health inequalities. The Council will support development of new/enhanced healthcare infrastructure and will aim to ensure that all development contributes to enhanced health and wellbeing outcomes through the following measures:

1. creating high-quality and inclusive environments that support people in making healthy choices, and that make these choices easier by encouraging development proposals to maximise the opportunity for walking and cycling , social interaction, sport and physical activity, whilst providing accessible local services, facilities and jobs, a diverse and useable integrated network of green infrastructure assets and convenient public transport facilities;
2. providing high quality design which ensures that developments consider their lifetime quality, create safe and accessible environments and minimise and mitigate against potential harm from risks such as pollution and other environmental hazards;
3. encouraging the development of decent homes that are adaptable for the life course of the occupiers, meeting Lifetime Homes Standards where possible;
4. carrying out Health Impact Assessments for significant strategic proposals and for proposals that are likely to have a significant impact on the health and wellbeing of the local population, or particular groups within it, in order to identify measures to maximise the health benefits of development and avoid any potential adverse impacts;
5. preparing for extreme weather events by creating environments and communities that are resilient to the impacts of extreme weather, ultimately caused by climate change;
6. protecting and promoting the role of community food growing spaces including allotments, community orchards and community gardens in providing social and mental health benefits and access to healthy, affordable locally produced food as part of Carlisle's role as a Food City; and
7. maximising opportunities for renewable and decentralised energy.

### Justification

**3.80** The impact of our environment on the health and wellbeing of the population is being increasingly recognised in health plans, strategies and policy statements and in national planning policies. Almost every decision has the potential to impact upon human health and wellbeing and Carlisle's status as a Healthy City adds additional focus to the health and wellbeing benefits that are attainable from sustainable development, in creating environments that allow people to reach their full health

potential at all stages of their lives. The potential impacts of development are wide ranging and so due consideration must be given to how spatial planning, urban design, housing and regeneration can enhance the quality of the environment and contribute to addressing the causes of ill-health, improving health and reducing health inequalities.

**3.81** The District currently has some significant pockets of deprivation with over 18,000 people living in areas considered to be the most deprived in England (Carlisle Health and Wellbeing Profile 2013). It is recognised that behavioural factors are not the only influences on health. Social and economic circumstances affect how people behave and their health.

**3.82** The link between planning and health has been long established. Development can affect health and health inequalities in a variety of ways, including through; the quality of housing and developments, design of neighbourhoods, density of development, mix of land uses, quality and efficient transport systems, opportunities to undertake recreation and experience leisure and cultural activities, opportunities to grow or have access to healthy food, access to green and open space facilities, air quality, noise and exposure to hazardous substances. It is therefore recognised that the Local Plan has a key part to play in addressing the health inequalities of our District in order to create better environments for people to live, work and play, as well as protecting and improving access to health services at a local level such as GP's and at a larger scale, such as the Cumberland Infirmary.

**3.83** Health starts where people live, learn, work and play and so the Local Plan is important in guiding development of different uses, scale and location and striving to ensure that health and wellbeing will not be compromised as a result of new development. Efforts to improve health outcomes through the Local Plan will be maximised by the application of those policies which seek to ensure that new development takes account of access to services and facilities; enables walking and cycling; provides access to formal and informal community meeting spaces, sports facilities; reduces the fear of crime and supports the development of education and health facilities; as well as seeking to protect health through policies that ensure only appropriate developments are granted within close proximity to populated areas such as policies considering levels of pollution and hazardous substances etc. Health and wellbeing is therefore an underlying theme for consideration when assessing any application for development. It is also recognised that proposals that provide improved social, economic and environmental opportunities can address some of the existing design disadvantage in the District.

**3.84** Green Infrastructure can play a key role in contributing towards the health of the District. This can include a range of usable, high quality green infrastructure assets which can be wide ranging in their role and function for the local community. This can include, for example, green spaces for play, areas for food growing, networks of semi-natural habitats which provide opportunities to interact with nature as well as peaceful and tranquil green spaces in which people can relax.

**3.85** Lifetime Homes is one aspect where health and wellbeing can be improved by ensuring that homes are accessible, inclusive and incorporate design features which add to the comfort and convenience of the home and support the changing needs of individuals and families at different stages of life, their life-course. Bringing Lifetime Homes standards, or elements of them, into the general housing stock should, over time, allow older people to stay in their own homes for longer, reduce the need for home adaptations and give greater choice to disabled people who cannot achieve independent living due to lack of suitable housing. Lifetime Homes are all about flexibility and adaptability; they are not 'special', but are thoughtfully designed to create and encourage better living environments for everyone. The Local Plan encourages the development of Lifetime Homes, given the numbers of residents in the three oldest age bands (60-74, 75-84 and 85+) are projected to increase (Cumbria Observatory, Spring 2014) across the plan period.

**3.86** The links between health, education, community and planning are also highlighted by national planning policy which acknowledges the role that the planning system can play in facilitating social interaction and creating healthy, inclusive communities. It emphasises the importance of working with health partners to understand and take account of the health status and needs of the local population, including expected future changes, and barriers to improving health and wellbeing. This policy seeks to ensure that development enhances health and wellbeing and does not have a negative effect on it by ensuring that public health partners are consulted on development proposals.

**3.87** Where proposals for development are likely to have a significant impact on health and wellbeing of the local population or particular groups within it, a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) will be required. The HIA should measure the potential health impacts of a development proposal on the wider population. It is a tool to appraise both positive (e.g. physical, social and mental wellbeing benefits from the creation of accessible open space) and negative (e.g. generation of pollution) impacts on different subgroups of the population that might result from the proposal being implemented. HIAs will add value and assist decision making in the planning process by maximising the benefits and opportunities from a development to contribute towards creating healthy communities. It allows any necessary mitigation measures to be identified and can help to identify the potentially cumulatively significant effect a proposal could have on health infrastructure and/or the demand for healthcare services. The Local Plan has itself been the subject of a HIA. The potential need for an HIA in relation to a planning application will be raised with applicants through the pre-application process.

**3.88** Good public transport, in combination with cycling and walking, can reduce air pollution, noise and greenhouse gas emissions, energy consumption and congestion, improve road safety and better protect landscapes and urban cohesion, while providing more opportunities to be physically active and socially connected with improved access to educational, recreational and job opportunities. Where there are public green spaces and forests, people can use these to walk, play, and cycle, turning physical activity into

an integral part of their daily lives, improving health by reducing stress levels and noise pollution.

**3.89** Demonstrating the relationship between sustainable development and health is a powerful argument to support climate change mitigation and adaptation in particular and sustainable development in general. A healthier environment can contribute to better outcomes for all. This involves valuing and enhancing our natural resources, whilst reducing harmful pollution and significantly reducing carbon emissions. By valuing our physical and social environment, we can restore our natural environment and strengthen our social assets, whilst enhancing our independence and wellbeing at both a personal and community level. By doing so, we improve the quality of care, build strong communities and generate conditions where life is valued. One example of developments reducing the impacts of climate change is through tree planting as trees absorb atmospheric pollutants and produce oxygen whilst absorbing carbon dioxide and sequestering carbon, and can also provide urban cooling through natural shading.

**3.90** Carlisle District is a founding member of the Sustainable Food Cities Network which strives to create a city where good food flourishes and where we work in partnership to empower change towards a vibrant and inclusive food culture. As part of the commitment to sustainable development, sustainable food production will be promoted in consideration of its contribution to health and wellbeing, environmental sustainability, local commercial enterprise prosperity and strengthening communities. Acknowledging and acting to protect the roles of community growing spaces such as allotments, community orchards, community gardens and farmers' markets in providing access to healthy, affordable locally produced food will assist this aim.

## Policy SP 10 - Supporting Skilled Communities

The City Council will work with partners to develop skilled communities in order to underpin future economic growth.

In contributing to this objective the City Council will support developments which relate to the operational needs of and/or expansion of all of the district's higher, further and specialist education establishments including the University of Cumbria and Carlisle College.

Ancillary and related uses such as student housing will also be supported providing it can be demonstrated that such uses are:

1. genuinely linked to the education establishment and its operations;
2. in locations where they are compatible with the surrounding land uses; and
3. in accessible locations which minimise the need to travel.

Where appropriate any new or proposed extensions to existing campuses should be guided by a comprehensive and clear strategy.

### Justification:

**3.91** The Economic Review of Carlisle (January 2013) identifies as a priority a need to ensure the availability of *“motivated and skilled people, able and willing to be effective employees and entrepreneurs”* in order to underpin Carlisle's growth.

**3.92** Carlisle College is the main provider of higher education in the district. It provides education opportunities for students aged over 14 years of age and vocational and skills training for a growing number of young and mature students and is helping to expand the skills base locally. Significant investment, including physical expansion, has been and continues to be made to the College facilities.

**3.93** The University of Cumbria has now become well established in Carlisle having brought together many of the previous further education offers in the district. Alongside Carlisle College, the University is at the forefront of looking to strengthen the further education offer across Cumbria resulting in higher student numbers and improved facilities within Carlisle. The University also plays a leading role in terms of fostering business growth and interaction within the wider region, and as a research establishment.

**3.94** Policy SP 10 provides a clear commitment to work with partners to develop a skilled population and workforce within Carlisle. From a land use planning perspective, it provides a clear framework to guide investment decisions, making clear that developments which relate to the operational needs or expansion of higher and further education establishments will, in principle, be supported. This support extends to cover

ancillary and related uses which are recognised as essential to the wider attractiveness and ultimately success of these establishments.

**3.95** Given the nature of such facilities it is important to ensure that these continue to be sustainable from an accessibility perspective and therefore in locations which minimise the need to travel. There is also a need to ensure that they are compatible with surrounding uses which reflects that most existing facilities currently operate successfully in mixed use environments.

**3.96** The University of Cumbria continues to largely operate from separate premises around the City rather than a single campus. In order to develop a future strategy for higher education the University of Cumbria have been reviewing their existing operations and the use of premises as part of a new Masterplan for their presence in Carlisle. The Council are continuing to work with the University to discuss how their future aspirations can be supported, where appropriate, through the planning process and will continue to advocate in these and similar circumstances that such intentions are guided by a comprehensive and clear strategy.

## 4. Economy

### Objectives

- Foster the right conditions to stimulate inward investment through increasing the working age population, strengthening and expanding the skills base available, diversifying the economy and improving enabling physical infrastructure.
- To create opportunities for economic growth by making land available to meet the current and future quantitative and qualitative needs of the business community and to maintain Carlisle's role as an economic driver for a wider geographical area.
- To focus new retail and leisure floorspace within the City Centre, and take opportunities to strengthen and diversify its offer, in order to enhance its role as a sub-regional service centre and leisure and cultural destination.

### Context

The City Council is committed to delivering sustainable economic growth for its residents, businesses and visitors. The Local Plan will be one of the mechanisms to help deliver economic growth by setting out a clear and positive framework which supports and enables the expansion of existing businesses and creates the right environment and conditions to attract new businesses and investment.

Evidence shows that one of the key economic issues to date has been the lack of quality and choice of employment locations for companies to invest. The Local Plan seeks to address these shortcomings through improving the attractiveness of existing sites, and complementing this offer through the provision of new sites, particularly within the strategically important M6 Corridor which is a recognised Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership priority.

The Local Plan looks to support and enable the growth of all sectors of the District's economy. The vital and complementary roles played by retail, leisure, tourism and agriculture, as well as by industry, are recognised within the Plan with policies designed to allow each sector to prosper.

## **Policy EC 1 - Employment Land Allocations**

In order to support economic growth and increase the level of high value jobs within the local economy, 45 Ha of land has been allocated, as identified on the Policies Map, at:

- Kingmoor Park/Brunthill (37 Ha) for the development of B1 (Business), B2 (General Industrial) and B8 (Storage and Distribution); and
- Land to the South West of Morton (8 Ha) for the development of a business park (B1 use).

Sui generis uses may also be appropriate within the above allocations providing it can be demonstrated that employment opportunities are nevertheless being maximised and that there would be no significant adverse impacts on existing or proposed adjoining uses.

Consideration will be afforded to the need for and nature and quantum of land release at Carlisle South, in order to support longer term economic objectives, through acting to masterplan the planned strategic urban extension in accordance with Policy SP 3.

### **Justification**

**4.1** The Carlisle Employment Sites Study (2010) identified that whilst there was sufficient land for employment in Carlisle there were qualitative issues with the sites which were available to fulfil this need. A key element of the Plan's economic strategy is to support investment in existing sites to facilitate their modernisation and reconfiguration, as well as ensuring the potential of residual capacity within these sites is realised. This approach is being complemented by the allocation of an additional 45 Hectares (Ha) of land for employment related purposes.

**4.2** Brunthill comprises of 37 Ha of undeveloped land within the wider established Kingmoor Park strategic employment location. The site has good access to Junction 44 of the M6. Kingmoor Park is one of a number of strategic locations recognised by the Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership as central with regards to capitalising on the potential associated with the strategic connectivity of the M6 Corridor. The site benefits from a series of permissions which are either outline in nature or full consents which are yet to be implemented. Accordingly the allocation of the site is considered both appropriate and necessary to safeguard it for employment purposes across a longer horizon. Owing to its location within the heart of Kingmoor Park, future proposals will be required to demonstrate that the development of the site integrates effectively with the remainder of the location.

**4.3** Land to the South West of Morton comprises of 8 Ha which is well placed to meet economic objectives. Being ideally located directly adjacent to the CNDR the site, once developed, will present further job opportunities for residents of the west of the District and importantly ensure a mixed use approach prevails with regards to the development of the wider Morton locality, which includes significant residential development, a new district centre and ancillary community infrastructure including a new primary school. Future proposals will therefore be required to demonstrate that the development of the site integrates effectively with the wider development and adjoining phases. Whilst the full extent of the allocation currently benefits from outline planning permission for B1 purposes, the allocation of the site is considered both appropriate and necessary to safeguard it for employment purposes across a longer horizon.

**4.4** Whilst the primary focus of the allocated employment sites will be for B1, B2 and B8 land use purposes, the policy recognises that in some circumstances Sui Generis uses may also be appropriate. In order to be considered favourably such uses will have to demonstrate that employment opportunities are nevertheless being maximised, through for example the number and nature of jobs inherent in the proposal, as well as demonstrating that the proposed use can co-exist without in any way jeopardising adjacent uses or the effectiveness of the allocation in its widest sense as a focus for employment related activity. The approach taken by the Plan in these regards responds to the evidence and the need for a flexible approach towards developing land to support economic objectives.

**4.5** The Carlisle Employment Sites Study (2010) identifies that in employment land terms there is a perceived spatial imbalance with the majority of land and premises to the north of the City away from concentrations of population to the southern areas of the City. Also of relevance is that the Carlisle Economic Partnership Economic Review of Carlisle (January 2013) identifies enhancing and developing key employment sites at Carlisle motorway junctions as a key action, which aligns with wider and well established aspirations to realise the economic potential of the M6 corridor. Policy SP 3 within the Plan identifies Carlisle South as a broad location for growth for a mixed use urban extension to meet development needs towards the end of and beyond the plan period. Carlisle South therefore presents an opportunity to act to deliver additional employment land within the South of the City, within the M6 corridor in close proximity to Junction 42, and in doing so to respond to an evidenced need to do so.

**4.6** Owing to the need to develop Carlisle South in a comprehensive manner which is supported by the timely delivery of the appropriate strategic and local infrastructure, Policy SP 3 commits to developing the location through a masterplan which will be approved as a Development Plan Document. It is through this process whereby the need for and nature and quantum of employment land release within the South will be considered, subsequent to which additional employment land allocations within the plan period may be forthcoming. In this latter regard care would need to be afforded to ensuring that the premature release of any land for employment purposes within the

South did not compromise current priorities to modernise existing established employment sites, as well as the delivery of the Kingmoor Park and Morton allocations.

## **Policy EC 2 - Primary Employment Areas**

Within Primary Employment Areas, as identified on the Policies Map, proposals for B1, B2 and B8 Uses will be acceptable. Proposals for B1(a), unless clearly ancillary in their nature, will in accordance with national policy be subject to a sequential and impact test. Sui generis uses may also be appropriate in Primary Employment Areas providing it can be demonstrated that employment opportunities are nevertheless being maximised and that there would be no significant adverse impacts on existing or proposed adjoining uses.

The introduction of non-employment related uses within Primary Employment Areas may be appropriate where such uses are ancillary in nature, of a proportionate scale, and where their introduction would aid the overall attractiveness or sustainability of the employment area.

Trade counters and retailing from employment premises will be restricted in their scale and nature to be ancillary to the main operation of the B1/B2/B8 business. Planning conditions may be imposed to ensure that the use remains ancillary.

Where there is no reasonable prospect of an entire employment site remaining in continued employment use; interventions to improve the attractiveness of the site are not feasible; and its release would not impact on the wider strategy for employment land or the availability of local employment opportunities, applications for alternative uses of land or buildings will be treated on their merits having regard to market signals and the relative need for different land uses to support sustainable local communities.

Where an existing employment site adversely affects neighbouring residential properties or local amenity, proposals for its redevelopment or change of use will be supported where they would result in the removal of the adverse effect.

In the Sandysike/Whitesyke areas proposals for the redevelopment and extension to existing industrial and warehousing premises will be acceptable subject to careful consideration on any impacts on the landscape owing to their open countryside setting.

## **Justification**

**4.7** Primary Employment Areas are located across the District and are identified on the Policies Map. They are typically existing industrial and business estates already well established and are home to a variety of large scale strategic employers as well as local

employment and small scale business start up units. The wide variety and nature of these areas means that it is difficult to treat them all with equal policy direction. However, they all have varying degrees of similar issues particularly when there is interest from non-traditional employment uses and alternative sites are limited.

**4.8** Policy EC 2 provides a framework which seeks to safeguard the primary purpose of these areas for employment generating uses (traditionally B1, B2 and B8), in order to provide the wide variety and certainty of sites required to meet the needs of existing businesses or those looking to locate within Carlisle District. The policy also seeks to encourage investment by making clear that new development such as extensions or the reconfiguration of existing premises for employment related uses within these areas will be appropriate. Proposals for B1(a) (offices), unless clearly ancillary in their nature, will however as a 'main Town Centre' use be subject to a sequential and impact test in accordance with the provisions of Local Plan Policy EC 6 .

**4.9** In response to a need for flexibility, the policy recognises that in some circumstances Sui Generis uses within these areas may also be appropriate. In order to be considered favourably such uses will have to demonstrate that employment opportunities are nevertheless being maximised, through for example the number and nature of jobs inherent in the proposal, as well as demonstrating that the proposed use can co-exist without in any way jeopardising adjacent uses or the effectiveness of the designated area in its widest sense as a focus for employment related activity.

**4.10** Non employment related uses will only be supported within Primary Employment Areas where proposals are of an appropriate scale and nature which can evidently be seen to be ancillary in nature, and particularly where the introduction of the proposed ancillary use helps to improve the overall attractiveness and/or sustainability of an area. Such flexibility is recognised as paramount within the District given the need to improve the attractiveness of existing employment sites to meet economic growth aspirations in the short to medium term.

**4.11** The need to effectively control factory and trade sales from premises within primary employment areas reflects the need to safeguard the City Centre and other recognised retail centres from peripheral and out of centre retail developments. Any proposals which exceed what can genuinely in the circumstances be considered to be ancillary to an existing employment related use will therefore be resisted.

**4.12** Where there is no reasonable prospect of a primary employment area or site within being retained for ongoing or future employment use, and interventions to improve the attractiveness of the site are not feasible, development proposals for alternative uses will be considered on their merits. Similarly where the ongoing operation of an existing employment site adversely affects neighbouring residential properties or local amenity, proposals for its redevelopment or change of use which would act to remove such conflicts will be considered favourably. Such issues are more prevalent in the older and traditional industrial areas of Carlisle City such as Denton Holme, where there is a tight

knit pattern of development often with housing and industry in close proximity. Whilst these areas have historically contributed positively towards the supply of employment land within the District, their ability to do so in the future can in some circumstances be genuinely limited or no longer appropriate.

### **Policy EC3 - Primary Shopping Areas & Frontages**

The District's Primary Shopping Areas, as defined on the Policies Map, will be the focus for new retail development across the plan period, in accordance with the hierarchy set out in Policy SP 2.

Proposals for the change of use of ground floor shops to non-retail uses within Primary Shopping Areas will be supported providing the proposal:

1. would not lead to an unacceptable concentration of such uses and/or undermine the vitality and viability of the area; and
2. includes provision for views into the building or for a window display in keeping with the character of the frontage, in order to retain active frontages.

In order to retain a strong retail core within the City Centre Primary Shopping Area, a number of Primary Shopping Frontages have been defined and are identified on the Policies Map. The impacts of proposals for non retail uses within a designated frontage will be assessed in the context of the defined frontage as well as the wider area.

### **Justification**

**4.13** The main policy objective within Primary Shopping Areas is to maintain the vitality and viability of the wider Centres within which they are located, through the retention of high levels of retailing at ground floor levels. This objective is in keeping with national policy which requires competitive town centre environments. Changes of use which would result in concentrations of non-retail uses and the creation of lengths of "dead" frontage, or which would result in a loss of retail provision to the detriment of the overall vitality and viability and attractiveness of the Centre, will be resisted.

**4.14** Notwithstanding the above it is recognised that the vitality and viability of defined centres is also increasingly dependent on a flexible approach particularly as centres increase their role as destinations for leisure related uses, i.e. eating, drinking and socialising. Accordingly Policy EC 3 sets out the circumstances in which non-retail uses would be acceptable within Primary Shopping Areas.

**4.15** In order to retain the vitality and viability of the City Centre Primary Shopping Area, it is important that A1 uses continue to dominate the ground floor. The Local Plan seeks to achieve this through the identification of Primary Shopping Frontages.

Proposals for non-retail uses within Primary Shopping Frontages will be subject to an assessment against the criteria specified within Policy EC 3. Importantly such assessments will need to consider any impacts both within the context of the specific frontage designation as well as the wider area.

**4.16** Any retail development outside of the Primary Shopping Area should be subject to relevant sequential and impact assessments as consistent with Policy EC 6

#### **Policy EC 4 – Morton District Centre**

Land is allocated at Morton for a District Centre to accommodate a foodstore with a capacity of 8,175 sqm gross. Proposals for additional retail, leisure, local services and community facilities will be supported within the District Centre site providing they are of a scale and nature commensurate with its intended catchment and would aid its vitality and viability.

#### **Justification**

**4.17** The provision of a District Centre at Morton is important in ensuring that a mixed use and sustainable development approach prevails with regards to the development of the wider Morton locality, which includes a new business park, significant residential development and ancillary community infrastructure including a new primary school. Future proposals will therefore be required to demonstrate that the development of the site integrates effectively with the wider Morton development and adjoining phases.

**4.18** The Carlisle Retail Study (August 2012) recommends that the District Centre allocation for Morton should be retained in order to provide sufficient policy protection to ensure that the foodstore anchor is delivered. The need for a foodstore reflects the need to address a spatial deficiency in convenience retail provision in the west and south of the City, and the need for an anchor alongside which a range of complementary retail and leisure uses and community services and facilities can be delivered to meet the needs of existing and future residents. Any complementary uses should be of a scale and nature which is commensurate with the catchment of the District Centre and which do not therefore threaten the vitality and viability of the City Centre and its Primary Shopping Area.

**4.19** Any development which would compromise the deliverability of the Morton District allocation will, within the context of Policy EC 6, be resisted.

## **Policy EC 5 - District and Local Centres**

Within District and Local Centres, as identified on the Policies Map, proposals for retail development and other main town centre uses will be acceptable providing that:

1. it is of a scale and nature appropriate to the area served by the centre;
2. it does not adversely affect the amenity of any adjacent residential areas;
3. appropriate access, parking and security arrangements can be achieved; and
4. the design of any new development is attractive and in keeping with the character of the locality.

Non retail proposals within Local Centres will be supported only where they act to enhance the vitality and viability and overall attractiveness of the centre.

### **Justification**

**4.20** The centres of Brampton, Dalston and Longtown are defined as District Centres which reflects that they comprise of groups of shops containing at least one supermarket or superstore, alongside a range of non-retail services, such as banks, building societies and restaurants and other local public facilities such as a library or secondary school. Beyond these there are also a number of Local Centres throughout the District which comprise of clusters of small shops, and often other services and facilities, of a local nature which serve a small catchment. Such centres serve the immediate day to day shopping needs of local residents.

**4.21** The following Local Centres have been identified within the District, and are shown on the Proposals Map:

#### **Urban Areas**

- Petteril Bank Road, Upperby Bridge;
- Central Drive/Pennine Way, Harraby;
- Blackwell Road, Currock;
- Botchergate South
- Wigton Road, Caldewgate;
- Stonegarth, Morton;
- Newlaithes Avenue, Morton;
- Holmrook Road, Whernside;
- Scotland Road, Stanwix;
- Denton Street; and
- Kingstown Road.

#### **Rural Areas**

- Warwick Bridge; and
- Hallbankgate.

**4.22** District and Local Centres often also fulfil a social function bringing members of local communities together. As such it is necessary to protect the vitality and viability of these centres as important attributes of sustainable communities.

**4.23** The Policy seeks to enable further retail development or proposals for main town centre uses within defined centres providing the scale and nature of proposals is appropriate and therefore proportionate to the catchment of the area served by the centre. Non retail uses within District or Local Centres will be considered favourably where they act to enhance the vitality and viability and therefore overall attractiveness of the centre, through for example bringing back into beneficial use vacant premises or through appropriately diversifying the mix of uses. Proposals which would result in an unacceptable reduction in shopping facilities and which therefore act to undermine the primary purpose of a District or Local Centre will be resisted.

**4.24** Through recognition that District and Local Centres are often within or close to established residential areas, careful consideration will need to be afforded to ensuring that proposals do not prejudice residential amenity. District and Local Centres also play an important role in place shaping and their appearance has an important impact on the perception of the local area itself. Careful consideration should therefore be afforded to the design of any new development to ensure that is attractive and in keeping with the character of the locality.

### **Policy EC 6 - Retail and Main Town Centre Uses Outside Defined Centres**

Development proposals for new retail and main town centre uses should in the first instance be directed towards defined centres, and for comparison (non-food) retailing proposals the defined Primary Shopping Areas within these centres, in accordance with the hierarchy set out in Policy SP 2.

Proposals outside of defined centres which exceed 200m<sup>2</sup> will be required to undertake a sequential and impact test in accordance with national policy proportionate to the scale and nature of the proposal.

This approach also applies to proposals for the extension of floorspace (including the use of a mezzanine floor) at existing stores or retail warehouses where these are outside defined centres.

Any proposals for a foodstore will be required, as part of the impact test, to demonstrate that they would not undermine the planned delivery of the Morton District Centre foodstore anchor, or impact on its trading viability.

## Justification

**4.25** Policy EC 6 seeks to ensure that the vitality and viability of defined retail centres is not undermined by proposals for retail and other main town centre uses outside of these centres or where comparison (non-food) retail is concerned out with designated Primary Shopping Areas within these centres. Main town centre uses are defined within the glossary and mirrors those currently employed by national policy for retail planning purposes.

**4.26** The Carlisle Retail Study 2012 found that there was limited spare capacity in the initial years of the plan period and therefore that any development should aim to reinforce the City Centre as the prime retail location. In order to achieve this with the limited capacity available, the study recommended that a threshold of 200m<sup>2</sup> should be employed with regards to the sequential and impact tests, in the context of both convenience and comparison retailing. The sequential and Impact test should be carried out in accordance with national policy with the approach also proportionate to the scale and nature of the proposal being progressed.

**4.27** The evidence supports that there is no requirement for new convenience provision in the City, beyond existing commitments including the Morton allocation, over the Local Plan period through to 2030. Accordingly any proposals elsewhere in the City which would undermine the delivery of the Morton allocation, or impact upon its trading viability, will be resisted. This position will however be monitored when committed foodstore schemes are trading, and regular main food shopping patterns established.

### Policy EC 7 - Shop Fronts

Well designed and appropriate shop fronts, whether original or reproduction, should be retained wherever practicable and if necessary restored when the opportunity arises. Shop fronts should contribute to the creation of a strong sense of place within the local context and relate in scale, proportion, materials and decorative treatment to the relevant façade of the building and, where appropriate, to adjacent buildings and/or shop fronts.

Within conservation areas new and alterations to shop fronts will only be acceptable where their design contributes to the preservation and enhancement of the area's character, appearance and setting, and provided the following criteria are met:

1. any original or period features are retained or where possible restored;
2. the proposal relates well in scale, height, proportions, materials and detailing to other parts of the building, adjoining shop fronts and the street scene generally;
3. the proposal does not involve a single shop front spanning two or more frontages;
4. does not involve the use of inappropriate modern shop front features; and

5. the proposal contributes to the realisation of specific relevant objectives in any up to date Conservation Area Management Plan.

The use of roller shutters that would obscure displays and architectural features on shop fronts will not be permitted in any location. Applicants wishing to install security measures on shop fronts are encouraged to consider alternative measures and must seek to ensure that, if shutters are to be used, they are well designed and integrated with the frontage, maintaining an active shop front even when the unit is closed.

## **Justification**

**4.28** Policy EC 7 applies to new or alterations to existing shopping frontages across the District including within defined centres and Primary Shopping Areas.

**4.29** Shop fronts owing to their nature and prominence have an important role to play in place shaping, and as such should be designed to a high quality to help establish a strong sense of place. Accordingly, design solutions should respond to local character and history, and reflect the identity of local surroundings and materials, although this will not necessarily preclude appropriate innovation.

**4.30** There are a number of well designed and traditional shop fronts in the District, particularly in the City Centre, Botchergate, Brampton, Dalston and Longtown. Special care is needed when dealing with proposals which might detract from the character of a building and, where it is considered appropriate and pertinent, the traditional features of well designed and high quality shop fronts should be retained whenever alterations are being carried out.

**4.31** The Council has produced Supplementary Planning Guidance on the design of shop fronts which supports the implementation of this policy. The guidance offers useful information on how people wishing to install new shop fronts or alter existing ones can do so in keeping with the traditional styles of frontages across the City and wider District. Applicants will be encouraged to have regard to the document, and any future successor documents, when progressing development proposals of this type.

**4.32** Highly visible crime prevention measures such as security shutters can work against the creation of a vital, vibrant and attractive shopping environment, have a detrimental effect on townscape and impact negatively on the overall perception of an area. When closed, solid security shutters present a blank frontage and have a deadening effect on the character of the street. Areas no longer benefit from passive surveillance by shoppers and passers-by, thereby making shops more vulnerable to attack. In order to minimise their impact on the building and the general character of the area, the Council encourages the use of security measures other than solid external shutters. Security is best considered at the early stages of designing a new shopfront so that measures can be integrated into the overall scheme, rather than added on as an afterthought.

## **Policy EC 8 - Food and Drink**

Proposals which help to sustain and enhance a vibrant and viable food and drink offer will be supported. Development proposals for uses within Use Class A3 (restaurants and cafes), A4 (drinking establishments) and A5 (hot food takeaways) will be approved provided that:

1. they are in defined centres or if not accord with the sequential and impact tests;
2. the amenity of adjacent uses would not be adversely affected;
3. the proposal would not cause unacceptable levels of traffic generation or highway obstruction, particularly where customers are collecting food from takeaways, or jeopardise highway or pedestrian safety; and
4. the proposal would not lead to an unacceptable concentration of a particular use or business type within any given locality.

Opening hours will be imposed having regard to the surrounding uses, the character of the area, possibility of nuisance to residential areas and public safety.

### **Justification**

**4.33** This policy seeks to facilitate the creation of a vibrant and viable food and drink offer across the District. The need to do so reflects national policy and the need to support the vitality and viability of City, District and Local Centres through diversifying their offer and encouraging competition and a greater provision of customer choice. The policy responds to this requirement through enabling the appropriate growth of food and drink related leisure services which in many instances will complement a centres retail offer, the District's visitor offer and support the evening economy through improving evening activity.

**4.34** The primary evidence base for this policy is the Carlisle Retail Study published in October 2012. This highlights that whilst there is an existing restaurant sector that is informally emerging within the City Centre, there exists capacity to expand this restaurant offer, with an eye to attracting larger, nationally recognised restaurant chains. It also recommends that the Council should aim to maintain and effectively manage the existing provision of pubs and other late night establishments within the City through the planning process.

**4.35** Outside of the City the food and drink offer is largely made up of cafes and pubs during the day, whilst the evening economy largely revolves solely around small town public houses.

**4.36** Whilst the principal of such uses is supported, it must be recognised that their nature is such that they can, in certain circumstances, adversely impact upon the character and residential amenity of areas. Careful consideration will therefore need to be afforded to ensure that proposals would not, by way of noise or odour, constitute a nuisance. Proposals also need to ensure that they would not in any way jeopardise highway safety.

**4.37** The scope for such uses to constitute a nuisance can be amplified where there is a concentration of them. Concentrations can also adversely impact on the vitality and viability of retail centres through eroding their wider value and through resulting in dead frontages particularly during the day. Accordingly proposals which would result in an unacceptable concentration of such uses will be resisted.

**4.38** In some areas of the District public houses represent important community facilities which fulfil a broader purpose and social role. Proposals which would result in the loss of a public house should therefore have regard to Policy CM 3 which seeks to prevent the unacceptable loss of valued community facilities.

### **Policy EC 9 - Arts, Culture, Tourism and Leisure Development**

Proposals will be supported where they contribute towards the development and/or protection of arts, cultural, tourism and leisure offer of the District and support the economy of the area.

Proposals for main town centre uses which are ancillary to established tourist, leisure or cultural attractions will be exempt from the need to undertake a sequential and impact test. New proposals where no attraction currently exists, or those which go beyond what can be regarded as ancillary, will have to have regard to Policy EC 6.

All proposals for arts, cultural, tourism and leisure development must also accord with the following criteria:

1. the scale and design of the development is compatible with the character of the surrounding area;
2. adequate access by a choice of means of transport, including sustainable modes of travel such as cycling or long distance walking, and appropriate car parking is provided; and
3. where relevant, the value and significance of the attraction is not compromised.

Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site is a major attraction for tourism and proposals for new tourism development which are sustainable and aim to promote the enjoyment and understanding of the WHS whilst meeting the above criteria will be permitted.

## Justification

**4.39** The tourism, arts, cultural and leisure sectors are vitally important to Carlisle as generators of economic prosperity, employment and enjoyment. It is essential that the potential of these sectors is promoted and supported to ensure the continued growth of the economy and cultural horizons of the District. This could include the development of new community centres and sports halls, as well as projects such as an arts centre within the City for residents and visitors alike. Carlisle's heritage and environment is central to its attractiveness as a tourist location with key attractions including Hadrian's Wall Path National Trail crossing the District, the English Coastal Path and the historic City Centre comprising of Carlisle Castle, Tullie House Museum, Carlisle Cathedral Precinct, the City Walls, the Courts, the Market Cross, the Old Town Hall and Guildhall. The importance of access to the natural environment and the benefits and opportunities that the green and blue infrastructure of the District entails for Arts, Culture, Tourism and Leisure Development is also recognised.

**4.40** Arts, culture, tourism and leisure development (including theatres, museums, galleries and concert halls, hotels and conference facilities) are main town centre uses and, as such, the Council will encourage this type of development within a recognised centre (i.e. the City Centre, District Centres or Local Centres). A sequential test and impact assessment would, in accordance with Policy EC 6, normally be required for this kind of development outside of a recognised centre; however where development is clearly ancillary to an established leisure or cultural attraction, this requirement will be waived. Development outside of a recognised centre that is either too large to be described as ancillary or unrelated to an existing attraction will still be subject to a sequential test and impact assessment as per standard planning policy.

**4.41** Sustainable rural tourism and leisure developments that aid rural diversification will be supported, particularly where they involve the provision and expansion of tourist and visitor facilities in appropriate locations where identified needs cannot met by existing facilities in nearby local centres. Such development must be of a suitable scale, and design and be sited with great care and sensitivity to its rural location. It must also be able to demonstrate a connection with an established tourist attraction.

**4.42** New development should normally be accessible by public transport, walking and cycling. However, for some developments in the rural area this may not be possible, especially if associated with a diversification scheme in an area with poor public transport links. In these cases new development should be able to demonstrate that it has integrated as much as possible with, or is easily accessible from existing green infrastructure routes, including long distance walking routes such as the Hadrian's Wall or English Coastal paths.

**4.43** Proposals that would result in the loss of an art, cultural, tourist or leisure facility would be required to demonstrate that the current use is no longer viable, that there is

currently no requirement for an alternative community use, and that there is adequate alternative provision in the locality.

## **Policy EC 10 - Caravan, Camping and Chalet Sites**

Proposals for the development of and extension to caravan, camping and chalet sites will be supported where:

1. clear and reasoned justification has been provided as to why the development needs to be in the location specified;
2. the siting, scale or appearance of the proposal does not have an unacceptable adverse effect on the character of the local landscape, or upon heritage assets or their settings;
3. the site is contained within existing landscape features and if necessary, and appropriate, is supplemented with additional landscaping;
4. adequate access and appropriate parking arrangements are provided; and
5. the potential implications of flood risk have been taken into account where necessary.

In addition, the Council will consider the need to impose planning conditions to avoid continual residential use of such sites or seasonal restrictions where necessary to safeguard the landscape.

### **Justification**

**4.44** This policy reiterates support for the sustainable rural tourism and leisure developments that benefit businesses in rural areas, communities and visitors and which respect the character of the countryside in line with the NPPF. This includes supporting the provision and expansion of visitor accommodation in appropriate locations where identified needs are not met by existing provision in established settlements.

**4.45** Proposals for both static and touring caravan sites as well as those for chalets and camping will be judged against the criterion specified in the policy, which are considered self explanatory in their purpose. In certain circumstances restrictions will be applied through the imposition of planning conditions to avoid the continual residential use of a site. This reflects that there is a need to preserve the supply of visitor accommodation in order to respond to demand, and equally that such sites may not be in a location considered sustainable for occupation as primary residences. Similarly conditions may also be imposed to restrict seasonal occupancy of sites where considered necessary to safeguard landscape character through for example the winter months.

**4.46** In addition to the need to obtain planning permission, caravan, camping and chalet site operators must obtain a site licence. The site licence covers such matters as the

number and standard of spacing of the caravans and hygiene. The City Council's Environmental Health Section issues site licences.

## **Policy EC 11 - Rural Diversification**

Development proposals to diversify and expand upon the range of sustainable economic activities undertaken in rural areas will be supported and encouraged both through the conversion of existing buildings and well designed new buildings. Any new building must be well related to an existing group of buildings to minimise its impact and blend satisfactorily into the landscape through the use of suitable materials, design and siting.

Proposals must:

1. be compatible with their existing rural setting;
2. be in keeping, in terms of scale and character, with the surrounding landscape and buildings;
3. include adequate access and car parking arrangements; and
4. not lead to an increase in traffic levels beyond the capacity of the surrounding local highway network.

## **Justification**

**4.47** Whilst the preferred location for new development will be in existing settlements, changes in agriculture over recent decades have resulted in a decline in farm-related jobs. As a result there is now a need to strengthen the economy in rural areas by supporting the sustainable growth and expansion of all types of business and enterprise in rural areas. There are often opportunities for reusing or adapting surplus existing rural land and buildings for commercial, industrial, recreational or environmental uses such as guesthouses, farm shops, rural workshops or other business premises, helping the countryside to diversify, flourish and sustain itself. The City Council recognises the important and changing role of agriculture and the need for new employment in the rural area. New employment opportunities may also be created within the rural area as the provision and availability of rural broadband spreads/expands.

**4.48** The use of surplus rural buildings for the provision of tourist holiday accommodation can help to retain buildings in the countryside whilst helping to boost the rural economy. Conversion of rural buildings to holiday accommodation can, when skilfully undertaken, involve minimal alteration and therefore have little impact on the character of the countryside. Nevertheless schemes must be sensitive to their environments and measures must be taken to mitigate any potential environmental impacts. The NPPF supports sustainable rural tourism and leisure developments where they respect the character of the countryside. This type of development is important in areas where identified needs are not met by existing facilities in rural service centres.

**4.49** Traditional, redundant and underused buildings may provide habitats for wildlife such as bats or barn owls. For those species protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, the City Council will seek to ensure a survey is carried out and suitable precautions taken for the protection of the species and their habitat before permission will be granted. Other environmental diversification schemes may help to improve the ecological value of the rural area whilst helping to provide local employment.

## **Policy EC 12 – Agricultural Buildings**

Proposals for new agricultural buildings and structures, or extensions to existing ones, which fall outside of Permitted Development rights will be permitted provided that:

1. the building or structure is sited where practical to integrate with existing agricultural buildings and/or take advantage of the contours of the land and any existing natural screening;
2. the scale and form of the proposed building or structure relates to an existing group of buildings, unless otherwise justified;
3. the design and materials used reflect the overall character of the area; and
4. the proposal would not have an unacceptable impact on any adjacent land uses.

## **Justification**

**4.50** The development of agricultural buildings and other structures of a certain scale not requiring full planning permission instead require an 'Agricultural Determination' from the City Council. The purpose of this arrangement is to enable the Council to comment on the siting and design of particular proposals, whilst not obliging the applicant to submit formal applications for planning permission.

**4.51** The siting of a new agricultural building can have a considerable impact on the surrounding landscape. New buildings should therefore, where possible, integrate with both the surrounding landscape and farmstead as a whole. It may be possible to do this by using natural contours in the land or existing natural screening such as woodland, trees or mature hedgerows. The aim is not to hide a new building from sight, but to soften its outline and integrate it with the surrounding landscape. Any new planting should therefore reflect the vegetation type already existing in the locality.

**4.52** New buildings should normally form part of a group rather than stand on their own and should relate to existing buildings in scale and colour. However, there may be occasions when a large building of modern design is required on a farm largely comprising traditional buildings. To avoid visual conflict, such buildings should be

designed to minimise their impact by such measures as breaks in roof slope or differing roof heights and by linking the building into the landscape by planting groups of trees to soften its outline. In exceptional circumstances such buildings may be better sited away from the group.

**4.53** In sensitive areas such as within the setting of a listed building, in a conservation area or AONB, it will normally be necessary to use traditional or sympathetic materials and the colours chosen should be compatible with the setting or surrounding countryside. Many traditional buildings are also important for protected species including bats and barn owls. Where such species are thought to be present in or adjacent to the existing buildings, a survey should be undertaken to confirm their presence. The adopted North Pennines AONB Supplementary Planning Documents on Building Design Guide (2011) and Planning Guidelines (2011) provide further information on the development of agricultural buildings within the AONB.

**4.54** Finally, agricultural activities can impact on the amenity of adjoining land uses and care must therefore be exercised to avoid proposals giving rise to any unnecessary levels of nuisance including by way of noise or odour.

### **Policy EC 13 - Equestrian Development**

Proposals relating to the development of stables, horse riding arenas and/or riding centres will be permitted provided that:

1. there will be no unacceptable impact upon the landscape and character of the area;
2. the building or structure is sited where practical to integrate with existing buildings and/or take advantage of the contours of the land and any existing natural screening;
3. the proposal will not have a detrimental effect upon surrounding land uses;
4. the surrounding roads and bridleways are adequate and safe for the increased use by horseriders, with the roads being suitable for all users; and
5. the scale and intensity of use is proportionate to the equestrian needs and appropriate for the site and character of the area.

### **Justification**

**4.55** Horse riding and keeping are popular leisure activities attracting a wide range of people, as well as being an intrinsic part of rural life. Carlisle District has seen an increase in the number of proposals for equestrian development; this trend is likely to continue due to changes in the rural economy providing scope for diversification in rural businesses. The NPPF supports sustainable rural tourism and leisure developments where they respect the character of the countryside. Supporting information and good practice guidance for this type of development is available from the British Equestrian

Federation which is the national governing body for horse sports in the UK -  
**www.bef.co.uk**

**4.56** Horse keeping can be an appropriate use in the countryside provided that care is taken over the siting and location of facilities and that access to roads and bridleways is adequate. As with all developments care must be taken to ensure the design of the development is appropriate, proportionate to genuine needs and that any proposal would not adversely affect adjoining land uses including through nuisance in the form of noise, odours or light pollution. Associated buildings should be situated in one block or a tight grouping to reduce visual impact on the landscape and means of enclosure should reflect local characteristics. Proposals likely to damage sensitive areas, such as important habitats or landscapes, will not be acceptable.

**4.57** Conditions may be imposed upon applicants to ensure that jumps and other equipment are removed and stored out of site to help reduce the visual impact, of the operation, on the landscape. High standards of maintenance and management are required to ensure that the activities do not adversely affect the countryside and that the horses are well accommodated and cared for. Additionally, in some cases conditions may be placed on this type of development to restrict their use to that of the applicant.

**4.58** There is a highways safety issue associated with increasing levels of horse riders on the roads, therefore schemes which would give rise to excessive numbers of horses on the surrounding roads will not be favourably considered unless it can be demonstrated that the safety of all users would not be prejudiced.

## 5. Housing

### Objective

- To enable the development of a range of high quality, energy efficient housing, in a variety of appropriate locations, to meet the aspirations of the existing residents, including those with a need for affordable housing and those wishing to move to the area.
- To boost significantly the supply of housing by making land available, to support economic growth, whilst ensuring new housing supports the creation of thriving communities.

### Context

The housing chapter sets out a group of policies which aim to enable development and growth to meet the housing needs of the district for open market, affordable and special needs housing, including provision for gypsies and travellers. To deliver the objective, the Plan focuses new housing development on the City of Carlisle, whilst also making provision for a commensurate proportion of housing to come forward in the rural areas. This chapter sets out specific allocations for housing across the district, and sets out a criteria based approach to enable housing to be delivered in a range of other circumstances such as for rural workers, or through the conversion of redundant rural buildings. Policies also recognise the range of housing circumstances at the domestic scale, and make provision for extensions to, or subdivision of, existing homes, and group housing such as HMOs, student housing, extra care schemes and to protect the amenity of residential areas.

## Policy HO 1 - Housing Strategy and Delivery

Planning permission will be granted for housing proposals that will:

1. deliver the allocations set out in this Policy and contribute to achieving an average annual District housing target of at least 565 houses per year. Any unallocated sites which come forward for development and which would prejudice the delivery of this strategy will be resisted; and
2. in bringing forward allocations, developers will need to demonstrate that they have provided a mix of dwelling types, sizes and tenures which help meet identified local housing need and contribute to the development of mixed and sustainable communities.

The following table sets out allocated housing sites in the urban and rural areas. These sites are identified on the Local Plan Policies Map. The sites make provision to deliver the main part of the housing target to 2025. From 2025 onwards, development will be in the broad location of Carlisle South, (as detailed in Policy SP 3), which will include a sustainable urban extension and delivery of the strategic rural requirement.

Housing delivery will be monitored closely and if the number of houses built is not as expected, interventions will be sought, including bringing forward additional allocations.

### Housing Allocations for Carlisle District

<b>Allocated sites Urban Carlisle: Total Capacity (dwellings) 2,756</b>	<b>Area (hectare):</b>	<b>Indicative Yield:</b>	<b>Indicative plan period:</b>
U 1 - Land to the south east of junction 44	8.03	217	0 - 5
U 2 - Land north of California Road, east of U 1	6.54	200	6 - 10
U 3 - Site of Pennine Way Primary School	3.57	112	6 - 10
U 4 - Land north of Moorside Drive/Valley Drive	4.96	140	6 - 10
U 5 - Land between Carleton Road and Cumwhinton Road	7.25	204	0 - 5
U 6 - Land at Garden Village, west of Wigton Road	6.08	169	6 - 10
U 7 - Land at Newhouse Farm, south-east of Orton Road	30.19	509	6 - 10
U 8 - Land north of Burgh Road	2.83	66	0 - 5

U 9 - Site of former Morton Park Primary School, Burnrigg	1.67	54	6 - 10
U 10 - Land off Windsor Way	10.60	300	0 - 5
U 11 - Land east of Lansdowne Close/Lansdowne Court	2.50	75	6 - 10
U 12 - Site to the rear of Border Terrier, Ashness Drive/ Ellesmere Way	0.4	18	0 - 5
U 13 - Land east of Beverley Rise	1.2	30	6 - 10
U 14 - Land north of Carleton Clinic, east of Cumwhinton Drive	4.2	126	6 - 10
U 15 - Former Dairy site, Holywell Crescent, Botcherby, (13/0655)	1.51	66	0 - 5
U 16 - Land at Deer Park, Belah, Carlisle	3.83	100	6-10
U 17 - Land to the south west of Cummersdale Grange Farm	2.43	60	6 - 10
U 18 - Land Opposite Rosehill Industrial Estate	10.5	150	0 – 5
<b>Allocations carried forward from previous Local Plan:</b>			
U 19 - Land at Carleton Clinic	2.9	40	0 - 5
U 20 - Durranhill Road	3.32	70	6 - 10
U 21 - Laing's site, Dalston Road – 13/0778 application for foodstore on 0.68ha of site	1.2	50	6 - 10
<b>Allocated sites Rural Area: Total Capacity (dwellings) 1,379</b>	<b>Area (hectare):</b>	<b>Indicative Yield:</b>	<b>Indicative Plan period</b>
<b><u>Brampton</u></b>			
R 1 - Land south of Carlisle Road	9.7	250	0 - 5
R 2 - Land west of Kingwater Close	2.31	60	6 – 10
R 3 - Land north of Greenfield Lane	5.66	140	6 - 10

<b><u>Longtown</u></b>			
R 4 - Site of former Lochinvar School	3.56	106	6 - 10
R 5 - Land south of Old Road, Longtown	2.9	60	0 - 5
<b><u>Burgh by Sands</u></b>			
R 6 - Land west of Amberfield	1.0	25	6 - 10
<b><u>Cummersdale</u></b>			
R 7 - Land east of Cummersdale Road	0.38	14	0 - 5
<b><u>Cumwhinton</u></b>			
R 8 - *Land adjacent to Beech Cottage, (12/0856)	0.6	15	0 - 5
R 9 - Land west of How Croft	0.76	20	6 - 10
<b><u>Houghton</u></b>			
R 10 - Land at Hadrian's Camp, (12/0610)	5.1	96	0 - 5
<b><u>Harker</u></b>			
R 11 - Kingmoor Park Harker Estate	10.7	300	6 - 10
<b><u>Moorhouse</u></b>			
R 12 - Land east of Monkhill Road	0.8	10	6 - 10
<b><u>Linstock</u></b>			
R 13 - Linstock North	1.28	10	6 - 10
<b><u>Rickerby</u></b>			
R 14 - Land at Tower Farm	0.8	10	0 - 5
<b><u>Scotby</u></b>			
R 15 - Land north of Hill Head, Scotby	2.4	50	6 - 10
R 16 - *Land at Broomfallen Road, (12/0790)	1.5		
		28	0 - 5
<b><u>Warwick Bridge</u></b>			
R 17 - Warwick Bridge/Little Corby North	1.55	45	6 - 10
R 18 - Land to the south of Corby Hill/Head Nook Road, Corby Hill	1.00	30	6 - 10

<b><u>Wetheral</u></b>			
R 19 – Wetheral South	2.2	60	6 - 10
R 20 - Land west of Steele's Bank	1.6	40	0 - 5
<b><u>Wreay</u></b>			
R 21 - Land west of Wreay School	0.7	10	0 - 5

Those sites denoted with \* have Planning Committee authority to issue planning permission subject to the signing of a S106 agreement.

## Justification

**5.1** The sites allocated under this Policy and the rationale behind their selection is set out in the 'Background to Housing Site Selection' document. This document sets out the range of factors that were considered when assessing which sites were likely to be the most appropriate and sustainable for housing development. The sites allocated in this policy are detailed in Appendix 1.

**5.2** The delivery of housing across the District is linked to three important issues of both national and local significance: how to accommodate an ageing population whilst retaining mixed communities; how to promote sustainable growth; and how to provide the physical and social infrastructure that is required to support housing growth. One of the key issues facing the District is the provision of a range of new housing to help meet the needs of the whole community. Planning for a range of housing types (including for the elderly) will enable more balanced communities with a mix of people creating opportunities for better neighbourhoods.

**5.3** This Policy has taken into account the following factors:

- the Council has maximised its opportunities for developing brownfield land, and the number of brownfield sites remaining is diminishing;
- a peripheral scattered approach to new housing around the edge of Carlisle may not be the most sustainable option as some sites may be a considerable distance from the centre;
- providing housing development within or on the edge of the city enables good access to existing services and public transport; and
- whilst a small number of housing sites within the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment are located within the City, the majority are on the periphery, with one or two very large sites.

**5.4** This Policy identifies an annual average housing target across the District of 565 to ensure an adequate supply of new homes, including affordable homes, to meet the needs of the community. In meeting these requirements the focus must be on

delivering attractive and sustainable communities and neighbourhoods where people want to live. To achieve this, account must be taken of the implications for infrastructure and services across the whole District.

**5.5** A number of significant sites are expected to contribute to the delivery of the housing strategy across the Plan period. Where an existing planning permission is in place and has not been implemented, it has not been considered necessary to identify the site as a housing allocation. Significant sites of this nature are shown for information on the policies map to aid the identification of future housing growth. To assess the housing capacity of the District, and in accordance with Government requirements, the City Council has prepared a Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA).

**5.6** With reference to the proposed housing allocations, the assessment of deliverability has been informed by the SHLAA. To be considered deliverable, sites should be available and offer a suitable location for development now, and be achievable with a realistic prospect that housing can be delivered on the site within five years. In particular, development of the site must be viable.

**5.7** The Sept 2014 Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) update identifies that the latest population forecasts generally show (after factoring in local assumptions about new housing development, growth of the local economy and trend in births, deaths and migration rates) that the population will continue to grow to the end of the Plan period and beyond, although at a much lower level of growth that was seen in previous sub national population projections. The overall conclusions are that an objective level of need sits somewhere in the range of 480 to 565 homes per annum. The lower figure is based on a reasonable demographic basis for need with the upper figure being based on a need to meet the Experian economic forecast.

**5.8** Therefore given the need to plan for employment growth, and to provide housing to meet a broad range of needs, the Local Plan has set an appropriate housing target. Delivery of housing to meet this target will be monitored through the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), and if the numbers of houses being built is not as expected, the Council will seek to work directly with stakeholders to identify any barriers to development, and consider further interventions including bring forward further allocations.

## Policy HO 2 - Windfall Housing Development

New housing development on sites other than those allocated will be acceptable within or on the edge of Carlisle, Brampton, Longtown, and villages within the rural area provided that the development will not prejudice the delivery of the spatial strategy of the Local Plan and:

1. the scale and design of the proposed development is appropriate to the scale, form, function and character of the existing settlement;
2. the scale and nature of the development will enhance or maintain the vitality of the rural community within the settlement where the housing is proposed;
3. on the edge of settlements the site is well contained within existing landscape features, is physically connected, and integrates with, the settlement, and does not lead to an unacceptable intrusion into open countryside;
4. in the rural area there are either services in the village where the housing is being proposed, or there is good access to one or more other villages with services, or to the larger settlements of Carlisle, Brampton and Longtown; and
5. the proposal is compatible with adjacent land users.

Within rural settlements applicants will be expected to demonstrate, how the proposed development will enhance or maintain the vitality of rural communities.

Applicants will be expected to work closely with those directly affected by their proposals to evolve designs that take account of the views of the community.

### Justification

**5.9** Windfall housing is recognised as contributing in a positive way to the supply of housing over the plan period. Within the built up areas of Carlisle, Brampton and Longtown, particularly but not exclusively within the Primary Residential Areas, there are likely to be opportunities for new residential development, either through the development of vacant sites, the conversion of vacant buildings, or as part of a larger mixed use scheme. Residential development in these areas will be acceptable, subject to the stated criteria in the above policy.

**5.10** The scale of the rural area and the number of villages within it gives a wide choice about where to locate new housing. If housing is located in sustainable locations it can bring many benefits including wider choice for households.

**5.11** The majority of Carlisle District is rural. The Local Plan only makes housing allocations on sites that can support 10 or more houses. In smaller villages, no

allocations have been made as 10 additional houses on one site may be inappropriate in terms of scale. This policy aims to provide a flexible basis with which to make provision for rural housing in smaller villages, which will inherently be smaller in scale, reflective of the fact that sustainability may be an issue.

**5.12** Most new residential development in the rural area will be focussed in sustainable locations. This means villages which have, or have good access to, for example, a primary school, post office, shop and frequent public transport within 400m walking distance. Other facilities such as a village hall, church, pub, and other local businesses can all add to the overall sustainability of a location.

**5.13** It is recognised that within many parts of the rural area it will be difficult to achieve all of the above. The NPPF states that in rural areas LPAs should be responsive to local circumstances and plan housing development to reflect local needs. It goes on to say that to promote sustainable development in rural areas, housing should be located where it will enhance or maintain the vitality of rural communities.

**5.14** The local circumstances for Carlisle District are very specific in that there is a large rural area with many villages scattered throughout. The villages vary in size and the level of services that they support. There are some very small villages which support a primary school, for example Raughton Head and Wreay, and some much larger villages with few or no services, such as Brisco and Low Row. There are also a number of primary schools, churches, village halls and pubs which lie entirely outside any recognised village, for example Stoneraise Primary School, and Blackford Primary School, but which serve a surrounding cluster of villages.

**5.15** Accessibility to services will therefore be one consideration in assessing applications for housing under this policy. Housing will also be acceptable where it will enhance or maintain the vitality of rural communities. This will need to be demonstrated by the applicant, and could include, for example, a young family moving to the village, someone wishing to work from home, people moving into a village to support other family already living there.

**5.16** Development is more likely to be acceptable on sites that are physically contained by existing landscape features such as hedges, trees, woodland or topography, physically and visibly connected to the village, and do not adversely impact on wider views into or out of a village.

**5.17** Applicants will be expected to work closely with those directly affected by their proposals to evolve designs that take account of the views of the community. Proposals that can demonstrate this in developing the design of the new development should be looked on more favourably. As such, applicants will be expected to demonstrate that they have complied with this policy requirement.

## **Policy HO 3 - Housing in Residential Gardens**

Proposals for housing development in existing residential gardens will be permitted providing that the following criteria are met:

1. the scale, design and siting of the proposal would not result in a cramped form of development out of character with the surrounding environment;
2. a safe and attractive garden area, which reflects that predominant in the area, can be created for both the proposed new house and the existing house;
3. the proposal, by way of design, siting and materials integrates into the surrounding built, natural, and where necessary historic environment;
4. there is no unacceptable loss of living conditions to surrounding properties by overlooking, loss of light, overbearing nature of the proposal or increase in on street parking; and
5. the proposal does not prejudice the development potential of an adjacent site.

### **Justification**

**5.18** Gardens contribute significantly to the character and quality of housing areas within the City, and also within the market towns and many villages within the rural area. Mature gardens can also help to mitigate factors contributing to climate change, for example trees which absorb carbon dioxide. Proposals for housing development in existing gardens, especially backland development, can often be contentious.

**5.19** National planning policy makes provision for local plan policy to resist inappropriate development of residential gardens, for example where development would cause harm to the local area. The Natural Environment White Paper (Securing the Value of Nature, 2011) states that natural networks include private gardens and that these can help to conserve wildlife in environments that have become fragmented by human activities.

**5.20** Development on such land can cause a significant loss of amenity to existing properties including loss of privacy, loss of daylight, overlooking, visual intrusion, noise disturbance, reduction in space around buildings, loss of car parking, and loss of mature landscaping and other vegetation. Critical factors which will be taken into account in determining applications will be the size of the site, capacity of the access and impact on adjacent properties.

**5.21** There will be instances where development of part of a residential garden for housing will be acceptable. However, such proposals also have the potential to cause significant amenity problems to existing properties including loss of privacy, loss of daylight, overlooking, visual intrusion by a building or structure, noise disturbance, reduced space around buildings, loss of car parking, and loss of mature vegetation

including screening. There can also be increased surface water run off due to an increase in hard surfaces.

**5.22** For sites to be acceptable there needs to be an appropriate plot depth and configuration, in order to allow new housing to be developed which results in a quality environment for both new and adjacent residents. Garden development, especially on rear gardens, on restricted plot depths is unlikely to be acceptable, especially where overlooking issues can not be overcome.

**5.23** The form and scale of any new development should respect the local character of the immediately surrounding area. In particular, the scale, number of storeys and massing of new housing development should not exceed that of existing dwellings adjacent to the site.

**5.24** Backland sites can result in piecemeal proposals being submitted for land which are physically connected to much larger areas with greater potential for a more comprehensive form of development. Proposals which block the development potential of adjacent land, for example through land locking, are unlikely to be acceptable.

**5.25** This policy also relates to tandem development. This is a form of backland development where a new dwelling is placed immediately behind an existing dwelling and uses the same access. This type of development is nearly always unacceptable because of the impact on the amenity of the house at the front of the site.

## **Policy HO 4 - Affordable Housing**

In order to achieve mixed and inclusive neighbourhoods, affordable housing provision will be sought in the following circumstances:

1. within Zone A, all sites of six units and over will be required to provide 30% of the units as affordable housing;
2. within Zone B, all sites of eleven units or over will be required to provide 20% of the units as affordable housing; and
3. within Zone C, all sites of eleven units or over will be required to provide 30% of the units as affordable housing.

It will not be acceptable to sub-divide sites and purposely design a scheme to avoid making affordable housing contributions.

The tenure split of affordable housing to be provided should be 50% for social or affordable rent and 50% for intermediate housing. A lower proportion and/or different tenure split may be permitted where it can be clearly demonstrated by way of a financial appraisal that the development would not otherwise be financially viable. Early dialogue with the Council on this matter is essential.

For sites of between six and ten units, the affordable housing contribution will be sought in the form of cash payments which will be commuted until after completion of units within the development. For sites of eleven units or over, the affordable housing should be provided on the application site unless off site provision, or a financial contribution of broadly equivalent value in lieu of on-site provision, can be robustly justified by local or site specific circumstances.

The opportunity to secure affordable extra care housing schemes as part of the wider affordable housing mix on development sites will be sought where it is considered to meet needs and the site is in an appropriate location.

### **Justification**

**5.26** The National Planning Policy Framework states that in order to deliver a wide choice of high quality homes, local planning authorities should use an evidence base to ensure that the Local Plan meets the full, objectively assessed needs for market and affordable housing. In addition, in order to ensure viability and deliverability, the scale of affordable housing required by this policy has been calculated following the undertaking of an Affordable Housing Economic Viability Assessment, (AHEVA), which assesses the viability of a range of housing developments across the District using a residual valuation appraisal method. Zones A, B and C (which depict differences in viability within the District) have therefore been defined having regard to the evidence as set out

in the Carlisle AHEVA and government policy set out in the Planning Practice Guidance regarding the thresholds for seeking planning obligations including affordable housing. The introduction of Planning Practice Guidance, which introduces national thresholds, has necessitated the identification of the built up area of Brampton as Zone C. This reflects that the town of Brampton is not a 'designated rural area' as described under section 157(1)(c) of the Housing Act 1985. However, the viability evidence supports that development sites in Brampton can support 30% of the units as affordable.

**5.27** The policy contains a viability cushion in line with advice in the Harman guidance, 'Viability Testing Local Plans'. Therefore when the requirements of this policy make a site unviable, the Council will expect the developer to submit an appraisal such as the Homes and Communities Agency Development Appraisal Tool or similar, before a departure from the policy will be allowed.

**5.28** The SHMA update (Sept 2014) identified that overall in the period from 2013 to 2030 an average of 295 affordable homes per annum are required. Although this demand will be partially met by the private rented sector supported by housing benefit, this policy aims to strike a balance on an appropriate affordable housing requirement.

**5.29** Cumbria County Council's Extra Care Strategy estimates the need for 340 extra care units by 2019, across the District, with 234 of those places needed within the City of Carlisle. The opportunity to deliver an element of this housing on appropriate development sites, as part of the overall affordable housing provision, will be sought.

**5.30** The maximum proportion of affordable housing on larger housing schemes is an important factor to consider in trying to achieve balanced and mixed communities. Large developments (e.g. schemes of over 20 houses) of entirely affordable housing could potentially lead to community cohesion issues with the surrounding area and also fail to contribute to mixed communities. The siting of affordable housing within a development also needs careful thought to ensure that it is not concentrated within one area of the site, but is integrated throughout the development. This approach will provide greater opportunities for community cohesion.

**5.31** In relation to the tenure split of affordable housing 50% should be social or affordable rented with the remaining 50% for affordable home ownership (often referred to as intermediate housing). However, it is important to allow for flexibility to ensure that marginal schemes remain viable. Demand for intermediate housing (such as shared ownership) can vary with market conditions and as a result there may be occasions where an increased proportion of social rented housing will be acceptable.

**5.32** Sub-dividing a site to avoid making affordable housing contributions will not be acceptable. The yield generated by the site as a whole will be assessed and used as a basis on which to seek the affordable housing contribution. Therefore affordable housing will be sought on developments below these thresholds if the Council considers

that the site is part of a larger development site, particularly where the site is being sub-divided as a way to avoid the affordable housing threshold.

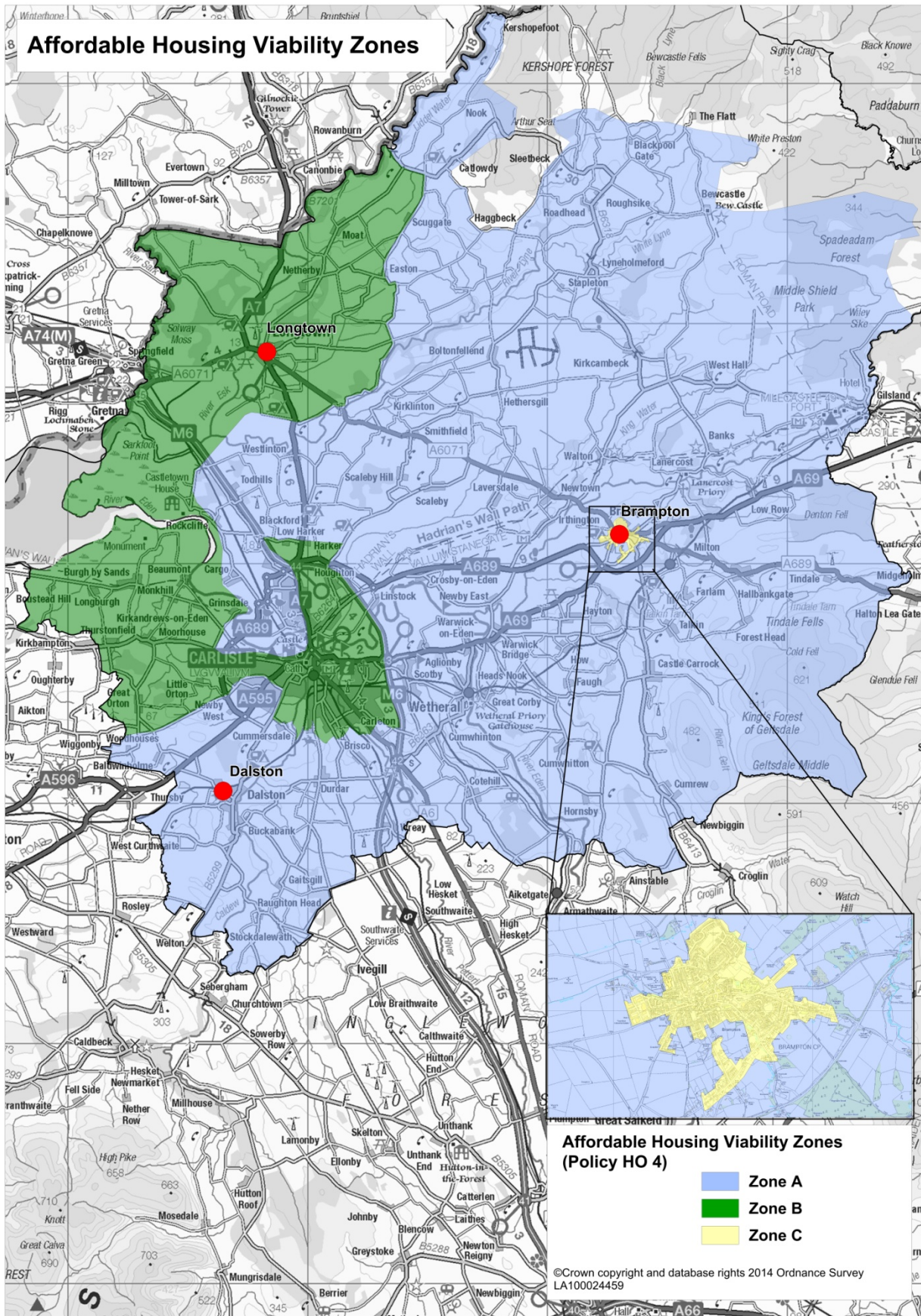
**5.33** This will also apply where one site is divided between different developers, or is proposed to be developed in a phased manner. The affordable housing generated by the site as a whole will be assessed and used as the basis on which to seek the affordable housing contribution.

**5.34** In determining the type of affordable housing to be provided, the Council's Housing Service will advise developers of the appropriate type and mix of units for each site to ensure local need is being met. This will help deliver the priorities in the Carlisle Housing Strategy 2012-2016, especially the need to 'work closely with local communities to address their housing needs and preferences, and support community based development initiatives.

**5.35** For sites of eleven units or over the Council's expectation will be that affordable housing will be provided on the application site, in line with the Council's commitment to mixed and sustainable communities, supported by the NPPF. Off-site provision (or financial contributions towards the provision of affordable housing) will only be agreed where such an approach can be robustly justified, for example to improve or make more effective use of the existing housing stock, where housing need priorities could be better met in an alternative location, or where there is an oversupply of a particular type of affordable housing provision in the immediate area) and the agreed approach contributes to the objective of creating mixed and balanced communities.

**5.36** Evidence will be required to show that the affordable housing cannot be managed effectively on the site and that providing the affordable housing elsewhere will significantly widen housing choice and encourage a better social mix. Where off-site provision or contributions are agreed, it will be on the basis of the developer providing the same ratio of affordable housing to market housing as would have been provided on-site. Off-site provision should, where possible, be in the same housing market area as the application site (Carlisle City, Rural Carlisle East or Rural Carlisle West).

## Figure 2 - Affordable Housing Zones Map



## **Policy HO 5 - Rural Exception Sites**

In the rural area dwellings will be permitted on small sites where open market housing would not be acceptable, subject to the following criteria:

1. the development is for affordable housing to meet an identified local need;
2. the affordable housing will be retained for affordable need in perpetuity;
3. the proposal can demonstrate that the development can be delivered; and
4. the site is very close to, adjoining or within a settlement which provides a range of local services and facilities, or has good public transport links to a larger settlement with a wider range of services and facilities.

In the following exceptional circumstances an element of open market housing will be allowed on rural exception sites:

- i. excessive development costs due to site constraints;
- ii. the Registered Provider can demonstrate that the additional revenue created by the development of open market housing is essential to enable the delivery of affordable housing on the site; or
- iii. the amount of open market housing is the minimum required to achieve site viability.

### **Justification**

**5.37** The purpose of a rural exception site is to address local housing need in order to sustain rural communities. Proposals must include evidence setting out the level of local need and a justification of the particular location to ensure that the scheme is appropriate in terms of scale, tenure and other characteristics. This policy enables planning permission to be granted for affordable housing on land that would not normally be used for housing because, for example, it is subject to policies of restraint. Hence, an exception is made to normal planning policy to address proven local housing need. However, other planning issues such as site suitability, scale, design etc must still be addressed.

**5.38** The rural area can be the least affordable place to live in the District. In 2008, the Government's 'Living working countryside' Matthew Taylor review of the rural economy and affordable housing found that while people working in rural areas tend to earn significantly less than those working in urban areas, rural homes are more expensive than urban homes.

**5.39** The popularity of rural areas and migration from urban areas add to the pressures on rural housing affordability.

**5.40** In the rural area, opportunities for delivering affordable housing can be limited. The Affordable Housing Economic Viability Study (AHEVA) notes that rural exception sites land values are generally lower, thereby creating an opportunity to deliver affordable housing. Rural exception sites can contribute towards the supply of affordable housing, and help to meet specific identified local needs. Such sites can only be used for affordable housing in perpetuity. The type, tenure and size of the homes must meet an identified local need. Local is defined as within the parish.

**5.41** Examples of the type of land that would qualify as an exception site include:

- land within or adjacent to a small village where open market housing would normally be constrained;
- land close to a larger village with a range of services and facilities; and
- the exception site is adjacent to the edge of a village, or is well related to existing residential development and amenities located in, or adjacent to, a clearly identifiable village or settlement.

**5.42** The policy aims to ensure that rural communities remain sustainable by making provision for households in local affordable housing need, for example:

- existing residents needing separate accommodation in the area, e.g. grown up children, or growing families;
- workers who provide important services and need to live closer to the local community; or
- people who require family support, e.g. the elderly.

**5.43** Villages throughout the District vary enormously in size. It is therefore important that the development of a rural exception site is in scale with its surroundings, and normally only small sites will be considered acceptable. It is important that the number and type of houses to be developed enables the creation of sustainable, inclusive and mixed communities. Hence only small sites will be considered acceptable. Schemes are more likely to be successful with the involvement, support and knowledge of the parish council and the local community.

**5.44** The occupancy of the houses will be controlled by a Section 106 agreement to ensure that the affordable housing is available in perpetuity to meet local needs. This prevents the houses being sold or rented at open market rates.

**5.45** The S106 must include the name of the parish where the local need has been identified. It may also include a list of neighbouring parishes to be referred to if, at some point in the future, one or more of the houses becomes vacant and there are no applicants from the parish.

## **Policy HO 6 - Other Housing in the Open Countryside**

New housing will be allowed in the open countryside in the following special circumstances:

1. where there is an essential need for a rural worker to live at or near their place of work, and evidence is provided to demonstrate need for a full time worker to be available at all times for the enterprise to function properly, provided that:
  - a) the business is established, has been profitable for at least one year, is currently financially sound, and has a clear prospect of remaining so;
  - b) the housing need can not be met by other housing nearby; and
  - c) the house would be appropriate in terms of size, scale and design for its location.
2. replacement dwellings:
  - a) the dwelling has an existing lawful residential use;
  - b) the development is of a scale appropriate to the size of the plot; and
  - c) the development would reflect the identity of local surroundings and materials in terms of both the new dwelling and any curtilage development such as garages, outbuildings and boundaries.
3. conversion of structurally sound redundant or disused buildings, provided that the development would:
  - a) lead to an enhancement of the immediate setting of the building; and
  - b) be able to access the road network without the need to construct access tracks which would have an unacceptable impact on the landscape.

### **Justification**

**5.46** There are a number of opportunities within the rural parts of the District to create new dwellings either where there is an essential need for a rural worker to live at or near their place of work, through the demolition and replacement of substandard dwellings, or through the conversion of redundant or disused buildings.

**5.47** Rural workers dwellings - most rural workers will live in a variety of locations within and outside the District (and commute to their work) or in existing properties connected

to their place of work. However, there will be specific circumstances where the nature and demand of the rural enterprise require a worker to live at the place of business in the countryside.

**5.48** The definition of a rural worker is not simply limited to someone employed in agriculture or forestry, but can include, for example, those employed in equestrian or other land based enterprises, water based businesses, rural arts and crafts, etc. The definition does not apply to someone whose business or occupation is carried out in a wide locality in the rural area, for example a tradesperson who has no requirement for fixed premises.

**5.49** Applicants for such dwellings will need to demonstrate that there is a clearly established existing functional need, that the need relates to a full time worker, that the enterprise concerned is an established business, and has been profitable for at least one year. The business should also provide evidence that there is a clear prospect of it remaining financially sound.

**5.50** The applicant will also be expected to demonstrate that the need for a dwelling could not be met by existing housing for sale in the area. This would require a basic search for houses for sale in the immediate locality and a brief indication as to why they are not suitable to meet the need for the rural worker, for example, on the grounds of location or price.

**5.51** Houses permitted under this policy will be subject to a condition limiting initial and successive occupation to a rural worker solely or mainly employed at their place of work nearby.

**5.52** An application for the removal of such an occupancy condition will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that:

- there is no longer a need for the dwelling in relation to the enterprise/business; and
- the dwelling has been marketed for sale or rent for six months at a price that reflects the occupancy condition.

**5.53** Replacement dwellings - proposals for replacement dwellings will need to demonstrate that the dwelling to be replaced has not been abandoned. Development proposals under this policy will generally arise where an existing dwelling is in a poor condition and therefore unsuitable for current living standards.

**5.54** Careful consideration will need to be given to the location of the new dwelling within the plot, and sufficient curtilage will need to be retained for adequate garden, parking and circulation space. Any new dwelling should not have a greater adverse impact on character and appearance of the surrounding area than the dwelling to be

replaced. The existing house on the site must be demolished on completion of the new dwelling.

**5.55** Conversion of redundant and disused buildings - buildings such as barns, mills and old stables make a significant contribution to the character and quality of the countryside around Carlisle. To avoid their loss and to prevent them from becoming derelict eyesores this policy makes provision for their conversion and re-use. Conversions must aim to retain and enhance any architectural quality and character of the building and its rural setting.

**5.56** Any building to be converted should be visually worth retaining due to its contribution to the rural landscape. This will exclude modern agricultural or industrial buildings. Buildings to be converted should be structurally sound. Proposals which require the substantial reconstruction of the external walls or roof will not be acceptable. Structural surveys may be required in order to demonstrate that a building is structurally sound.

**5.57** Carlisle is the second largest District in England and covers 400 square miles. As such, there are likely to be some very remote rural buildings in areas with poor accessibility, remote from services, facilities and employment, and where the only option for travel is by car. The conversion of redundant or disused buildings in such locations may raise sustainability issues, and any proposals will require additional information to be submitted by the applicant to show the following:

- how the site will access utilities such as energy and water supply;
- how the site will access the road network; and
- how the building will contribute to energy efficiency.

**5.58** All proposals under this policy should seek to optimise the potential to improve the character and quality of the site. A high standard of design will be required resulting in a development which is visually attractive as a result of good architecture and appropriate landscaping. The design of new houses in the open countryside should promote or reinforce local distinctiveness but be open to appropriate innovation.

**5.59** In all cases the creation of new dwellings should avoid introducing suburban character or features, such as extensive areas of tarmac or pavements, close boarded timber fencing or leylandii hedges.

**5.60** Where a courtyard development of several dwellings is proposed, the gardens and courtyard should normally be left as a single communal space.

**5.61** Many rural buildings can be habitats for a variety of wildlife including bats and barn owls. These species are sensitive to disturbance and therefore at risk from building works. They are also protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act. An ecological survey will also be required where such species are present. The survey

should identify the species present, identify any impacts and consider avoidance, mitigation, and new benefits.

### **Policy HO 7 - Housing as Enabling Development**

Enabling development in the form of new housing, where it would otherwise be contrary to planning policy, that would secure the future of a heritage asset will be acceptable providing that the following criteria are met:

1. the harm caused to the significance of the heritage asset and its setting should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal;
2. sufficient grant or subsidy to secure the future of the heritage asset is not available from any other source;
3. the proportion of enabling development proposed is the minimum required to secure the future of the heritage asset;
4. the development secures the long term future of the heritage asset, and this outweighs any negative effects of conflict with any other planning policies; and
5. the new development makes a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness

### **Justification**

**5.62** Within the District there are a number of buildings which can be considered as heritage assets. Heritage assets for the purpose of this policy are most likely to include historic buildings that are either on the statutory list or the local list.

**5.63** In many cases the setting of a heritage asset will be significant and must not be compromised as a result of proposals arising under this policy. In particular walled or historic gardens, open parkland or other landscapes can be an integral part of the setting of a heritage asset.

**5.64** Enabling development in the form of new housing, which would not be supported by any other policies in the Local Plan, should be proportionate to the scale and complexity of the project. Early pre-application discussions will be essential, so that applicants do not waste resources on schemes that are unlikely to be justified.

**5.65** The impact of the development must be accurately detailed when the planning application is submitted. Outline planning applications will not be acceptable. The design and layout of the enabling development will be critical in determining its acceptability. The proposals must adequately set out how the objective of securing the future of the heritage asset will be achieved, including setting out any timescales, which ideally should secure the restoration of the heritage asset as early as possible in the course of the enabling development, preferably at the outset, and certainly before the completion and occupation of the dwellings.

**5.66** The end use of the heritage asset must not only be compatible with the historic form, character and fabric of the place, but be financially viable. This means either that the place must have a positive market value on completion of repair and return to beneficial use, or there must be clarity about who will take responsibility for it in the long term.

### **Policy HO 8 – House Extensions**

House extensions and alterations should be designed to:

1. relate to and complement the existing building in scale, design, form and materials;
2. be visually subservient to the main building;
3. ensure there is no loss of amenity to surrounding properties by overlooking, overbearing nature of the proposal, or increase in on street car parking caused by the loss of an existing garage or off street parking space;
4. ensure adequate natural light within the building, garden or other outdoor amenity space;
5. maintain the established character and pattern of the street scene and be a positive addition; and
6. retain gaps between buildings where they are characteristic of the area and contribute to the street scene.

### **Justification**

**5.67** Many people choose to adapt their existing homes to cater for changes in lifestyle rather than move house. House extensions are usually defined as any extension of the living space, including basements, roof conversions and conservatories. Planning permission will be refused for development of poor design that fails to take the opportunities available for improving the character and quality of an area and the way it functions.

**5.68** The design of an extension should respond to the characteristics of the specific site, as well as the distinctiveness of the wider setting. The aim should be to reflect the style of the existing building, especially in conservation areas and for listed buildings. However, extensions of a more contemporary design may be appropriate, provided they are of the highest standard of design, and innovative in nature, together with significantly enhancing the immediate setting. Consequently, any proposal will need to demonstrate that through its scale, density, layout, siting, character and appearance, it has been designed to respect the property and its surroundings.

**5.69** Most proposals should be visually subservient to the existing property. The scale of the extension that is likely to be acceptable will depend on the size of the plot, the size

of the original dwelling and the impact on neighbours and the street scene. Further detailed policy is contained in the adopted 2011 SPD Achieving Well Designed Housing.

**5.70** Not all house extensions require planning permission. Permitted development rights allow householders to improve and extend their homes without the need to seek planning permission. The Government has produced technical guidance on permitted development for householders which can be found on the Planning Portal web site.

**5.71** This policy will therefore apply to all applications for development which are not covered by permitted development rights, although it also provides useful guidance, together with the SPD Achieving Well Designed Housing, for extensions being constructed under permitted development rights.

## **Policy HO 9 – Large Houses in Multiple Occupation and the Subdivision of Dwellings**

Proposals for the subdivision of dwellings and the creation of houses in multiple occupation will be acceptable providing that:

1. such proposals do not lead to the unacceptable loss of good quality family housing;
2. effective measures are proposed to minimise the effects of noise and other disturbance to neighbouring residential properties;
3. adequate space is provided for the storage of refuse and recycling bins;
4. the proposal would not adversely affect the character of the building or the surrounding area, for example through increased on-street parking; and
5. the proposal does not lead to the creation of substandard units of accommodation.

Within the rural area, proposals for the subdivision of larger houses into two or more units of accommodation must demonstrate either that there are services in the village where the house is located, or that there is good access to one or more other villages with services, or to the larger settlements of Carlisle, Brampton and Longtown.

### **Justification**

**5.72** A Large House in Multiple Occupation (HMO) is a house with more than six people sharing. These are unclassified by the Use Classes Order and in planning terms are described as being sui generis. This policy applies to large HMOs. The General Permitted Development Order gives Permitted Development rights for change of use from dwelling houses to small scale houses in multiple occupation. Small scale is defined in Circular 08/2010 as small shared houses or flats occupied by between three and six unrelated individuals who share basic amenities.

**5.73** The Housing Act 2004 definition of a HMO is as follows:

- three or more unrelated people are sharing facilities;
- buildings comprising non-self-contained flats;
- houses converted to self contained flats before 1991 and not in accordance with the 1991 Building Regulations; and
- a self-contained flat converted to 1991 Building Regulations standards (or later), if occupied by more than three unrelated persons.

**5.74** The Act also makes provision for mandatory licensing of certain HMOs and for such licensing schemes to be operated by the City Council.

**5.75** Under the Act, HMOs which need to be licensed are those where:

- the HMO or any part of it comprises three storeys or more;
- the HMO is occupied by five or more persons; and
- these persons are living in two or more single households

**5.76** Where an HMO is situated in a part of a building above business premises, each storey of the business premises is included when calculating the number of storeys for the HMO.

**5.77** Because of the shared occupancy of the properties, HMOs, such as bedsits and shared houses, require a higher standard of management than other private rented property and are subject to additional regulation. Some of these regulations relate to the management of the HMOs and this helps safeguard the health and safety of people who live in them who can be amongst the most vulnerable and disadvantaged members of the community. This type of housing is a valuable housing option for many people.

**5.78** HMO licensing has been operated in Carlisle since 2006. For more information on HMO licensing, please contact the Private Sector Housing Team at the City Council.

**5.79** Certain areas in Carlisle have a concentration of HMOs, in particular Warwick Square/Aglionby Street/Warwick Road, Stanwix, and Chatsworth and Portland Squares. Whilst the nature of the buildings in these locations (three storey Victorian houses) can be successfully converted, there are often problems with lack of parking or sufficient outdoor space for storage of bins and recycling bags. This can have an unacceptable impact on the amenity of neighbours, and on the character of the street scene.

**5.80** This policy also applies to proposals to subdivide larger houses into two or more dwellings. This can provide additional smaller units of housing, often at less cost than new build, and can often preserve the life of an older building. Such proposals must ensure adequate internal living space, as well as complying with other policy criteria. Where such houses are located in the open countryside, proposals must demonstrate that there is good access to local services and facilities, or to the larger settlements of Carlisle, Brampton or Longtown.

## **Policy HO 10 - Housing to Meet Specific Needs**

The Council and its partners will work together to enable the delivery of specialist housing for vulnerable people including for the ageing population and those with physical and learning disabilities, such as extra-care accommodation, and which take account of the need to provide for a variety of care needs and flexibility to accommodate differing requirements of care will be supported.

Proposals for new development to meet a particular housing need, e.g. older people, supported or other specialist accommodation will be acceptable where they are in appropriate sustainable locations, for example, close to a range of services and facilities.

### **Justification**

**5.81** The age profile for Carlisle District is slightly older than found regionally or nationally, with a greater proportion of people in all age groups from 45 onwards. Within the rural area there is a much larger proportion of people aged 45 and over than in the urban area. Nearly 30% of the population of each rural Housing Market Area (HMA) is aged 60 or over. Cumbria County Council has produced an 'Extra Care Housing Strategy 2011-2029', which identifies that 340 extra care units are required in the District up to 2019. There will be continuing dialogue with the County Council on how this can be delivered.

**5.82** These figures have implications for the delivery of housing over the plan period and therefore it is essential to ensure that the needs of older people are met over the plan period. New specialist housing for vulnerable people should aim to give all people who require provision of care more choice and control over where and how they live and how they receive care.

**5.83** This policy encourages the provision of housing to maximise the independence and choice of older people and those members of the community with specific needs. When assessing proposals for the development of residential care homes, extra care housing and other similar schemes the Council will have regard to the local need for the accommodation proposed, and the ability of future residents and staff to access a range of local services such as shops, community facilities and public transport.

**5.84** Older people or others with specialist housing needs often want to stay within the community in which they have been living, or move to be close to family or others who are able to help support them. Whilst such locations may not benefit from local services and facilities, they are still considered sustainable in terms of the community/family support for the particular housing need.

**5.85** The Council will also support evidence based proposals for annexes or extensions to existing houses to accommodate an elderly, disabled or otherwise dependant person.

**5.86** Proposals for Lifetime Homes, or which include an element of lifetime homes, will help to ensure a supply of adaptable and accessible homes that can respond to the changing needs of individuals and families. Lifetime Homes are ordinary homes designed to include 16 design criteria that can be applied to new homes at minimal cost. Each design feature is intended to add to the comfort and convenience of the home, and support the changing needs of those who live there at different stages of their lives. Lifetime Homes are intended to be flexible and adaptable. They are designed to create and encourage better living environments for everyone, from small children to coping with temporary or permanent disability, or reduced mobility in later life. The Lifetime Homes website has further information on the 16 design criteria.

**5.87** Housing for people with a range of special needs will also be necessary. The Cumbria County Council 'Adult Social Care in Carlisle District Plan 2012-14' identifies extra care housing as a key form of support. Carlisle has a number of such schemes where people are offered support in extra care schemes, rather than residential care, enabling them to stay at home for longer. Burnside Court in Stanwix provides 44 flats for people with care needs, and is provided by Anchor Housing, and Heysham Gardens, Morton, provides 60 units (Eden Housing).

## **Policy HO 11 - Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Provision**

The Council and its partners will work together to meet the accommodation needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.

Land has been allocated adjacent to Low Harker Dene for nine permanent pitches to meet identified needs over the Plan period for Gypsies and Travellers.

Proposals which contribute to achieving additional provision of transit, permanent and temporary pitches, and sites for Travelling Showpeople, in addition to the sites allocated will be considered favourably where they meet the following criteria:

1. the site is physically connected, and integrates with, an existing settlement, and does not lead to an unacceptable intrusion into open countryside;
2. the site has reasonable access to key services and facilities including schools, shops, doctors' surgeries and health care and other community facilities;
3. there are opportunities to access these facilities by public transport, walking or cycling;
4. the location of the site is such that it is possible to promote integrated co-existence between the site and the local community;
5. adequate utilities can be provided or are already available;
6. the site has existing landscape screening, or can be landscaped to minimise any impact on surrounding countryside;
7. satisfactory living conditions can be achieved on the site and there would be no unacceptable impact on the amenity of adjacent land uses including residential uses;
8. site management measures are included within the proposals;
9. any additional business uses that are intended to be carried out on the site will not have an unacceptable impact on the residential use of the site, any adjacent land uses or the visual amenity of the area; and
10. the site should have, or be able to provide, adequate access and turning space for large vehicles and caravans.

The redevelopment or change of use of existing sites for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople to alternative uses will not be supported whilst there remains a proven need for provision within the District.

### **Justification**

**5.88** The Housing Act 2004 places a duty on local authorities to carry out an assessment of the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers in the District.

Government policy on travellers is contained in the Communities and Local Government G document 'Planning Policy for Traveller Sites' which also states that local planning authorities should make their own assessment of need for the purposes of planning. This will help in identifying land for sites and will also ensure that both plan making and decision taking help to reduce the number of unauthorised developments and encampments and make enforcement more effective.

**5.89** The Cumbria Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) (November 2013) sets out an up to date picture of accommodation needs across Cumbria on a district by district basis up to 2030. This will ensure that any under provision can be addressed to ensure that an appropriate level of supply is maintained in places where Travellers can access education, health, welfare and employment.

**5.90** The total pitch requirement across the District, based on the current supply of pitches, and views expressed by gypsy and traveller households, is 15 pitches up to 2028. It is acknowledged that the need for pitches should be regularly reviewed to determine the extent to which this requirement is changing over time.

**5.91** There are currently a number of licensed Gypsy sites in the District including: Ghyll Bank Park, Low Harker Dene, Hadrian's Park and Hawthorns. In addition, there are also a number of pitches provided through personal consents to cater for the needs of single family units. There is also a permanent site for people of the Showman's Guild at Willowholme in Carlisle.

**5.92** In addition to the need for permanent provision, the GTAA also makes an assessment of the need for temporary places for short term use while in transit. Such sites are intended to be authorised, and usually permanent, but there is a limit on the length of time residents can stay.

**5.93** Within the District, based on Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople surveys, and the broad scale of unauthorised encampment activity, the GTAA identifies that up to eight additional transit pitches would help offset the incidences of unauthorised encampment activity in Carlisle. This is not an annual requirement, but rather an overall requirement which helps to address on-going unauthorised encampment activity. Any proposals for transit provision will be assessed against the criteria in the policy.

**5.94** With regards to provision for Travelling Showpeople, the GTAA does not identify any need for new permanent sites over the Plan period. Any proposals coming forward for provision for Travelling Showpeople will be assessed against the criteria in the policy.

## **Policy HO 12 - Other Uses in Primary Residential Areas**

Primary Residential Areas are identified on the Local Plan Policies Map. The amenity of residential areas will be protected from inappropriate development. Planning applications for non-residential uses will only be permitted providing that:

1. such uses maintain or enhance the overall quality and character of the immediate area;
2. there is no detrimental effect on residential amenity either through noise, nuisance, damage to visual amenity or increase in traffic; and
3. the proposed use will provide a beneficial service to the local community.

Support will be given for schemes which include the redevelopment or refurbishment of previous non-conforming uses in the area.

The character and residential amenity of the area should not be compromised by the cumulative impact of such proposals, either through increase in traffic or the intensity or intrusive nature of such proposals.

### **Justification**

**5.95** This policy aims to ensure a good standard of amenity for all existing and future occupants of land and buildings. The City Council therefore aims to protect and maintain the residential character of the areas identified as being primarily in residential use, as shown on the Local Plan Policies Map. The policy coverage will extend to include all consented residential schemes once implemented.

**5.96** Within residential areas it is necessary to prevent development that would be detrimental to the amenity of those who live there. In order to protect residential amenity, the City Council will resist any planning application which seeks to introduce a use which is clearly non-conforming and threatens the residential character of an area.

**5.97** Certain proposals for non-residential uses within established residential areas including small local shops, public houses, health care facilities, and small businesses including B&Bs may be acceptable provided the applicant can demonstrate that the benefits of the scheme will be in the community's interest.

**5.98** There are uses, however, either through the type of use, its scale, or because it would generate an unacceptable level of traffic, noise or other adverse effects such as impact on the safety or health of residents that would result in an overall loss of amenity. Such development is not acceptable in residential areas and will not be permitted.

## 6. Infrastructure

### Objective

To ensure the provision of efficient and integrated infrastructure networks and their timely delivery, including sustainable transport, where needed to support new and existing development, facilitate economic growth and deliver the plan strategy.

### Context

Infrastructure can take many forms and is essential to support the delivery of the objectives within the Local Plan of increased housing provision, economic growth and creating thriving and sustainable communities. The policies in this chapter aim to ensure key infrastructure provision is in place, or can be put in place, to allow new development to be brought forward and function in a sustainable way.

The implementation of the policies within this chapter will be supported through evidence in the form of the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) which identifies what infrastructure currently exists across the District, highlighting any deficits and likely funding arrangements that will be needed to address them, ultimately to help ensure that infrastructure provision keeps pace with growth. Where deficits exist, this chapter establishes a framework through which developments can help to address them using planning obligations where appropriate and viable to do so.

## **Policy IP 1 - Delivering Infrastructure**

New development must ensure that sufficient infrastructure is in place in order to support it. Where this is not the case, or where proposals would place an unacceptable strain on existing infrastructure networks, development will not be permitted unless arrangements can be made to ensure the timely delivery of required infrastructure improvements.

Where a development requires the creation of new infrastructure the Council will require it to be secured through planning obligations. If adopted, the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) may also be used to help address infrastructure deficits identified in the Carlisle Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP).

Early engagement at pre-application stage by all parties with infrastructure providers will be encouraged for all development proposals. Applicants proposing major development must be able to demonstrate they have engaged in pre-application discussions with relevant infrastructure providers.

Where land is earmarked for infrastructure development, it will be protected from development proposals with the potential to compromise its delivery. Where necessary, the Council will act to safeguard land for new and emerging infrastructure proposals that may arise over the lifetime of the Plan.

### **Justification**

**6.1** The timely delivery of infrastructure is fundamental to the delivery of the Plan. Co-ordinating development with the delivery of infrastructure will be necessary in some instances.

**6.2** Key infrastructure likely to be necessary to co-ordinate with the delivery of development within Carlisle includes:

- primary and secondary school placements;
- adequate highway capacity and achievable access;
- foul water drainage and network capacity;
- health and social facilities or improvements;
- energy supply; and
- clean water supply.

**6.3** Other infrastructure requirements may also need to be addressed before development can commence. These requirements will vary from location to location, and may cover a wide range of social and environmental needs, based on local circumstances.

**6.4** The Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) will continue to be used to identify any infrastructure deficits that may impact upon proposals for new development. In this regards the IDP will support the implementation of this policy through providing evidence for seeking developer contributions from applicants where a specific infrastructure issue would directly affect and/or result from a development proposal. Issues may also be raised during consultation on a planning application by relevant infrastructure bodies. New development which would place unacceptable strain on existing infrastructure, or which is proposed in an area where essential infrastructure does not exist, will only be approved once the applicant has demonstrated how and when infrastructure requirements will be met.

**6.5** The IDP will also provide information and evidence to support the introduction of a Community Infrastructure Levy, which would seek contributions from applicants towards known strategic infrastructure deficits that have been identified across the District. If CIL is subsequently introduced by the City Council, the use of planning obligations would be scaled back accordance with the regulations governing the use of CIL.

**6.6** In order to reduce disruption caused by connecting development sites to infrastructure networks such as gas, water, sewage, electricity and broadband fibre i.e. where development may need to close highways to carry out work, developers will need to co-ordinate with infrastructure providers to ensure that works on multiple utilities are carried out, wherever it is possible to do so, at the same time. This will help to avoid situations where lengthy road closures are incurred on multiple, separate occasions over the course of construction as different utilities are installed, to the inconvenience of existing communities.

**6.7** The Council will seek to ensure that land required to accommodate new infrastructure provision is, where necessary, protected from unrelated and potentially compromising development. In some cases it may be necessary to formally allocate or safeguard land for the development and delivery of new infrastructure. If the need to do so arises throughout the life of the Plan the Council will consider the need for a partial review of the appropriate element of the Plan or consider the need to bring forward an additional Development Plan Document.

## **Policy IP 2 - Transport and Development**

All new development will be assessed against its impact upon the transport network. Development that will cause significant issues that cannot be mitigated against will be resisted. Development likely to generate significant levels of transport within isolated and poorly accessible areas will be resisted unless a clear environmental, social or economic need can be demonstrated.

New development that will be accessible to the public will be required to prioritise safe and convenient access for cyclists and pedestrians, and to take opportunities to contribute to the creation and enhancement of an integrated and continuous sustainable transport network. All new development must demonstrate/provide convenient access to public transport, although a more flexible approach may be justified in rural areas where public transport options are more limited.

Proposals that would facilitate a modal shift in freight transport from road to rail and/or air will be supported where the impact on the surrounding road network and land uses can be accommodated without significant adverse effect.

### Travel Plans and Transport Assessments:

Development which through reference to national guidance require the submission of a Transport Assessment and/or Travel Plan, should, in addition to responding to national guidance, demonstrate how:

1. the needs of cyclists and pedestrians will be met and prioritised on site;
2. the development will help to reduce the need to travel, particularly by private motor car;
3. the movement of freight and goods by rail will be maximised where possible and appropriate;
4. the site will safely and conveniently connect to public and green transport routes;
5. the accessibility needs of more vulnerable people have been taken into account;
6. the impact of heavy goods vehicles accessing the site, where this is a required aspect of operations, will be minimised, including restrictions on operating hours and how route plans involving the movement of HGVs will avoid residential areas where possible; and
7. all other sustainable transport concerns will be addressed.

### Sustainable Vehicle Technology:

Developers will be encouraged to include sustainable vehicle technology such as electric vehicle charging points within proposals.

## Justification

**6.8** Through recognition that all new developments can potentially impact upon the transport network, it is important that the extent of these impacts are fully understood and considered when determining planning applications. Policy IP 2 seeks to achieve this via providing a framework through which likely impacts can be assessed. The overriding objective of the policy, which builds upon the strategic transport policy at the outset of the plan, is to ensure that development proposals that will compromise the safe or effective operation of any element of the District's transport network will be resisted.

**6.9** New development should be planned in such a way that reduces the need to travel and prioritises the movements of pedestrians and cyclists and other sustainable transport uses in order to achieve safe and secure access for all. Residential developments should in this context pay particular regard to the importance of safe walking routes to school. New development should capitalise upon and enhance links to existing green infrastructure and rights of way networks wherever possible or should seek to create new networks if none are present. Similarly opportunities should be taken to maximise connectivity with public transport.

**6.10** Travel Plans and Transport Assessments will be used to make sure that new development conforms to the principles of sustainable transport. The circumstances when such assessments will be formally required are set out in the National Planning Practice Guidance as too is the intended scope of such assessments. In summary however such assessments will generally be required to demonstrate that:

- the wider impact of development on the transport network has been considered;
- pedestrians and cyclists have been given the highest consideration in terms of accessing the site and there is good access to the public transport network;
- road and street layouts are designed to be safe and secure and minimise the conflicts between traffic and pedestrians and cyclists;
- the needs of vulnerable people, such as children, people with disabilities, the elderly, and parents with prams/young children have been addressed;
- convenient and safe walking routes to schools and other services and facilities can be achieved;
- the delivery and movement of goods and supplies is as efficient as possible (i.e. by rail) and that all reasonable efforts have been taken to reduce the potential nuisance caused by HGV movements; and opportunities to incorporate facilities for electric vehicle charging points have been considered.

**6.11** The Manual for Streets was produced by the Department for Transport in 2007 and continues to provide valuable guidance on how to achieve accessible and well designed streets and neighbourhoods. In order to ensure a high quality living environment for residents, the Council will encourage its use within development proposals. In keeping

with the Manual for Streets, the Council will expect new development to integrate well with existing development particularly regarding cycle and pedestrian access and connections. Foot and cycle paths will need to be both convenient and safe, not only from a traffic point of view, but also through ensuring that neither a sense of fear is created nor crime encouraged through the isolating of the route from other activities and street users, especially at night.

**6.12** The Council will continue to work with the Local Highway Authority to ensure that new estate roads and streets, particularly those designed using the Manual for Streets, are of a standard that can be adopted.

**6.13** Whilst electric vehicle technology is still in its infancy, there is a strong push from national Government to encourage the development of infrastructure to support its growth. The provision of electronic car chargers within car parks is slowly growing within the City and wider District. As such consideration should be afforded to increasing electric charging provision wherever appropriate and possible.

## Policy IP 3 - Parking Provision

Where appropriate, proposals for new development will be expected to provide a minimum number of parking spaces per new dwelling/sqm of floor space depending on the type and location, in consultation with the Local Highway Authority and in accordance with any local standards in operation.

In areas suffering from significant on-street parking problems, greater provision will be sought where possible, or alternative measures to address the issues will be required. In all areas the need to encourage the use of alternative means of travel, other than the private car, shall be an important consideration when applying parking standards.

Provision for convenient and secure bicycle parking will also be expected to be provided in line with standards. A minimum standard for disabled parking spaces within new development will also be applied.

Off and on street parking provision will be required to be well designed, safe and appropriate for the streetscene. Proposed car parking provision that would have a significant adverse impact upon the character of an area will be resisted. The Council will expect developers to have regard to the Manual for Streets when considering parking design.

### Justification

**6.14** National policy now makes clear that parking standards should be determined at the local level in response to local circumstances. The Council, working with the Local Highway Authority, will produce a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) to set minimum parking standards for the District. A minimum requirement for parking as opposed to a maximum allowance is considered a logical response to local circumstances and specifically an increase in on street parking. Experience supports that more spaces are needed in new development, and new standards, depending on the type, location and scale of development will reflect this. New development will be expected to be in line with the standards presented within the SPD once formally adopted.

**6.15** In the interim, standards will be decided on a case by case basis, in consultation with the Local Highway Authority, ensuring that all new development provides adequate parking provision. In doing so standards and therefore requirements will be informed by:

- the type, mix and use of the development;
- the accessibility of the development;
- the availability of and the opportunities for public transport;
- local car ownership levels;
- the availability and number of parking permits within the locality; and

- an overall need to reduce the use of high-emission vehicles.

**6.16** For commercial and leisure areas, it may be acceptable for different uses to share parking space which can count towards meeting the required spaces for both businesses, assuming it can be adequately demonstrated that anticipated peak usage will occur at different times of the day as to avoid conflict.

**6.17** There is an issue with increasing levels of on street parking in some residential areas within the District and there is therefore a need to look at more appropriate off street parking solutions. When considering proposals, it must be noted that garages that are less than 6m in length and 3m in width are not considered large enough to comfortably accommodate the average modern family car and will not be counted as car parking spaces.

**6.18** Conversely it is acknowledged that there is virtually no off-street parking provision in some parts of the City, such as on and around Warwick Road, and this can result in significant issues with inappropriate on street parking. There are also parking problems on the Kingstown Industrial Estate in the north of the City, where piecemeal take up of units has meant that insufficient parking spaces have been provided leading to congestion issues on the estate roads as people struggle to find a place to park. Beyond the City, issues also arise due to a lack of parking in the other larger settlement centres, particularly in Brompton where town centre spaces are used largely by workers rather than visitors or shoppers, with issues owing to commuter parking also known in Dalston and Longtown. A more flexible approach to parking standards in such areas may be required.

## Policy IP 4 - Broadband Access

New development must be able to demonstrate how it will contribute to and be compatible with local fibre or internet connectivity. Applicants will be expected to demonstrate the anticipated connectivity requirements of the development, known nearby data networks and their anticipated speed, and realistic assessments of connection potential (fixed copper, 3G, 4G, fibre, satellite, microwave, etc) or contribution to any such networks.

All new development should aim to enable a connection to the internet with a minimum symmetrical speed of 10Mbps, aspiring towards 25Mbps where possible and viable. Where this cannot be achieved, proposals should still include, where possible, suitable measures to enable a superfast broadband connection at a future date.

Applicants proposing major development schemes are encouraged to engage with local broadband groups and Parish Councils, where present, to explore how superfast broadband can be provided to benefit the local community; establish whether any community broadband projects are active within the local area; and understand how development may contribute to and integrate with them.

Within the City Centre, Brampton and Longtown proposals to expand the free, public Wi-Fi network will be supported.

### Justification

**6.19** The expansion of high speed broadband across the District will be supported, particularly in rural areas where there has been a market failure regarding the viability of providing high speed and holistic connectivity.

**6.20** The Fibre to the Home Council Europe (FTTH) reported that in 2012/13 the UK had not yet achieved 1% household coverage of superfast, fibre optic broadband (100Mbps), falling dramatically behind other European countries. The Government has expressed its intention to invest in broadband networks across the country, aiming to ensure every household has access to at least 2Mbps and that 90% of homes have access to at least 25Mbps by 2015. It is widely recognised however that speeds of at least 100Mbps will be required to ensure the functionality of emerging workplace practices such as cloud computing.

**6.21** Across the District current levels of broadband access vary significantly. Only a small part of the City, in and around the CA1 postcode area, has access to fibre optic cable broadband technically capable of speeds of up to 75Mbps. Average broadband speeds across the City are around 7.6Mbps, however in outlying areas such as Belah and Garlands speeds can drop significantly and struggle to achieve over 1Mbps. Rural parts of the District have generally much lower connection speeds. In Brampton, the average speed is 3Mbps and in Longtown and the larger villages, speeds vary between

2 and 2.5Mbps. In the most rural parts of the District speeds are unlikely to be more than 500Kbps.

**6.22** This policy seeks to balance the viability of new development with that of ensuring the wider, long term viability of the District from a socio-economic perspective in terms of access to superfast broadband. It also seeks to support community broadband initiatives. Provision needs to be made to ensure new development contributes towards the Government's target of 25Mbps by 2015. However, it would be remiss not to consider the likely requirements of homes and businesses over the 15 years of this plan and encourage applicants to consider ways of allowing for future upgrades to networks within their plans. Applicants will be required to actively demonstrate that they have considered broadband connectivity within their proposals and, where necessary, justify why a 10Mbps connection at the site could not be achieved. Where a 10Mbps connection is not currently possible, applicants should demonstrate the efforts taken to ensure that their development is ready to embrace superfast broadband once it is available by ensuring measures such as ducting, capable of carrying fibre cables, is provided up to the public highway or any community led broadband networks in the area.

**6.23** A free public Wi-Fi network is currently being rolled out by the City Council across the City Centre and within parts of Brampton and Longtown, for the benefit of residents, visitors and businesses. Proposals to expand these networks or to create similar new ones will be supported providing the necessary infrastructure is incorporated into the street scene as subtly as possible.

## **Policy IP 5 - Waste Minimisation and the Recycling of Waste**

All new development should follow the principles of sustainable waste management and must include details of facilities for the storage, collection and recycling of waste produced on-site for both during and after construction. On new housing estates of 20 or more new dwellings developers will be encouraged to make provision for collective, accessible and secure waste and recycling areas that create a single, sheltered point for waste storage and collection to serve a number of dwellings.

Developers will be expected to provide waste storage units for every new dwelling or unit within a new development, either as large euro-bins for collective waste areas or smaller wheelie bins for individual dwellings. These bins must meet Council standards for quality, size, colour and design, and must be in place before any dwelling is occupied. Where necessary this requirement will be secured through the imposition of planning conditions and/or planning obligations.

### **Justification**

**6.24** The principles for sustainable waste management are clearly established at the national level. Similar principles are set out in the Cumbria Minerals and Waste Local Plan, which forms part of the Development Plan for the District of Carlisle. Planning authorities should seek to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill. This means ensuring that every possible step has been taken by new development to ensure sustainable methods of waste disposal are encouraged and, on larger sites, required through planning policy.

**6.25** Carlisle City Council currently aims to have at least 50% of all household waste disposed of sustainably either through recycling or composting by 2020. The Council is well on track to meeting this target with around 43.5% of all household waste in 2013/14 being recycled or composted. This figure has seen a significant increase in recent years with only 25.73% of waste being recycled or composted in 2004/5. To ensure that this trend is maintained all new development must be required to follow the principles of sustainable waste management.

**6.26** Developers will be encouraged to set aside areas on new housing estates for collective waste storage in order to provide a single point for collection. This should make it easier for refuse collection services to work on an estate and also alleviate levels of disturbance to residents that may arise from refuse trucks travelling door to door. Collective waste sites must be accessible to refuse trucks and must also be secure to prevent fly tipping; sheltered from the elements to prevent pollution; and free from animal interference. Recycling provision should also, where possible, be provided alongside these collective waste areas.

**6.27** Collective waste areas should be accessible and larger estates may require multiple sites. One euro-bin should be provided for every 12 households using the

storage area, or every 8 if recycling facilities are not available. Collective waste sites should be within easy walking distance from any given front door on an estate and special arrangements will need to be put in place to assist people with mobility issues.

**6.28** When considering how waste should be stored on a property where collective waste points will not be available, developers must be able to demonstrate that this has been considered within a design and access statement. Where possible, waste storage areas should be discreetly located outside and afforded some protection from the elements. When considering how waste should be located for collection, developers must ensure that kerbside placement is achievable.

**6.29** Developers will be expected to provide bins for each new dwelling or unit within a new development. These bins, either euro-bins or smaller wheelie bins for individual dwellings, must meet Council standards for design, quality, colour and size. They must also bear the Council's logo to ensure they can be immediately recognised by the refuse teams. It is recommended that developers order their bins through the Council's waste services team. Bins must be provided before dwellings/units are occupied on site.

**6.30** All construction projects in England over £300,000 must have a Site Waste Management Plan (SWMP). Applicants proposing such projects should complete their SWMPs in line with Government guidance.

### **Policy IP 6 - Foul Water Drainage on Development Sites**

Development should not be permitted where inadequate foul water treatment and drainage infrastructure exists, or where such provision cannot be made within the time constraints of planning permission unless the developer can demonstrate acceptable alternative private solutions. In some circumstances, it may be necessary to co-ordinate the delivery of development with the delivery of infrastructure. In certain circumstances, a new development will be required to discharge foul water to the public sewerage system at an attenuated rate.

Where United Utilities can demonstrate that connection to the public sewerage system is not possible, alternative on-site treatment methods and septic tanks associated with a new development will be permitted provided they are of an environmental standard to the satisfaction of the Environment Agency.

### **Justification**

**6.31** Foul and surface water drainage are managed through two different systems and must be considered separately. Policy IP 6 sets out the expected approach with regards to foul water drainage but should, where necessary, be read alongside Policy CC5 which relates to surface water management. Policy IP 6 requires applicants to ensure that adequate drainage systems are in place and that sufficient capacity exists within the sewer network before development can commence.

**6.32** United Utilities manage and monitor capacity within the waste water treatment network. The Council relies on feedback from them in order to ascertain whether sufficient capacity exists within the network to accommodate new development or where it may be necessary to co-ordinate development in line with any upgrading work. This will be dependent on detailed proposals and developers are encouraged to speak to United Utilities at the earliest opportunity.

**6.33** Specific issues that may arise within the waste water infrastructure network will also be picked up through the Infrastructure Delivery Plan; this includes identifying settlements where capacity problems have been confirmed. The Council will continue to work with United Utilities to ensure that new development does not put any unacceptable strain upon the sewer and treatment networks.

**6.34** The quality of groundwater and surface waters and associated water-based recreation, fisheries and nature conservation must be protected against the risk of pollution from the inadequate provision of foul water sewerage and sewage treatment facilities. Development proposals which necessitate the use of septic tanks and sewage treatment package plants may, if not designed correctly or located appropriately, result in an increased risk of pollution to groundwater and surface waters. Such systems will only be permitted if it can be demonstrated that connection to the public foul water sewerage system is not feasible, taking into account cost and/or practicability, and where it can be demonstrated that they accord with environmental standards.

### **Policy IP 7 - Carlisle Airport**

Within the boundary of Carlisle Airport, development that is related to airport activities will be acceptable.

In addition, enabling development that would facilitate the ongoing or further operational development of the airport, and which would not compromise other elements of the Local Plan's overarching spatial strategy, will be acceptable. Applicants will be required to provide clear evidence as to how any such enabling development will ensure the ongoing viable operations of the airport for aviation.

### **Justification**

**6.35** There is a continuing requirement to support the development of the Airport for aviation uses through recognition of its role as a unique component of the District's strategic transport infrastructure. National policy makes clear that when planning for airports, plans should take account of their growth and role in serving business, leisure, training and emergency service needs.

**6.36** The extent of the boundary of the airport is defined on the Policies Map. Development proposals within the boundary which relate to airport activities will be supported, subject to conformity with other policies within the Local Plan where relevant.

**6.37** Enabling development that would facilitate the ongoing or further development that is essential or conducive to the operation of the airport, will be acceptable, subject to the clear provision of evidence to demonstrate how any such development is proportionate to and relates to the ongoing viable operations of the airport. Proposals for enabling development must also demonstrate through reference to their scale and nature that the Local Plan overarching spatial strategy would not be compromised.

## **Policy IP 8 - Planning Obligations**

Carlisle City Council will work with partners to deliver infrastructure, services and community facilities to improve the sustainability of its communities.

In the first instance new development will be expected to provide infrastructure improvements which are directly related to and necessary to make the development acceptable. This will be achieved through use of planning conditions and obligations.

The Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) will be used to identify the infrastructure, services and facilities that new development may be required to contribute to within the life of the Plan. Such infrastructure could cover a wide range of economic, social and environmental provision.

If a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is introduced by the Council, planning obligations will not be sought for infrastructure funded by CIL.

In accordance with national policy 'small-scale' and 'self-build' development will be exempt from any tariff style planning obligations (section 106 planning obligations). Small scale in the context of the District of Carlisle is defined in the glossary.

Where a developer seeks to depart from any planning obligations sought, it will be necessary for them to demonstrate that such contributions are nevertheless being maximised as far as it is viable to do so, and that ultimately the wider economic, social and environmental benefits to be realised from approving the proposal in the absence of such contributions outweigh the harm of doing so.

## **Justification**

**6.38** There are a number of policies in the Plan which aim to improve the local environment for existing residents of the District and new occupants. In order to ensure that any new development proposals are integrated a number of measures will be considered. Planning obligations are one way of integrating new development into the

surrounding environment especially where development proposals may have a direct impact on others. Given the wide range of local issues which may arise, the City Council will consider setting out its priorities for planning obligations in a separate document. Notwithstanding this, it is recognised that ultimately the scope of obligations will need to be considered on a site by site basis, informed through local circumstances and the nature of development proposed.

**6.39** The Carlisle IDP identifies known deficiencies in infrastructure provision within the District and also highlights what funding arrangements are required to address these. Where there are gaps in funding, it is likely that developer contributions will be needed to ensure infrastructure is provided where and when it is needed. Planning obligations may be used, where appropriate, to secure such contributions.

**6.40** In the future the Council may seek to adopt CIL. The need for CIL will be informed through the IDP process and subject to a separate process of preparation which would entail consultation opportunities and a separate examination. In accordance with the regulations which govern the use of CIL, if introduced the approach to the use of planning obligations alongside CIL will be clearly set out.

**6.41** In accordance with national policy and to ensure that the Plan remains deliverable, it is recognised that the use of planning obligations must not over burden developers or compromise the viability of development proposals. The Plan and the policy requirements within have therefore been informed through the Carlisle Economic Viability Assessment.

## 7. Climate Change and Flood Risk

### Objective

To reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, including through securing energy from renewable sources, and avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding in order to ensure that the District is more resilient and less vulnerable to the effects of climate change and can successfully adapt to its effects.

### Context

Carlisle City Council recognises that the planning system has a central role to play in ensuring the resilience of our communities into the future. It is therefore clear that the policies contained within this chapter emphasise the importance of protecting our natural environment whilst making the most effective use of our natural resources through renewable energy generation, energy efficient design and effective water management. Central to this is ensuring that the District is resilient to the effects of climate change.

## **Policy CC 1 - Renewable Energy**

Proposals for renewable energy development will be supported where they can demonstrate, through identifying and thoroughly appraising any potential individual and cumulative effects, that any associated impacts are or can be made acceptable. This presumption will apply where proposals:

1. do not have a significant adverse impact on the location, in relation to visual impact caused by the scale of development, on the character and sensitivity of the immediate and wider landscape, townscape or historic environment and their settings;
2. do not have an unacceptable impact on local amenity and can successfully mitigate against any noise, smell or other nuisance or pollutants likely to affect nearby occupiers and neighbouring land uses;
3. ensure that any waste arising as a result of the development is minimised and dealt with using a suitable means of disposal;
4. do not have an unacceptable effect on existing services such as highways infrastructure and telecommunications; and
5. do not have an unacceptable effect on civil or military aviation and/or other defense related installations, including RAF Spadeadam and Eskdalemuir Seismic Recording Station.

In all cases proposals will be required to demonstrate that appropriate operational requirements have or are capable of being satisfied (including accessibility and suitability of the road network, ability to connect to the grid and the proximity of any feedstock where relevant) and that appropriate measures are put in place for the removal of structures and the restoration of sites should they become non-operational.

Where mitigation is required to make any identified impacts acceptable these will, where necessary, be secured through condition or Planning Obligations.

### **Justification**

**7.1** The City Council recognises the importance of protecting our natural environment whilst making the most effective use of our natural resources through renewable energy generation. Renewable energy is the collective term used for repeatedly occurring natural energy sources. These include energy from wind, biomass, waste, hydropower, solar, heat pumps, woodfuel and others as technologies develop. This criteria based policy will be used to ensure that renewable energy development is sited in the most

appropriate locations, be that large scale or micro-renewable schemes (where planning permission is required). Policy CC2 'Energy from Wind' should be referred to when considering applications for the development of wind energy. Certain combustible industrial, agricultural or domestic waste materials and anaerobic digestion plants are also regarded as renewable sources of energy however applications for this type of renewable energy development which import off-site waste materials would come under the remit of Cumbria County Council as the Waste Planning Authority.

**7.2** The Government is committed to sourcing 15% of its total energy (across the sectors of transport, electricity and heat) from renewable sources by 2020 alongside a UK carbon budget to reduce emissions by 80% from 1990 levels by 2050. Renewable energy sources can help to diversify energy supply and reduce harmful emissions to the environment, however most forms of renewable energy require specific environmental conditions and therefore can only be developed where the resource exists. The Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1) advises that a diverse mix of all types of power generation is beneficial so that we are not dependent on any one type of power generation, therefore ensuring security of supply. Additionally, the value of renewable energy generation is recognised as a means of achieving a low-carbon economy. National planning guidance includes a strong message that local authorities should promote and encourage, rather than restrict, the development of renewable energy sources.

**7.3** The Cumbria Renewable Energy Capacity and Deployment Study (September 2011) considers a range of renewable energy sources, translating potential into realistic deployable capacity up to 2030 in order for Cumbria to meet Government energy targets. It states that Cumbria needs to significantly increase its current level of deployment (of all types of renewable energy) if it is to meet the target figure considered deployable by 2030. The study looks at the overall potential technical capacity from wind, biomass, energy from waste, hydropower, solar and heat pumps. Applicants should have regard to this and any future studies in the formulation of development proposals.

**7.4** It should be noted that within Carlisle District there are a number of additional landscape and functional constraints that may limit renewable energy development in certain locations, including within the North Pennines and Solway Coast AONB's, Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site and buffer zone, Carlisle Airport Safeguarding area, Eskdalemuir Seismic Recording safeguarding area and the MOD safeguarding zone. Within sensitive landscapes reference must be made to the relevant Management Plan(s) when considering proposals which could have an impact upon these designations. The Cumbria Landscape Character Guidance and Toolkit 2011, or any successor documents, should be used to assist in identifying areas that are capable of successfully integrating renewable energy developments.

**7.5** The Council will seek to foster community involvement in larger scale renewable energy projects, and recommends that developers of renewable energy projects engage

in active consultation and discussion with local communities at an early stage in the planning process. The Council will also seek to consider, where appropriate, the opportunity for developing renewable energy projects in association with new large-scale developments, for example district heating networks. It will also positively support community-led initiatives for renewable and low carbon energy where they are in line with this policy, for example community led anaerobic digestion schemes.

**7.6** It is recognised that micro-renewables can make an important contribution to renewable energy and carbon reduction, especially in reducing carbon emissions from both domestic and commercial buildings. Micro-renewables refers to installations of less than 50Kw and includes technologies such as solar panels and wood-fuelled heating. In some cases due to scale and site constraints, planning permission will be required for micro-renewable energy schemes, as such the criteria of this Policy will be used to assess such applications.

**7.7** Proposals for renewable energy developments may inevitably have some local environmental implications. Any significant adverse impact will be weighed against the wider social, economic and environmental benefits including those of reducing emissions. Some renewable energy projects may be subject to an environmental impact assessment (EIA). This will be the case where a scheme is likely to have significant environmental implications for the surrounding area during its development and/or operation. Further information on EIA can be found online at the National Planning Practice Guidance webpage.

**7.8** Proposals will be required to demonstrate that they have considered the environmental effects of the distribution lines between the development and the point of connection to the National Grid. Consideration should also be given to the environmental impact of access tracks where these are required to construct and maintain the proposed development, as well as the appropriateness of the local highway network to gain access to the site in these terms and for the purposes of restoration.

## **Policy CC 2 - Energy from Wind**

Proposals for the development of wind turbines will be supported where they can demonstrate, through identifying and thoroughly appraising any potential individual and cumulative effects, that any associated impacts are or can be made acceptable. This presumption will apply where proposals do not have:

1. a significant adverse impact on the location, in relation to visual impact caused by the scale of development, on the character and sensitivity of the immediate and wider surrounding landscape and townscape;
2. an unacceptable impact on local amenity in relation to noise, amplitude modulation, shadow flicker, low frequency sound or vibration. In the interests of residential amenity and safety, turbines over 25m to blade tip will be required to be located a minimum of 800m away from residential properties. It is recognised that in some cases due to site-specific factors such as orientation of views, landcover, other structures and topography that it may be appropriate to vary this threshold, where it can be demonstrated through evidence that there would nevertheless be no unacceptable impacts on residential amenity or safety;
3. an adverse effect on any nature conservation features, biodiversity and geodiversity, including designated sites, or priority habitats and species;
4. a significant adverse impact on the significance of heritage assets including Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site and conservation of its Outstanding Universal Value, Scheduled Ancient Monuments, listed buildings, historic parks and gardens, battlefields, designated conservation areas or assets designated under the Local List, including their settings;
5. an unacceptable effect on existing services such as highways infrastructure and telecommunications; and
6. an unacceptable effect on civil or military aviation and/or other defence related installations, including RAF Spadeadam and Eskdalemuir Seismic Recording Station.

In all cases proposals will be required to demonstrate that appropriate operational requirements have or are capable of being satisfied (including accessibility and suitability of the road network, ability to connect to the grid and the proximity of any feedstock where relevant) and that appropriate measures are put in place for the removal of structures and the restoration of sites should they become non-operational. Where mitigation is required to make any identified impacts acceptable these will, where necessary, be secured through condition or Planning Obligations.

## Justification

**7.9** The Local Plan has a duty to encourage the use of renewable energy sources as a means of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and providing positive resilience to the impacts of climate change. The Climate Change Act (2008) set legally binding carbon budgets for the UK which aim to reduce UK carbon dioxide emissions by 34% by 2020 and, in line with European guidelines, at least 80% by 2050. The UK Renewable Energy Strategy 2009 includes a national target to provide 15% of electricity and heat from renewable and low carbon sources by 2020. Accordingly the National Planning Policy Framework requires local planning authorities to promote and support the delivery of renewable and low carbon energy and associated infrastructure in moving towards a low carbon economy.

**7.10** The Cumbria Renewable Energy Capacity and Deployment Study (September 2011) considers a range of renewable energy sources, translating potential into realistic deployable capacity up to 2030 in order for Cumbria to meet Government energy targets. It states that Cumbria needs to significantly increase its current level of deployment (of all types of renewable energy) if it is to meet the target figure considered deployable by 2030 and encourages the continued deployment of commercial wind as it provides the cheapest option for energy generation and gives the highest carbon savings. Wind energy proved to be the largest single resource in Cumbria with Carlisle having a significantly lower capacity than other districts. In relation to landscape capacity, the study identifies that Carlisle has 9% of the wind energy capacity for Cumbria. Despite this, Carlisle is identified as having the highest potential capacity for accessible small scale resource 'micro-renewables', due to the urban nature of the District,.

**7.11** In order to ensure that only appropriate development takes place, the policy sets a positive criteria based approach to encourage acceptable proposals to come forward to help meet national renewable energy targets. This approach sees each proposal determined on its merits, and will work in conjunction with other local plan policies to ensure the maximum level of resource is harnessed while ensuring that any impacts are, or can be made acceptable, reflecting both national planning policy and local evidence.

**7.12** In identifying and considering the impacts of any proposal, such assessments will be required to also take into account the impact of any singular or cumulative development on the landscape and other matters from known proposals in the planning system, extant planning approvals or other existing renewable energy developments within and adjacent to Carlisle District, including across the border in Scotland. Such an approach is imperative in ensuring that the cumulative effects of proposed developments are understood.

**7.13** Proposals for wind energy developments will almost always have some local environmental implications. Any significant adverse impacts will be weighed against the

wider social, economic and environmental benefits including those of reducing emissions and greenhouse gasses. Some renewable energy projects may be subject to an EIA. This will be the case where the scheme is likely to have significant environmental implications for the surrounding area during its development and/or operation. Further information on EIA can be found online at the National Planning Practice Guidance webpage.

**7.14** Proposals for the development of wind turbines will be expected to provide supporting evidence proportionate to their scale and nature and the key issues they give rise to, including Landscape, Visual and Environmental Assessments. In developing proposals regard should be had to the Cumbria Wind Energy SPD; Cumbria Renewable Energy Capacity and Deployment Study (2011); the Cumbria Landscape Character Guidance and Toolkit (2011) and/or any related documents. Additionally, the City Council have worked with Cumbria County Council and other Cumbrian authorities to develop a Cumulative Impact of Vertical Infrastructure Study. This looks at the cumulative effect of a number of tall structures in the landscape (turbines, pylons, telecoms, masts etc) and assesses instances where it is considered that the landscape has reached the point of saturation. This study will therefore be used when determining applications of this type.

**7.15** From a landscape perspective the Cumbria Wind Energy SPD was adopted by the City Council in 2007 to help guide the siting and design of turbines and to indicate the capacity of each landscape character type within Cumbria for wind energy. It reiterates that wind energy development can have wider landscape and visual effects than other forms of renewable energy development. This SPD is therefore used to guide development of this kind and will support the implementation of this policy.

**7.16** It should be noted that within Carlisle District there are a number of additional landscape and functional constraints that may limit wind related developments in certain locations, including within the North Pennines and Solway Coast AONB's, Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site and buffer zone, Carlisle Airport Safeguarding area, Eskdalemuir Seismic Recording safeguarding area and the MOD safeguarding zone. Within sensitive landscapes reference must be made to the relevant Management Plan(s) when considering proposals which could have an impact upon these designations.

**7.17** Within aviation or military installation safeguarding areas, where proposals may have an effect on and compromise their safe and effective operation, an assessment of potential effects should be set out in an Environmental Statement (as outlined in EN1- Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy). Similarly it must be demonstrated that proposals would not inhibit the safe operation of existing services including highways and public rights of way nor impede telecommunications networks.

**7.18** A key objective of the Policy is to protect amenity and particularly residential amenity and safety. Whilst the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) is clear

that Local Planning Authorities should not rule out otherwise acceptable renewable energy developments through inflexible rules on buffer zones or separation distances, the inclusion of an 800m separation distance is considered entirely justified within the District in response to the most up to date evidence on these matters and importantly to ensure a consistent approach on this strategic cross boundary issue particularly with the adjoining Borough of Allerdale and Scotland. Through recognition that the local context including factors such as topography, the local environment and near-by land uses can influence the extent to which distance itself is likely to determine whether the impact of a proposal is acceptable, flexibility has been built in to permit a departure from the 800m threshold where it can be clearly demonstrated that residential amenity and safety would not be compromised. Such an approach accords entirely with that advocated by the NPPG.

**7.19** Any impacts on the Districts biodiversity, geo-diversity and heritage assets will be considered in the context of the relevant policy coverage set out elsewhere within the Plan. The RSPB will be consulted where development has the potential to impact significant populations of sensitive bird species or their habitats.

**7.20** Proposals will be required to demonstrate that they have considered the environmental effects of the distribution lines between the development and the point of connection to the National Grid. Consideration should also be given to the environmental impact of access tracks where these are required to construct and maintain the proposed development, as well as the appropriateness of the local highway network to gain access to the site in these terms and for the purposes of restoration.

**7.21** Where it is identified that a proposal would give rise to any significant adverse impacts, measures will be required to be put forward to demonstrate that such impacts can be satisfactorily mitigated and that such measures can be appropriately secured through the imposition of planning conditions or use of planning obligations.

**7.22** The Council will seek to foster community involvement in wind energy projects, and recommends that developers of renewable energy projects engage in active consultation and discussion with local communities at an early stage in the planning process. The Council will also seek to consider, where appropriate, the opportunity for developing community-led initiatives for wind energy schemes where they are in line with this policy.

**7.23** Finally it should be noted that applications for large wind farms with deployable capacity greater than 50MW are not determined by the City Council; instead development consent must be gained from Secretary of State via submission to the Infrastructure Planning Commission.

## **Policy CC 3 - Energy Conservation, Efficiency and Resilience**

New development should make the fullest contribution to creating environments which enable carbon reduction and are resilient to the effects of climate change.

Development proposals must take into account the need for energy conservation and efficiency in their design, layout and choice of materials. The principles should be introduced in the early stages of the design process in order to consider the orientation of buildings to maximise solar gain coupled with high levels of insulation to reduce heating costs and introduce options for alternative methods of heating. The efficient and effective use of land, including the reuse of existing buildings and the use of environmentally sustainable and recycled materials is also expected within the design.

Proposals which incorporate other small-scale sources of renewable energy like photovoltaic cells will be supported in accordance with other policies in the Plan. The Council will encourage all major developments to explore the potential for a District Heating Network or Decentralised Energy Network. Proposals for renewable, low carbon or decentralised energy schemes will be supported provided they do not result in unacceptable harm which cannot be successfully mitigated. This includes support for community led renewable energy schemes.

### **Justification**

**7.24** It is important to be clear that as well as planning to mitigate and reduce the impacts of climate change, we must also recognise that some level of climate change is now unavoidable. There is therefore a need to start adapting to the predicted impacts we are likely to see in the future. The Council therefore seeks to ensure the high quality of development proposals and to promote energy efficiency and sustainable sources of energy supply. This policy sets out a supportive framework for delivering low and zero carbon energy infrastructure to demonstrate the Council's commitment to supporting the delivery of energy security and climate change initiatives. The Council is committed to ensuring that all new development maximises energy efficiency in its design and materials used, in line with the NPPF.

**7.25** It is acknowledged that buildings, which are energy efficient and hence cheaper to run, have enhanced market appeal. The layout, location and design of a development can have a fundamental impact on energy efficiency. Higher density developments and south facing aspects can both help to produce milder urban microclimates as well as maximising natural light. Design should aim to maximise solar gain (where appropriate) as well as natural ventilation, utilising appropriate materials and increasing opportunities to recycle heat (through air/ground source heat pumps) and rainwater. Energy efficient housing also has health benefits through providing warmer housing in winter months.

**7.26** Applicants should be able to demonstrate how they have attempted to minimise energy use and heat loss through careful and imaginative design, location and construction techniques. The Council has produced a SPD on Energy Efficiency (March 2011) which provides further detailed guidance on energy conservation for developers in the consideration of development proposals.

**7.27** The NPPF recognises the important role of planning in supporting a move to a low carbon future. As well as striving for energy efficiency improvements in existing and proposed buildings, the Government advises that local standards for building's sustainability should be consistent with the Government's zero carbon buildings policy and should adopt these nationally described standards. Building Regulations set the minimum standards for the design and construction of new buildings (& extensions) with energy efficiency standards dealt with under Part L. Progress towards 'zero carbon' will be made through progressive tightening of Building Regulations. Changes to Building Regulations and the move to zero-carbon buildings will increase energy efficiency and encourage greater use of decentralised and renewable energy. The Code for Sustainable Homes and BREEAM's (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method) integrated approach to construction uses the principle of the energy hierarchy to maximise cost effectiveness and minimise fuel costs. The Council will support proposals which seek to build to a higher energy level than is currently required by Building Regulations through the aforementioned methods in order to further reduce carbon emissions.

## **Policy CC 4 - Flood Risk and Development**

The Council will seek to ensure that new development does not result in unacceptable flood risk or drainage problems.

Most new development should be located in Flood Zone 1 and development within Flood Zones 2, 3a and 3b (with the exception of water compatible uses and key infrastructure (as defined in the NPPG)) will only be acceptable when they are compliant with the National Planning Policy Framework and when the sequential test and exception test where applicable have been satisfied.

Development should:

1. be supported by a Flood Risk Assessment for all proposals of 1 hectare or greater in Flood Zone 1 or in an area within Flood Zone 1 which has critical drainage problems; all proposals for new development (including minor development and changes of use) in Flood Zones 2 and 3; and where proposed development or a change of use to a more vulnerable class may be subject to other sources of flooding; to establish;
  - whether a proposed development is likely to be affected by current or future flooding from any source, taking into account the increased risk associated with climate change;
  - whether it will increase flood risk elsewhere or interfere with flood flows;
  - that no other lower risk alternative site exists;
  - whether appropriate mitigation measures are proposed to deal with potential risks and effects;
  - how access and egress can reasonably be maintained at times of flood risk;
  - that adequate floodplain storage capacity can be provided and that the capacity of the water supply, drainage and sewerage networks can accommodate new development; and
  - that where flood defences exist the residual risk of flooding that remains behind defences has been considered. This should include reference to overtopping of defences in extreme events and possible breach analysis evidence.
2. take account of the Council's Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (or the most up to date flood risk information available) along with any evidence from the Lead Local Flood Authority (Cumbria County Council) and the Environment Agency.

Where mitigation is required to make any identified impacts acceptable these will, where necessary, be secured through condition or Planning Obligations.

### **Justification**

**7.28** The Council recognises the risk that flooding poses for parts of the District, including the potential for flood events to occur more frequently as a result of climate change. The most significant flood event in recent years occurred in January 2005, when flooding affected approximately 2700 residential properties across the catchment of the River Eden, with Carlisle City being badly affected. As well as high flood risk in the urban area, there is also significant risk of flooding in the rural area. It is therefore important that planning policies provide a framework to ensure that flood risk to people, including their health and property is not increased as a result of development. This policy aims to steer new development away from flood risk areas where possible, in line with the NPPF and associated NPPG. Where development is considered to be acceptable in these areas, opportunities to reduce the causes and impacts of flooding will be taken.

**7.29** The Primary source of flood risk in Carlisle District is fluvial flooding (where flooding occurs in the floodplains of rivers when the capacity of water courses is exceeded as a result of rainfall or snow and ice melts within catchment areas further upstream). Carlisle City is vulnerable from the River Eden, River Petteril and the River Caldew, both independently and, in wider flood events concurrently. Carlisle is also at risk of flooding from a number of main watercourses, namely Dow Beck, Gosling Sike, Parham Beck and Wire Mire Beck. The main urban areas at risk of flooding are: Denton Holme, Willow Holme, Carlisle City Centre, Etterby Terrace, Rickerby, Warwick Road and Harraby Green. There are also parts of the rural area that are at risk, for example River Roe at Stockdalewath.

**7.30** Within the District the floodplain areas of the Rivers Eden, Caldew, Esk, Lyne, Irthing and Petteril, and their tributaries, have remained largely undeveloped and fulfil an important role as storage areas for floodwater. Therefore future development will continue to be directed away from floodplains and wider flood risk areas. Further information on the risk of flooding is available on the Environment Agency's website and is regularly updated. Flood risk at any specific location may be influenced by local factors such as existing formal or informal flood defences and the capacity of existing drainage systems or road/rail culverts. Flood defence works have been completed within the City along the Rivers Eden, Caldew and Petteril and in the rural area along the River Eden at Crosby-on-Eden. Elsewhere there are maintained flood embankments at Low Crosby and some privately owned flood embankments at Warwick Bridge.

**7.31** Extensive areas of the District (both urban and rural) are within Flood Zone 3 (High Probability of Risk or Functional Floodplain). The safeguarding of the floodplains is all the more important because of concerns about climate change which may, in all probability, result in an increased frequency of severe weather events, increased winter rainfall and sea level rise which could affect the coastline and Solway Firth estuary and main rivers.

**7.32** New developments usually result in an increase in impermeable surfaces, including roofs and paving where they replace existing permeable surfaces. These changes can reduce percolation and increase volumes and rates of surface water run-off while decreasing the response time with the potential to either create or exacerbate flooding problems elsewhere. In order to provide solutions to the potential negative effects of new development, a site-specific flood risk assessment (FRA) will be required. The FRA should follow the guidance in National Planning Practice Guidance and the Environment Agency Standing Advice. Proposals for development in all areas should always seek to include permeable surfaces in order to reduce the potential impact of surface water run-off. Additionally, the natural environment and trees in particular can play a huge part in helping to absorb surface water run-off. The creation of hedges, tree belts, landscaped and wooded areas helps soak up rainfall and slow down water runoff.

**7.33** The outcome of a FRA may identify that mitigation will be required. The City Council will encourage the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDs) as a means of reducing the overall flood risk, controlling pollution from urban run-off and, where possible, creating new wildlife habitats and amenity space.

**7.34** In certain circumstances it is necessary for a Sequential Test to be undertaken in order to steer new development to areas with the lowest probability of flooding. Here, development should not be allocated or permitted where there are reasonably available sites that are appropriate for the proposed development in areas with a lower probability of flooding. Where the Sequential Test has been undertaken but no suitable sites have been found in zones of lower probability of flooding, and there is an exceptional need for the development, the Exception Test should be applied as outlined within the NPPF. Allocated sites within the Local Plan have been sequentially tested and therefore a separate Sequential Test will not be required.

**7.35** A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) has been produced for the whole District with a Stage 2 SFRA carried out for those parts of the City Centre that benefit from flood defences in order to provide some indicative breach modelling of the flood defences. The City Council will discourage more vulnerable development proposals in areas of close proximity to flood defences, where the risks would be highest during a breach or overtopping flood event. The SFRA should be used during the preparation of FRAs in order to assess the risk of flooding to a site from all sources. There are restrictions on development in close proximity to existing flood defences under the Environment Agency's Flood Defence Byelaws. There is a requirement to obtain consent from the Environment Agency for development within 8 metres of the foot of any artificial river embankment serving as a flood protection barrier or, if there is no embankment, within 8 metres of the top of the bank or wall which confines the river. Additionally, when development takes place on land adjoining a main river or ordinary watercourse it has become common practice for planning authorities to require the developer to leave a strip of land, at least 5-8m wide, free from development along one or both sides of a watercourse, in order to provide access for future maintenance and space for the watercourse in flood. The Environment Agency is responsible for

providing Flood Defence Consent for works in or near main rivers. Similarly, Cumbria County Council as Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) is responsible for providing Ordinary Watercourse Flood Defence Consent for works in or near ordinary designated watercourses.

**7.36** With regards to coastal areas, the Marine Management Organisation is responsible for issuing marine licenses under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009. A marine licence may be required for activities involving a deposit or removal of a substance or object below the mean high water springs mark or in any tidal river to the extent of the tidal influence. Any works may also require consideration under The Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2007 (as amended), therefore early consultation with the Marine Management Organisation is advised.

## **Policy CC 5 – Surface Water Management and Sustainable Drainage Systems**

Surface water should be managed at the source, not transferred and discharged in the following order of priority:

- 1) a soakaway or some other form of infiltration system (using Sustainable Urban Drainage principles); or
- 2) an attenuated discharge to watercourse; or
- 3) an attenuated discharge to surface water sewer; or as an absolute last resort
- 4) an attenuated discharge to combined sewer.

Measures intended to assist with surface water management, including landscape proposals, should be made clear as part any submission. Where SUDs are incorporated, a drainage strategy should be submitted detailing:

- the type of SUDs and/or measures proposed;
- hydraulic design details/calculations;
- Pollution prevention and water quality treatment measures together with details of pollutant removal capacity as set out in the CIRIA SUDs Manual C697 or equivalent and updated local or national design guidance; and
- the proposed maintenance and management regime.

Applicants will need to submit clear evidence demonstrating why there is no alternative option but to discharge surface water to the sewerage system. In this instance applicants will need to demonstrate that the discharge of surface water will be limited to an attenuated rate, including an allowance for climate change, agreed with the sewerage company. This will be secured by planning condition or a planning obligation. On greenfield sites, applicants will be expected to demonstrate that the likely natural discharge solution from a site once developed will be no greater than the existing discharge rate. On previously developed land, applicants should target a reduction in surface water discharge.

### **Justification**

**7.37** Surface water management is a key principle of sustainable development. SUDs aim to reduce flooding by using devices or a series of complementary devices to control surface water runoff as near to its source as possible. These can help to reduce the need for investment in flood management and protection measures by mitigating any additional flood risk that new development might generate. The Council's Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) advocates that SUDs should be considered and given priority for every new development site, in line with the NPPF and associated NPPG. It provides advice relating to the use of SUDs and has identified the permeability of the

soil within Carlisle is mainly low with some small areas of medium and high permeability soils. This will have an effect on the appropriateness of SUDs techniques employed.

**7.38** The use of SUDs should be considered at the earliest possible stage in the preparation of a design solution, in conjunction with a landscaping scheme. SUDs also help to prevent the settlement of contaminants such as dust, oil litter and organic matter which otherwise tends to flow rapidly into the sewer system, by mimicking natural features that slow down the rate that water drains away thereby reducing the amount of surface runoff entering into sewers.

**7.39** Examples of SUDs techniques include porous surfaces, filter drains and strips, trenches, ponds, wetland basins, soakaways, green roofs and swales or wide, shallow depressions. SUDs solutions will be appropriate on most types of development where the area or impermeable surface is to be increased, particularly in areas of the District where culvert capacity and floodplain constraint problems exist. The City Council will also support retrofitting of SUDs within existing developments to achieve integrated water management. SUDs can help to create enjoyable and high quality environments which encourage biodiversity and amenity, benefit water resources, reduce pressure on the sewer network and help to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change. They work effectively in both rural and urban areas and help support new development without adding to the risk of flooding or pollution. They will also contribute to achieving improvements to comply with the Water Framework Directive.

**7.40** United Utilities will continue to work with landowners and developers to limit the extent of surface water entering the sewerage system as a result of new development to most appropriately manage the impact of growth on infrastructure. Proposals should clearly demonstrate with evidence, how they have applied the surface water drainage hierarchy outlined in this Policy. Applicants will be required to demonstrate that surface water disposal will be controlled so that pre and post development run-off rates are at least equivalent.

**7.41** A discharge to groundwater or watercourse may require the consent of the Environment Agency or Cumbria County Council LLFA. Under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, Cumbria County Council is established as a LLFA. This has given the County Council new powers and duties for managing flooding from local sources, namely Ordinary Watercourses, surface water (overland runoff) and groundwater in the administrative area of Cumbria. In accordance with national policy the Council will work with the LLFA seeking their advice on the risk of flooding from any proposed development and the suitability of a more sustainable drainage approach to the disposal of surface water.

**7.42** The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) has consulted on National Standards to be used in England in order to manage surface runoff in accordance with Schedule 3 to the Flood Water and Management Act 2010. The National Standards set out what is required in order to obtain approval from the SUDs

Approving Body (SAB) and for operating and maintaining SUDs which the SAB adopts. This guidance should be referred to, when finalised, in preparing SUDs for approval.

## 8. Health, Education and Community

### Objective

To create a thriving, successful and healthy community for all by promoting cohesive mixed communities and ensuring that everyone can have a decent home, in a safe environment, with good access to health care, educational provision and other community facilities by sustainable modes, including walking and cycling.

### Context

The policies contained within the plan aim to facilitate social interaction and create healthy, inclusive and sustainable communities by ensuring that they would not be compromised as a result of new development. For example, through the Local Plan, new development provides opportunities to enable walking and cycling, provide formal and informal community meeting spaces and sports facilities and green spaces, provide local shops, reduce the fear of crime and supporting the development of education and health facilities. Health and wellbeing is therefore an underlying theme for which consideration will be given when applications for any type of development are assessed.

Carlisle City Council recognises the importance of protecting and enhancing the health and wellbeing of the District's population and the health and wellbeing benefits that are attainable from good design and development. This is further enhanced by Carlisle's status as a World Health Organisation Healthy City. A Healthy City is one that continually creates and improves its physical and social environments and expands the community resources that enable people to mutually support each other in performing all the functions of life and developing to their maximum potential. Since becoming a Healthy City in 2009, the City Council has worked closely with organisations such as the NHS, Riverside and Carlisle Leisure Ltd and has gained from the Healthy City approach and network to improve the health and wellbeing of the District's residents.

## **Policy CM 1 - Health Care Provision**

Proposals for the development of health care facilities will be supported where the scale and location of the proposal is appropriate for the catchment it is intended to serve and is or can be made accessible by walking and cycling and public transport.

### **Justification**

**8.1** In order to contribute towards the objective of enhancing health and wellbeing, new development will be supported in line with this policy which provides a framework against which proposals will be assessed.

**8.2** In recent years planning approval has been granted for the development of the North Carlisle Medical Centre in the Stanwix area of the City. The new medical centre is also home to Carlisle Partnership NHS Foundation Trust and includes provision for a pharmacy. This model may be replicated across the plan period as public health services continue to be reconfigured and the existing estate rationalised. In addition to this there has been an indication that a site for a replacement medical centre will be required in Brampton over the course of the plan period. The opportunity has therefore been taken to promote the delivery of such a facility in tandem with the delivery of new housing on a site allocated for residential purposes off Carlisle Road in Brampton.

**8.3** It is important that sites for the provision of health care facilities are accessible by public transport. Where there is not currently bus service provision existing routes may need to be amended, where it is possible to do so, to serve new developments in order to improve their accessibility. In such cases those promoting new health facilities should engage with public transport providers.

## **Policy CM 2 - Educational Needs**

Proposals for the development of new educational facilities as well as for the expansion, alteration and improvement of existing educational facilities will be supported where they are well related to the catchment they will serve.

Where there is a need for new educational facilities outside of an existing site, the location should be close to the intended catchment in order to minimise travel in line with sustainable development principles.

Specifically in relation to primary and secondary school provision, Carlisle City Council will continue to work with the Education Authority to identify what new demand will be generated from development as well as helping to identify suitable new education sites should this be required.

To assist in the delivery of additional school places, where required, to meet the needs of development, contributions will be sought.

### **Justification**

**8.4** This policy aims to respond to the need to ensure that there is sufficient choice of school places available to meet the needs of existing and new communities. There are currently 48 Primary schools within the District, 18 are located within the urban area with 30 located in the wider rural area. There are two additional schools currently planned within the urban area in response to large scale housing developments at Crindledyke and Morton. Most rural primary schools are located within villages, however there are a number located in the open countryside which serve wide, yet sparsely populated rural communities.

**8.5** In relation to secondary school provision, there are currently six secondary schools within the District. Four are located within the City itself with one school located in Brampton and one in Dalston, both serving the wider rural area. In addition to this there are also two privately run secondary schools in the District. Over the last few years, significant changes, investment and reorganisation have been made to the District's secondary schools in pursuit of greater efficiency and higher educational attainment.

**8.6** Cumbria County Council, as the responsible Education Authority, has highlighted the potential need for more primary and secondary school places in different parts of the District in order to keep pace with the demand generated by new housing developments. The process of the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) will continue to ensure that the need for additional school places is identified in response to housing developments and that the necessary measures put in place to ensure their timely delivery.

**8.7** There are two options to overcome the issue of school capacity, either supporting the expansion of existing schools or securing the construction of an entirely new school to meet any need arising from significant levels of new development. Where housing developments or the cumulative impact of a number of housing developments in an area gives rise to the need for extensions, refurbishment and/or remodelling to provide additional capacity (including nursery capacity, as appropriate) at existing schools, or the construction of a new school, the County Council will look to the landowner/developer or a consortium of landowners/developers to fund the cost of providing the additional capacity or additional school at the appropriate time, including the cost of acquiring additional land if necessary.

**8.8** This policy also applies to higher and further education provision in the District.

### **Policy CM 3 - Sustaining Community Facilities and Services**

Proposals which involve the loss of valued community facilities such as shops, public houses and other facilities of value to the local community will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that:

1. its current use is no longer viable or there is adequate alternative provision in the locality to serve the local community;
2. all options for their continuance have been fully explored, including any scope for alternative community uses; and
3. any asset listed on a Community Asset Register has satisfied the requirements under this obligation.

### **Justification**

**8.9** Planning has a social role to play in supporting strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by ensuring there are accessible local services that reflect the community's needs and support its health, social and cultural wellbeing, by for example promoting the retention and development of local services and community facilities such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship and guarding against their unnecessary loss, particularly where this would reduce the community's ability to meet its day-to-day needs.

**8.10** One of the major challenges facing communities, and which is often exacerbated in rural settlements, is their ability to retain local services and facilities which are essential for maintaining thriving and sustainable communities. This policy seeks to retain facilities and services of value to the local community through ensuring that their loss constitutes a valid material consideration in the determination of any development proposals affecting them.

**8.11** Community facilities are important for delivering a valuable service and social focus for the local community both in rural villages and urban environments, particularly for those without access to private transport. Whilst it is often difficult to define 'locality' as this varies across the District, it is generally accepted as being where there is an identifiable local population that a service or facility serves. It is however recognised that in more sparsely populated rural areas this may be more difficult to define.

**8.12** It will not always be possible to prevent the closure of community facilities and services when it is uneconomic or unsustainable for their use to continue. Proposals involving their loss will only however be permitted where the Council is satisfied that the existing use is no longer viable and, where appropriate, there is no market for the business as a going concern, or for any alternative community uses. Proof of advertising in these terms for a reasonable period of time, usually not less than six months, will be required to substantiate that this is the case. Such evidence should include for example, a record of numbers of enquiries to take over the facility/service, evidence of viability and proof that the property has been adequately marketed at an appropriate value.

**8.13** It is recognised that some local facilities such as community centres, village halls and schools provide a valuable social role for the local community in providing multi-functional meeting and recreation spaces. Where the redevelopment of such sites, either in existing use or where their last use was for such, is proposed, consideration should be given, where possible, to the incorporation or retention of valued provisions such as community meeting space within the new development.

**8.14** Operating alongside this policy is the Community Right to Bid. This right was introduced through the Localism Act and gives community groups the right to prepare and bid to buy community buildings and facilities that are important to them including, for example, shops, pubs and community centres if made available for sale. The City Council maintains a Community Asset Register to hold all of these 'assets of community value'. If an owner of a listed asset wants to sell it they have to notify the local authority. The local authority then, in turn, has to notify any interested parties. If local groups are interested in buying the asset they have six months to prepare a bid to buy it before the asset can be sold. This initiative is governed by separate regulations out with the planning process.

## Policy CM 4 - Planning Out Crime

New development should make a positive contribution to creating safe and secure environments by integrating measures for security and designing out opportunities for crime.

Proposals should be designed with the following principles in mind in order to create secure environments which deter crime:

1. developments should be laid out and buildings positioned with the intention of creating active and vibrant neighbourhoods and maximising natural surveillance opportunities;
2. public and private spaces should have clearly defined boundaries, utilising appropriate physical treatments and promoting the concept of defensible space;
3. footpaths and cycleways should be designed to maximise legitimate use and consideration should be given to the route to avoid presenting direct opportunities for concealment, unobserved access, or an excess of routes that could aid escape;
4. effective lighting should be recognised as essential to deterring criminal and anti-social activity, but care should be taken to avoid nuisance, annoyance and unnecessary spill or pollution; and
5. careful consideration should be afforded to landscaping schemes to ensure that they do not create secluded areas, impede surveillance opportunities, or position elements that could be exploited as climbing aids.

The deployment of CCTV (Closed Circuit Television) may be considered necessary in certain circumstances.

### Justification

**8.15** It is widely acknowledged that good design plays a key role in creating safe and secure environments. This policy seeks to ensure that developments create environments where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine quality of life or community cohesion. Developers should, at the earliest stage possible, consult the Police Crime Prevention Design Advisor for advice on measures to be incorporated for designing out crime. Advice will be given based on current crime trends or particular crime risk, in accordance with Secured by Design principles. The Council will also encourage applicants to apply to Cumbria Constabulary for the Secured by Design and/or the ParkMark Safer Parking Award(s), where appropriate.

**8.16** The planning system can be instrumental in producing environments that are well managed, lively and attractive, which discourage crime and anti social behaviour, e.g. through overlooking and active frontages. Developers will therefore be expected to adopt designs for new development that take fully into account the security of property

and people but which are also sensitive to local circumstances. It is evident that insensitive approaches to crime prevention can result in an increased fear and perception of crime by creating environments which appear threatening and as such are avoided. Clearly therefore a careful balance needs to be struck to successfully achieve the objective.

**8.17** In 2009 the City Council adopted a supplementary planning document (SPD) entitled 'Designing Out Crime'. The SPD seeks to improve the safety and security of developments and aims to strike a balance between the need to reduce crime and creating a high standard of appearance in the design and layout of developments. This document provides advice to applicants relating to incorporating safety and security measures into developments and is used to assess and determine planning applications. A further adopted SPD 'Achieving Well Designed Housing' (April 2011) focuses on the development of/within residential areas and also emphasises that designing out crime is a key consideration at the concept stage of any development. It seeks to promote safe and secure environments and to design spaces and networks which minimise opportunities for crime or anti-social behaviour.

**8.18** Additional guidance on creating successful spaces and achieving good design is detailed within Manual for Streets and Manual for Streets 2 produced by the Department for Transport or successor documents.

## **Policy CM 5 - Environmental and Amenity Protection**

The Council will only support development which would not lead to an adverse impact on the environment or health or amenity of future or existing occupiers.

Development will not be permitted where:

1. it would generate or result in exposure to, either during construction or on completion, unacceptable levels of pollution (from contaminated substances, odour, noise, dust, vibration, light and insects) which cannot be satisfactorily mitigated within the development proposal or by means of compliance with planning conditions;
2. it would cause demonstrable harm to the quality, quantity and associated ecological features of groundwater and surface waters or impact on human health;
3. it is on contaminated or unstable land which would pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment, unless suitable mitigation and/or remediation is or can be carried out to ensure safe development;
4. it would be subject to unacceptable risk from existing hazardous installations; and/or
5. proposals for new hazardous installations (e.g. certain gases, liquids and explosive chemicals) pose an unacceptable risk to the health or safety of users of the site, neighbouring land and/or the environment.

Proposals may be required to submit detailed assessments in relation to any of the above criteria to the Council for approval.

Where development is permitted which may have an impact on such considerations, the Council will consider the use of conditions or planning obligations to ensure any appropriate mitigation measures are secured.

### **Justification**

**8.19** Development that poses a risk to the environment or human health will be carefully considered in conjunction with the City Council's Environmental Health team and any relevant external agencies. New development for sensitive uses (such as residential development) should be located an appropriate distance away from existing operational uses with the potential to generate unacceptable levels of noise, odour or pollutants. This will ensure that new development would not negatively prejudice either use. Unless potential risks can be removed in their entirety or successfully mitigated, development proposals which would compromise the environment or human health will be resisted.

### **Construction and Demolition Sites – Noise, Dust and Light Management**

**8.20** It is essential to have effective noise and dust emission control measures in place for every activity carried out on site. In order to successfully control demolition and construction activities, it is important to evaluate the risk from pollutants emitted from site. Applications for development proposals which, by virtue of the nature and/or scale are considered by the Council to be likely to give rise to an adverse impact during construction, demolition and/or generate construction waste, will be expected to be accompanied by a Construction Management Method Statement.

## **Planning and noise**

**8.21** Effective land use planning can help prevent or mitigate potential noise impacts. Where noise may be an issue, a noise impact assessment will be required and will be sought at the earliest possible stage of the planning process. By avoiding the location of noise sensitive uses near to noise-producing premises, noise problems can often be prevented. Where this is not possible, noise controls will need to be incorporated into new noise-producing developments and mitigation measures may be prudent for new noise sensitive developments.

## **Air Quality**

**8.22** The Environment Act 1995 established the current framework for the National Air Quality Strategy and placed statutory duties upon local authorities in respect of Local Air Quality Management. Since 1996 Carlisle City Council has been monitoring air pollution levels and comparing the results with the national air quality objectives. For the majority of key pollutants measured across the District the concentrations have been found to be well below the government's health based objectives. However, six Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) have been declared in Carlisle since 2005 as a result of NO<sub>2</sub> exceedences. The declaration of these AQMA's placed a duty on Carlisle City Council to draw up an Air Quality Action Plan, which details the local measures from which air quality improvements can be realistically achieved.

**8.23** Developers must have regard to the air quality implications of new developments. Large new developments may require the preparation of an Air Quality Impact Assessment to accompany the planning application. Further information on when an Air Quality Assessment will be required and a guide for developers is available on the City Council's website. Developers must consider all aspects of the development including emissions to air and the increased traffic volume that the development may generate. Planning applications should include mitigation measures to offset the negative impacts.

## **Artificial Light**

**8.24** There are three main types of light pollution: sky glow; glare; and light trespass. Intrusive light can adversely impact residential amenity as well as causing road safety problems and harming wildlife. Applications involving significant external lighting such as floodlights for sports pitches or arenas must be accompanied by a robust lighting

report and strategies as part of their submission for planning permission. Landscaping measures such as mounding and planting may in some situations help to protect residential amenity and reduce light spillage and glare.

## **Insects**

**8.25** Some forms of development may give rise to a greater risk of insect nuisance. Where this is suspected, applicants may need to demonstrate appropriate strategies are or will be put into effect to mitigate the risk, the implementation of which may be secured through the imposition of planning conditions.

## **Groundwater Quality**

**8.26** The Environment Agency has statutory responsibility for managing water resources and has developed a strategy for the proper management and protection of the groundwater resource ('Underground, Under Threat – The State of Groundwater in England and Wales'). This (or any successor documents) will be used as a guide to determine the suitability of developments in relation to groundwater impact. The Environment Agency has also established Source Protection Zones for public water supply and other human consumption uses.

## **Contaminated/Unstable Land**

**8.27** Within the District there are many historic and current land uses that have impacted or have the potential to impact the quality of the land and result in land contamination or land stability concerns.

**8.28** It is important to identify potential contamination and ground stability problems at an early stage, since remediation of land contamination or instability can incur significant costs. It is strongly recommended that pre-application advice is sought from the Council's Environmental Health Department regarding potential contamination/stability issues.

**8.29** The requirement for a development to be sustainable and viable also extends to the remediation technology to be applied. For some developments, the technology required may impact on the design of the proposed development. If potential land contamination/stability issues are not identified and an assessment of the risks not undertaken this may result in refusal of permission. The Council must be satisfied that:

- where there is information available which suggests the possibility of contamination or land instability or of unacceptable risk, these concerns have been addressed within the supporting information submitted with any application;
- any unacceptable risks identified can be adequately dealt with in order that the completed development is suitable for its intended use and no unacceptable risks remain either to human health or the wider environment; and

- any steps needed to deal with unacceptable risks are either already in place or can be secured through suitable planning conditions or obligations.

**8.30** The assessment of potentially contaminated sites should be carried out through a phased process. Ongoing dialogue with the City Council at each phase is recommended to ensure that the work undertaken is sufficient and necessary. Where development is proposed on a site known to be contaminated or has the potential to be contaminated as a result of industrial activity (e.g. gasworks, petrol stations, filled ground, steelworks, railway land) a preliminary risk assessment will be required.

## **Hazardous Substances**

**8.31** Within the Plan area there are a number of notifiable hazardous substance installations, including high pressure pipelines and major hazard sites. Whilst these are subject to stringent controls under existing health and safety legislation it is considered prudent to control the kinds of development in the immediate vicinity of such installations, or where proposed new development would result in an additional safety hazard.

**8.32** Applicants should have regard to Planning Advice for Developments near Hazardous Installations (PADHI) which provides the Health and Safety Executive's advice on land use planning near hazardous installations. The aim of this is to manage population growth close to such sites to mitigate the consequences of a major accident should one occur. When determining applications for development around major hazards the Council will consult with the Health and Safety Executive.

## **Policy CM 6 - Cemetery and Burial Grounds Provision**

Proposals for the development of new cemetery or burial grounds or extensions to existing sites will be assessed against the following criteria:

1. the site is in an appropriate location, away from flood risk and with suitable ground conditions;
2. the use of the site and its operation is acceptable in terms of impact on adjoining uses;
3. the design approach, including the layout and any proposed landscaping act to minimise any adverse impact s on the landscape and/or townscape; and
4. there is a clear rationale for the size of the site proposed, including all necessary ancillary elements.

## **Justification**

**8.33** This policy will enable the delivery of cemetery grounds/burial grounds or the extension of existing facilities across the District to meet identified future needs. A stand alone policy is considered necessary given the specific nature of this land use. The policy sets out a criteria based approach and highlights the key issues that will be required to be satisfied.

## 9. Historic Environment

### Objective

To conserve, enhance and promote Carlisle's heritage and important historic landscapes whilst ensuring that development proposals respect and enhance Carlisle's historic assets.

### Context

Carlisle possesses a rich historic environment comprising of many assets which range from international through to local significance. These assets are recognised as playing a key role in reinforcing the District's distinctive identity and sense of place, as well as underpinning a strong tourism offer, opportunities for education and the wider economy through job creation and environmental quality. The policies within this chapter build on the strategic direction at the outset of the Plan to promote and protect this finite heritage resource.

## **Policy HE 1 - Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site**

There is a presumption in favour of preserving the fabric, integrity and authenticity of archaeological sites that form part of the Outstanding Universal Value of Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site.

New development will not be permitted on currently open land on the line of the wall.

New development within the Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site and its Buffer Zone which enhances or better reveals its significance, or which accords with the approved Management Plan will be supported.

Proposed development in the Buffer Zone should be assessed for its impact on the sites Outstanding Universal Value, and particularly on key views both into and out of it. Development that would result in substantial harm will be refused.

Proposed development outside the boundaries of the Buffer Zone will, where appropriate, be carefully assessed for its effect on the sites Outstanding Universal Value, and any that would result in substantial harm will be refused.

### **Justification**

**9.1** A World Heritage Site (WHS) is a designated heritage asset of the highest significance. Accordingly such sites are afforded the strongest degree of protection through the planning system. The overriding objective of the planning system in this regard is to ensure that the Outstanding Universal Value of such sites is in no way undermined by development.

**9.2** Hadrian's Wall was designated a WHS by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in 1987 in recognition that it comprises the most complex and best preserved of the frontiers of the Roman Empire. It also forms part of a wider WHS designation known as the 'Frontiers of the Roman Empire'.

**9.3** The wall is an internationally known icon of the north of England and a unique part of the District's identity. It is valued by those who live and work in the area as part of their geographic and social identity, and visitors to the area. It has significant historical and archaeological value as well as being important from recreation, social and economic perspectives. The associated Hadrian's Wall Path National Trail and the Hadrian's Cycleway also provide significant access opportunities for large numbers of cyclists and walkers.

**9.4** The extent of the WHS designation is identified on the Policies Map, as too are the extents of the sites Buffer Zone.

**9.5** There is a statutory requirement to have and work to a five year rolling management plan for world heritage sites. The current plan for Hadrian's Wall covers the period 2008 – 2014 and provides an essential framework for the management of the site to ensure its preservation for present and future generations.

**9.6** The Buffer Zone for Hadrian's Wall WHS was established in the 1996 Management Plan as a means of helping to protect the sites Outstanding Universal Value. Within Carlisle this buffer highlights areas where non-scheduled archaeological remains can be given focussed protection, which reflects that those parts of Hadrian's Wall that are not scheduled are not formally included within the WHS designation. The buffer also serves to protect the visual setting of the site.

**9.7** It must equally be recognised that in certain circumstances proposed development out with of the Buffer Zone may potentially impact on the WHS and its setting. In these circumstances any potential impacts will need to be understood and will weigh heavily in determining such proposals.

**9.8** A formal Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) will be required for significant developments affecting Hadrian's Wall WHS and its buffer zone.

## **Policy HE 2 - Scheduled Ancient Monuments and Non-Designated Archaeological Assets**

Development will not be permitted where it would cause substantial harm to the significance of a scheduled monument, or other non designated site or assets of archaeological interest or their setting.

Proposals that affect non designated assets will be judged on the significance of the assets and the scale of likely harm to establish whether the development is acceptable in principle. The preferred approach will be to seek to avoid damage to such remains through their preservation in-situ. When in-situ preservation is not justified, the developer will be required to make adequate provision for excavation and recording and analysis of assets. Where possible and appropriate opportunities should also be taken to promote and interpret assets.

Where there is knowledge that there are archaeological remains, or where there are reasonable grounds for the potential of unknown assets of archaeological interest to be, proposals should be accompanied by an assessment of the significance of the asset and how it will be affected by the proposed development including where their significance, extent and state of preservation is not clear. The level of information required will be proportionate to the assets significance and to the scale of impact of the proposal, and may require, where necessary, archaeological desk-based assessment and field evaluation.

### **Justification**

**9.9** Scheduled and non-designated archaeological assets are valuable as a resource for research, education, leisure, tourism, and for their influence on perceptions of identity and sense of place. They are also a finite, irreplaceable and fragile resource and are vulnerable to a wide range of human activities and natural processes.

**9.10** The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 makes provision for the designation of scheduled monuments. Once included in the schedule, a monument (together with land in or on which it is situated, plus any land essential for its support and preservation) has legal protection.

**9.11** It is important to acknowledge that where a monument is not designated as a scheduled monument, that this does not necessarily imply that it is not important. As such proposals affecting important but non-scheduled monuments will also be subject to the provisions of this policy, as too will those affecting sites within the District which are known to be of, or likely to be of, archaeological interest but are not scheduled. This approach is entirely in keeping with national policy.

**9.12** The overriding objective of the policy is to ensure that both designated and non-designated assets are preserved in perpetuity. Where in-situ preservation is not deemed to be appropriate, adequate provision for excavation and recording and analysis will be expected. This information will need to be made publicly accessible in the County's Historic Environment Record and published appropriately if the results merit this. Where possible and appropriate opportunities should also be taken to implement interpretation schemes at or close to the site.

**9.13** Works affecting a scheduled monument will also require Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) which is separate from the statutory planning process. However, the two processes may run in parallel when the granting of planning permission is required. Development affecting the setting of a scheduled monument is dealt with wholly under the planning system and does not require SMC.

### **Policy HE 3 - Listed Buildings**

Listed buildings and their settings will be preserved and enhanced. Any harm to the significance of a listed building will only be justified where the public benefits of the proposal clearly outweighs the significance.

Applications for works to listed buildings including alterations or extensions, changes of use, or new development within the curtilage and/or its setting must have regard to:

1. the significance of the heritage asset, including its intrinsic architectural and historic interest and its contribution to the local distinctiveness and character of the District;
2. the setting of the asset and its contribution to the local scene;
3. the extent to which the proposed works would result in public benefits;
4. the present or future economic viability or function of the heritage asset; and
5. the preservation of the physical features of the building, in particular scale, proportions, character and detailing (both internally and externally) and of any windows and doorways.

Development within the locality of a listed building should preserve or enhance its character and setting, and be sympathetic in scale, character and materials.

The demolition or total loss of the significance of a listed building will only be permitted in exceptional circumstances where it can be clearly demonstrated that the tests set out in national policy can be met. Such proposals must also be accompanied by clear details of the proposed redevelopment.

## **Policy HE 4 - Historic Parks and Gardens**

Proposals that harm the significance of a designated park and garden or its setting will not be permitted.

Proposals affecting a historic park and garden or its setting should ensure that development does not detract from the enjoyment, layout, design character or appearance of that landscape, cause harm to key views from or towards these landscapes or, where appropriate, prejudice their future restoration.

Opportunities for their conservation and enhancement will be supported.

## **Policy HE 5 - Historic Battlefields**

Proposals affecting the Registered Historic Battlefield of the Battle of the Solway Moss will not be permitted where it adversely affects its significance including the historic, archaeological or landscape interest of the site including potential for interpretation. Any opportunities for interpretation will be supported.

### **Justification**

**9.14** A listed building is a building or structure that has been placed on the Statutory List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest. Inclusion on the list reflects that the importance of these assets are of national significance. Accordingly the City Council will give careful consideration to development proposals which affect a listed building or its setting. The overriding objective of doing so is to ensure that the character and setting of listed buildings is preserved.

**9.15** The setting of a listed building will vary greatly and often extends well beyond the building's own curtilage to encompass a number of other properties and public space. Occasionally the setting may incorporate extensive areas of townscape and landscape. In urban areas it should be noted that the setting of listed buildings often owes its importance to the harmony produced by a particular grouping of buildings, and to the quality of spaces between them.

**9.16** Development proposals affecting listed buildings will be required to demonstrate an understanding of their significance and show how proposals will minimise any adverse impacts on the asset and its setting. This should be set out in the form of a Heritage Statement to support any application for planning or listed building consent.

**9.17** Listed buildings in keeping with other heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource which should be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance. The destruction of historic buildings is very seldom necessary for reasons of 'good planning', and is more often the result of neglect, or of failure to make imaginative efforts to find

new uses for such buildings or to incorporate them into new development. Accordingly permission will not be given for development proposals involving the demolition of a listed building without clear and convincing evidence that all reasonable efforts have been made to sustain existing uses or find viable new uses, in accordance with the tests set out in national policy regarding the loss of heritage assets. In addition any proposed redevelopment must be able to demonstrate that substantial public benefits would clearly outweigh the loss resulting from demolition.

**9.18** The District contains several parks and gardens of visual and/or historic interest. These include the grounds of Corby Castle, which are listed in English Heritage's Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest. English Heritage also hold a Register of Historic Battlefields of Special Historic Interest which includes an area of land within the District, close to the settlement of Longtown, identified as being the site of the Battle of the Solway Moss. The significance of these assets will be protected and unless development proposals affecting them and their settings are consistent with the preservation or enhancement of their character, historical significance and appearance they will not be permitted.

### **Policy HE 6 - Locally Important Heritage Assets**

Throughout Carlisle District there are a number of buildings and structures of historic and architectural significance that, whilst not statutorily protected, help create the locally distinctive character of the area. The Council recognises the positive contribution these structures make to streetscape and/or landscape and will therefore designate such assets through the Local List to strengthen the presumption in favour of their retention when considering development proposals.

Development which would remove, harm or undermine the significance of a locally listed asset, or its contribution to the character of the area, will only be permitted where robust evidence can demonstrate that the public benefits of the development would clearly outweigh the harm.

A number of buildings on the local list have also been included on the basis that together, and sometimes alongside statutory listed heritage assets, they make a particularly strong and positive contribution to the 'townscape' character of an area. These 'key townscape frontages' are identified on the Policies Map. Development proposals which would erode the significance of these frontages will be resisted.

Only in exceptional circumstances will the loss of a locally listed asset be permitted. Where this is the case the following may be required:

1. an appropriate level of survey and recording which may also include archaeological excavation;
2. provision of replacement buildings of comparable quality and design; and

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| 3. the salvage and reuse within the replacement development of special features. |
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## **Justification**

**9.19** Across the District there can be pressure for redevelopment potentially resulting in the loss of unlisted structures that whilst not of national importance, (and therefore not eligible for inclusion on the statutory register of Listed Buildings) may be of local heritage or townscape significance. This reflects that many of these structures make an important contribution to the streetscape and/or landscape of a particular area, or that they are of local historic or architectural interest.

**9.20** The Council is committed to maintaining a list of such assets which is to be known as the list of locally important heritage assets or the 'Local List'. The list will recognise those structures which play an essential role in protecting and reinforcing a sense of local character, distinctiveness and identity, or which have significant local historic connections. The local list will continue to be added to and monitored against assessment criteria guided by English Heritage's Good Practice Guide for Local Listings, to ensure a consistent approach is applied in the identification and management of Carlisle's local heritage assets of significance. The most up to date list will be published on the Council's website.

**9.21** A number of locally listed heritage assets have been listed on the basis of their collective value as part of a 'key townscape frontage'. These frontages are identified on the Policies Map.

**9.22** There will be a presumption against development proposals which would result in substantial harm or the loss of any assets included on the local list, or which erode the significance of key townscape frontages.

## **Policy HE 7 - Conservation Areas**

Any new development and/or alterations to buildings in conservation areas should preserve or enhance the special character and appearance of the conservation area. Specifically proposals should:

1. seek to harmonise with their surroundings and be sympathetic to the setting, scale, density and physical characteristics of the conservation area;
2. preserve or enhance features which contribute positively to the area's character or appearance, in particular the design, massing and height of the building should closely relate to adjacent buildings and should not have an unacceptable impact on the townscape or landscape;
3. not have an unacceptable impact on the historic street patterns/boundaries, roofscape, skyline and setting of the conservation area, important open spaces or significant views into, out of and within the area;
4. not, other than as a last resort, result in demolition and redevelopment behind retained facades;
5. wherever practicable, draw on a local pallet of materials to reinforce the distinctiveness of an area;
6. retain individual features of interest e.g. doorways, windows, shopfronts, garden walls, railings, cobbled or flagged forecourts, sandstone kerbs, trees and hedges etc. Where this is not possible or practical any replacement should match the original; and
7. not generate a significant increase in traffic movements, heavy vehicles or excessive parking demands where these would be prejudicial to the character of the conservation area.

Proposals to utilise vacant land for car parking for interim or longer term use within conservation areas, will be resisted except in exceptional circumstances.

Development which would result in harm to a public or private open space that contributes positively to the character of a conservation area will be permitted only where this harm is outweighed by the public benefits of the proposals.

There will be a presumption in favour of the retention of buildings and/or features which make a positive contribution to the special character and appearance of a conservation area. Demolition or other substantial loss of these assets will only be permitted where it can be clearly demonstrated that the tests set out in national policy can be met. Such proposals must also be accompanied by clear details of the proposed redevelopment.

## Justification

**9.23** Carlisle City and parts of the wider District have evolved organically over centuries to become areas of special architectural and historic interest. This is reflected in many of the rural settlements and parts of the urban area being designated as conservation areas.

**9.24** The Council will continue to review existing and designate new conservation areas to ensure that the areas continue to justify their conservation areas status through their special architectural and historic interest thus ensuring the concept of conservation is not devalued through the inclusion of areas lacking special merit. In order to promote the enhancement of conservation areas the City Council will carry out appraisals for each area, highlighting its special characteristics as well as any existing problems and make suggestions regarding their solution. A series of management plans for each conservation area will also, as far as resources allow, be prepared setting out the way in which development pressure and neglect will be managed to ensure the specific character of each area is maintained.

**9.25** There are many opportunities for the enhancement of conservation areas and these should be taken wherever possible. For example, the repair and refurbishment of buildings, revitalising vacant and underused buildings, or the carrying out of tree planting and paving works and other public realm improvements. Development proposals in conservation areas should be of high design quality and should be developed to complement and enhance their context.

**9.26** Planning permission for redevelopment proposals involving the demolition of an unlisted building in a conservation area will only be given if such proposals accord with the tests set out in national policy relating to the loss of heritage assets and furthermore are in detail. This latter requirement seeks to avoid the situation of derelict gap sites appearing in conservation areas in advance of development proposals being drawn up.

## 10. Green Infrastructure

### Objective

To protect, enhance and increase the provision of the green and blue infrastructure across the District to create and maintain multifunctional, interconnected and attractive recreational and ecological networks for the benefit of residents, businesses, visitors and the wider natural environment.

### Context

Green infrastructure is a broad concept that put simply refers to the District's collective network of green spaces and environmental features. Coverage ranges from individual components such as street trees through to strategically planned parks and open spaces and even the rolling, open landscapes of the rural area.

The policies in this chapter aim to deliver the objectives of the Carlisle Green Infrastructure Strategy: The Big Green City, which recognises the fundamental role green infrastructure and the natural environment play in creating an identity for the District and their contribution to creating a successful place where people want to live and work.

The aim of the policy framework is to protect and enhance green infrastructure assets and the functions they perform, ultimately for the sake of their own natural value, but also through recognition of the many wider social and economic benefits they perform, including the opportunities they present for positively improving the health and wellbeing of the population; for sustainable travel; for mitigating and adapting to climate change and for their amenity value. Furthermore the framework seeks to secure qualitative improvements and to connect areas of fragmentation in order to create a continuous right of way network and integrated ecological system throughout the District and beyond.

## **GI 1 - Landscapes**

All landscapes are valued for their intrinsic character and will be protected from excessive, harmful or inappropriate development, particularly those areas less able to accommodate significant change. Where the opportunity arises, measures should be taken to enhance or restore valued landscapes.

Proposals for development will be assessed against the criteria presented within the Cumbria Landscape Guidance and Toolkit (or successor documents) with regard to a particular Landscape Character Area's key characteristics, local distinctiveness and capacity for change. The relevant landscape features described within the toolkit should be reflected in the detailed design of individual sites.

Landscapes valued for their intrinsically dark skies, such as the area around Kershope Forest in the rural north-east of the District, will be protected from the adverse impact of artificial light pollution.

### **Justification**

**10.1** The District is characterised by high quality and diverse landscapes from the remote upland moors and forests in and around Bewcastle, which offer some of the most intrinsically dark skies in Europe, to the lowland river valleys and farmland around Carlisle, all of which are valued and worthy of some degree of protection and enhancement. There are also two Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) within the District – the Solway Coast AONB and the North Pennines AONB.

**10.2** In 2011, Cumbria County Council, in association with the Cumbrian District planning authorities, produced the landscape guidance and toolkit for the whole of Cumbria. This toolkit provides decision makers with a means to assess the impacts of a development on any of the different landscape character areas found across Cumbria. The core principle is that all landscapes matter, not just those that form part of national designations. Every landscape character area is important and, whilst some may be more sensitive to change than others, the planning process should seek to protect all landscapes from harmful development. It is important to note, however, that this does not mean that development which incurs changes to landscapes should be resisted; rather that new development should be appropriate to its surroundings and be suitably accommodated within the landscape.

**10.3** The policy also seeks to limit the impact of light pollution from artificial light on local amenity, intrinsically dark landscapes. Northumberland National Park and Kielder Water & Forest Park have been designated a Gold Tier Dark Sky Park, one of the largest in Europe. As Carlisle District bounds these areas, it is important that planning policy preserves the dark sky status on the periphery of the park. Whilst every effort to reduce light pollution should be made across the District, particular care should be taken in the

areas north of Gilsland up and around Kershope Forest and Bewcastle. Under no circumstances should lights that beam light upwards or which would allow excess light to seep into the night sky be permitted in these areas.

## **Policy GI 2 – Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty**

Development proposals within the North Pennines or Solway Coast AONBs must conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the areas. Natural beauty includes landform and geology, plants and animals, landscape features and the history of human settlement. Development in the AONBs will be expected to protect the special characteristics and landscape quality of the areas and ensure that:

1. The scale, siting and design of the proposal is appropriate to the landscape setting; and
2. Existing landscape features are incorporated in a way which preserves or enhances the character of the area and, where appropriate, mitigates the effects of the development.

Development in both AONBs must ensure that it is in accordance with the objectives of the AONB Management Plans. Proposals within the Solway Coast AONB will be expected to have regard to the Solway Coast AONB Landscape Character Assessment.

Planning permission will only be given for major development in exceptional circumstances and where it can be demonstrated to be in the public interest. Such developments will be considered against national policy.

### **Justification**

**10.4** Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) are designated under the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act (2000). They are designated in order to conserve and enhance an area's natural beauty (which includes landform and geology, plants and animals, landscape features, and the rich history of human settlement over the centuries). The CROW Act also introduces the duty of local authorities to prepare management plans for AONBs within their boundaries.

**10.5** Whilst aiming to ensure that development conserves and enhances the natural beauty of the AONBs, account should be taken of the needs of agriculture, forestry, other rural industries and of the economic and social needs of local communities. Promoting recreation is not an objective of AONB designation. However, the demand for recreation can be met so far as this is consistent with the conservation of natural beauty and the needs of agriculture, forestry and other uses.

**10.6** There are two AONBs in the District; The Solway Coast and the North Pennines. Both AONBs have adopted and up to date Management Plans. Proposals for

development that are in line with or actively working towards delivering the objectives and outcomes of the Solway Coast and North Pennines AONB Management Plans will be considered favourably. A Landscape Character Assessment has been carried out for the Solway Coast AONB, which should be used when assessing the potential landscape impact of a scheme. The core principle of this document is that all landscapes within the AONB are important and, whilst some may be more sensitive to change than others, the planning process should seek to protect all landscapes within the AONB from harmful development. It is important to note, however, that this does not mean that development which incurs changes to landscapes should be resisted; rather that new development should be appropriate to its surroundings and be suitably accommodated within the landscape.

**10.7** Two adopted Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) provide detailed planning policy guidance within the North Pennines AONB (Planning Guidelines SPD and the AONB Building Design Guide). Appropriate development, in line with the aims and guidance in these documents, will be supported.

**10.8** Protection of the landscape and scenic beauty of AONBs is given great weight when considering development proposals in these areas. Only in exceptional circumstances should major development be approved within an AONB and only when it can be demonstrated that the development is in the public or national interest.

## **Policy GI 3 – Biodiversity & Geodiversity**

Biodiversity assets across the District will be protected and, where possible, enhanced. All proposals for development should protect and (where possible) enhance any priority habitats, European and nationally protected species, and priority species as defined in the England, Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006). Development proposals should also maintain and (where appropriate) enhance any recognised geodiversity assets identified in the Local Geodiversity Action Plan for Cumbria which may be affected by the development.

When considering planning applications and the need to conserve and enhance biodiversity, the following principles apply:

- 1) permission for development will be refused if significant harm resulting from development cannot be avoided, adequately mitigated or, as a last resort, compensated for;
- 2) proposals where the primary objective is to conserve or enhance biodiversity will be approved;
- 3) the incorporation and integration of wildlife corridors and other habitats in and around developments sites will be required, wherever the opportunity arises;
- 4) species appropriate provision will be sought on development sites to encourage an increase in biodiversity; and
- 5) development which would result in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats, including ancient woodland and the loss of aged or veteran trees found outside ancient woodland will be refused unless the need for, and the benefits of, the development in that location clearly outweigh the loss.

### Internationally Designated Sites:

Internationally designated sites identified under the Natura 2000 network (European Sites) which consist of Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Areas (SPA) and Ramsar Sites will be afforded the highest levels of protection, as they are of exceptional importance in respect of rare, endangered or vulnerable natural habitats and species.

Development which is likely to have a significant effect on the integrity of such sites, and is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site will be resisted unless an overriding public interest can be demonstrated and no alternative solutions are available and necessary compensatory measures are taken to ensure that the overall coherence of Natura 2000 is protected. Proposals which may have an impact upon a Natura 2000 site must be accompanied by a Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA). Where the HRA identifies the need for an Appropriate Assessment, the presumption in favour of sustainable development will not apply.

### Nationally Designated Sites:

Any proposal which is likely to have an adverse effect on the special interest features of a Site Of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) will only be permitted where the benefits of the development clearly outweigh both the impacts that the development is likely to have on the special interest features of the site, and any broader impacts on the national network of SSSIs.

Locally Designated Sites:

Local wildlife designations such as County Wildlife Sites, Local Nature Reserves and Ancient Woodlands, as well as Regionally Important Geological/Geomorphological Sites (RIGGS) and other, locally important and irreplaceable habitats including lowland raised mires, lowland valley mires and ancient meadow sites will be protected from development which would result in the loss or deterioration of the site, unless the need for, and benefits of, the development in that location clearly outweigh the loss.

Species and habitats surveys should be provided where the potential to impact upon bio- or geodiversity exists. Species and habitats surveys must be carried out at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Mitigation:

Where the need for mitigation or compensatory measures has been identified, this will be secured, through appropriate habitat creation, restoration or enhancement on site or elsewhere via planning conditions, agreements or obligations.

## **Justification**

**10.9** The Plan aims to promote the preservation, restoration and re-creation of priority habitats, ecological networks and the recovery of priority species populations. The protection of geological conservation interests will also be considered in response to new development proposals. It is the duty of both the Local Planning Authority and the potential developer/landowner alike to ensure every effort is taken to protect and enhance biodiversity as part of new development.

**10.10** This policy sets out a clear hierarchy for the protection of important wildlife and nature conservation designations, which have also been identified on the Policies Map. It should be recognised that many of these designations do not stop at the District's boundary. Biodiversity should be planned for at a landscape-scale, across local authority boundaries, through cross-working initiatives with neighbouring authorities and other key stakeholders.

**10.11** Any development likely to have a significant adverse effect on sites protected under the Birds and Habitats Directives would not be sustainable under the terms of the presumption in favour of sustainable development. If development is proposed on an internationally protected site, consent may only be granted if no suitable, less harmful alternative sites or solutions are available and an over-riding need, as defined in

Regulation 62 (2) of the 2010 Habitats Regulations (as amended), can be demonstrated.

**10.12** The Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre has drawn up a list of key species and habitats for the county, detailing how they should be protected, preserved and enhanced. Key and endangered species present within Carlisle include:

- bats (all species)
- red squirrel
- water vole
- hen harrier
- reptiles (all native species)
- otter
- barn owl
- pink-footed geese
- barnacle geese
- whooper swan
- song thrush
- great crested newt.

**10.13** It is a criminal offence to harm or disturb protected species, including the destruction of nests, roosts and dens. As such, the protection of these species should be given a high priority within planning policy. Further to this, principle species as listed in Section 41 of the England NERC Act (2006) will also be strictly protected.

**10.14** The extent of important habitats across the District has been mapped by the Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre (CBDC) team based at Tullie House Museum. Key habitat is important to protecting and enhancing biodiversity, and can be important to animal species beyond the key protected species listed above. Its loss should be prevented. Where resources allow the Council may, in consultation with Natural England, the Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre and other relevant stakeholders, identify sites of significant biodiversity value or for the restoration and/or creation of new habitat to assist in revitalising key species within the District. Such sites will be protected from inappropriate development. Applicants are encouraged to access data from the CBDC to inform their planning application and/or any ecological surveys they are required to produce.

**10.15** There are also two Local Nature Partnerships (LNPs) currently operating within the plan area that have been established to provide local support and expertise on natural environment issues. The Council will continue to engage with both the Cumbria and the Northern Upland Chain LNPs and will actively consult with them on planning applications involving biodiversity and geodiversity issues.

## **Policy GI 4 – Public Open Space**

### Development affecting Public Open Space

Within areas of Public Open Space, proposals that relate to and complement the existing leisure use, or would be ancillary to it (such as changing rooms for sports pitches), and are appropriate in character and scale to the surroundings, will generally be acceptable. Development that would result in a partial or total loss of, an area of Public Open space to non-sport or recreation uses, or would otherwise detract from the role and function an open space is valued for (be it visual amenity, noise attenuation, or other community use), will not be permitted unless:

1. an up-to-date needs assessment has been completed and clearly shows a surplus of open spaces within a given locality;
2. it can be demonstrated that alternative provision of the same or greater size, quality and accessibility will be provided nearby;
3. development of a small part of the area of open space would enable investment to improve the quality of the rest of the site;
4. there is a strong and justifiable social or economic need for development and the open space is otherwise of low quality and has little community value; or
5. statutory obligations have been fulfilled if it is proposed to dispose of statutory open space (such as statutory allotment land).

### Public Open Space within new development

New housing developments of more than 20 dwellings will be required to include informal space for play and general recreational or amenity use on site according to the size of the proposal. The developer will be required to ensure that appropriate measures are put in place for the future management and maintenance of such spaces. On smaller housing sites, where on site provision is not appropriate the developer may be required to make commuted payments towards the upgrading of open space provision in the locality, especially if a deficit has been identified.

All new dwellings should have safe and convenient access to high quality open space, capable of meeting a range of recreational needs. Where deficits are identified, new development will be expected to contribute towards the upgrading of an existing open space to improve its accessibility or the creation of a new one within the immediate locality.

Standards for open space provision will be informed by an assessment of need and demand for the various types of open space, ensuring there is an adequate supply of accessible and high quality spaces across the District. The Council's Playing Pitch

Strategy (2013) (or successor documents) will be used to inform decisions for proposals involving or impacting upon sports pitches.

## **Justification**

**10.16** In line with national policy, existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

- an assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land to be surplus to requirements;
- the loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or
- the development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the needs for which clearly outweigh the loss.

**10.17** The NPPF highlights the importance of having an open space needs assessment as part of the evidence base for the Local Plan. A needs assessment is vital in identifying both deficits and surpluses of particular open space types across the District. Data regarding the need and demand for sports pitches and grounds is set out in the Playing Pitch Strategy (May 2013). Further work will be carried out to assess the need and demand for other types of open space. Such an assessment will identify areas of both surpluses and deficits in open space provision, and will also attempt to anticipate how demands for new areas of recreational land will grow over the course of the plan period. In advance of this work, applicants can conduct a needs assessment to support any application. Such assessment must be conducted using an appropriate methodology that has been agreed by the Council.

**10.18** Open space includes:

- parks
- gardens
- areas of trees and woodland
- natural and semi-natural areas
- amenity green space
- playing fields, including artificial grass pitches
- play areas
- outdoor provision for teenagers and young people
- allotments
- cemeteries and churchyards.

**10.19** An audit of open space across the District was completed in the 2005, though this now needs updating it can still be considered indicative of provision.

**10.20** In some cases, where local deficits in open space provision exist, contributions may be sought from new development. However, the establishment of a new area of open space may not always be appropriate within a development site or land nearby may not be available to be used as open space. In these cases a developer may be asked to contribute to upgrading existing local space to improve either its quality or accessibility. This could involve planting, path laying, new play equipment, new foot/cycle paths connecting the space to the proposed development, or other improvements recommended by the Council. Contributions to open space – be they either the creation of a new site or the upgrading of an existing – should be made in consultation with the Council’s Green Spaces team to ensure any work is in line with their strategies and plans, particularly the Playing Pitch Strategy (and successor documents).

**10.21** New housing development will be expected to set aside informal space for play and general recreation, depending on the size of the proposal. These sites will be dedicated as Public Open Space, and may be expected to provide appropriate equipment, or less formal opportunities for natural play and space for games. Such areas must be designed to avoid conflict with residents through issues with noise, but must also remain overlooked to ensure the safety of children using the site and discourage anti social behaviour.

**10.22** In the urban area there is currently in the region of 3.6 hectares of land per 1,000 population of informal and formal grassed, wooded or landscaped land and small amenity areas of public open space, and 1.86 hectares of playing pitches per 1,000 population. The Council will ensure that any new development does not lead to a reduction in these standards.

### **Policy GI 5 - Public Rights of Way**

New development will be expected to ensure that all public footpaths, bridleways, cycleways and other rights of way are retained. Development proposals that would affect existing rights of way will not be permitted unless an alternative route is available, or can be made available, which is safe, attractive, is well integrated with the existing network and is not significantly longer than the original route.

Where opportunities arise, local improvements and extensions to the rights of way network may be sought as part of development proposals.

### **Justification**

**10.23** Carlisle District has an extensive system of public footpaths, cycleways and bridleways which form an integral component of the District’s Green Infrastructure.

These rights of way are a valuable resource fulfilling essential leisure, wildlife and transport functions, and as such will be protected and where possible enhanced.

**10.24** Development proposals likely to impact upon a right of way should aim to maintain existing routes unchanged. Only if this can be demonstrated to be impossible or impractical should the rerouting of the right of way be considered. When an alternative route is proposed as part of an application for new development, the application will only be approved once it is clear that the route has been (or will be) established, and that the route is safe, convenient, of similar or better quality to the original, well integrated with the development and its setting, and not significantly longer than the original route.

**10.25** Development proposals may sometimes present opportunities to provide new rights of way or improve existing ones in order to bring them to a standard suitable for use by all. Agreement will be sought between the Council and the developer(s) to explore such opportunities should they arise.

## **Policy GI 6 - Trees and Hedgerows**

Proposals for new development should provide for the protection and integration of existing trees and hedges where they contribute positively to a locality, and/or are of specific natural or historic value. Planning conditions requiring protective fencing around trees to be retained, in line with the current and most up to date British Standard: BS 5837 will be used to ensure adequate protection of valued trees during construction.

### Tree Surveys:

Where trees and hedges are present on a development site a survey, in accordance with the current and most up to date British Standard: BS 5837 must be carried out by a qualified arboriculturist and presented as part of the planning application.

Layouts will be required to provide adequate spacing between existing trees and buildings, taking into account the existing and future size of the trees, and their impact both above and below ground.

Proposals which would result in the unacceptable or unjustified loss of existing trees or hedges or which do not allow for the successful integration of existing trees or hedges identified within the survey will be resisted.

### Ancient Woodland:

Development which would result in the loss of any areas of recognised ancient woodland, or plantations on ancient woodland sites, will normally be resisted unless strong, overriding social or economic benefits or need can be demonstrated that clearly outweighs the potential harm.

### Landscaping and Replanting:

Any proposals for onsite landscaping schemes should seek to incorporate the planting of native tree species where practicable. Where trees are lost due to new development, the Council will require developers to replant trees of an appropriate species on site where it is practicable to do so, or to contribute via planning conditions and/or legal agreement, to the replanting of trees in an appropriate, alternative location. The extent of replanting required will be representative of the age, number and size of trees, or length of hedgerows, originally lost.

All new development should also have regard to the current Carlisle Trees and Development Supplementary Planning Document.

### **Justification**

**10.26** Trees and hedges add considerable value to our urban and rural environments, and are natural features in an ever-changing landscape. They can soften the impact of buildings and hard surfaces, contribute to the overall character of the development, help to hide unsightly views, provide shade, absorb noise and provide a screen from the wind. In addition, mature trees can give identity to an area, creating a real sense of place within communities.

**10.27** Ancient woodland and veteran trees found outside of ancient woodland will be protected, inline with the NPPF, as irreplaceable habitat. Development that would result in their loss or deterioration should not be approved, unless an overriding social or economic need or benefit would outweigh the loss.

**10.28** Carlisle City Council has adopted the Trees and Development Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). This document provides guidance on how trees and hedgerows should be incorporated into development schemes in a way that can both protect and enhance both the trees themselves as well as the overall natural quality of a development.

# 11. Monitoring and Implementation

**11.1** Monitoring is an integral part of the planning process and an important tool to help understand the wider social, environmental and economic issues affecting an area, and the key drivers of spatial change. The Local Plan needs to not only be able to respond to changing circumstances across the District over its intended duration, but to know when such a response is required. Fundamentally there also needs to be a way of measuring the effectiveness of policies and sites within the Local Plan, and of understanding progress towards meeting the Plan's strategic objectives and ultimately its vision. If it turns out that a policy is not doing what was intended, or if a site simply isn't being delivered, there needs to be a way of recognising this in order to instigate remedial actions. Such actions could include amending a policy, introducing guidance to aid its implementation, substituting a site or reviewing the evidence upon which the policy or site in question is founded.

**11.2** A monitoring framework has been devised for the Local Plan in order to enable the effectiveness of the policies and proposals within it to be monitored. This framework can be found at Appendix 2.

**11.3** For policies with clear outputs, for example in relation to housing delivery, there are specific targets in the monitoring framework against which it will be easy to see whether delivery is on track and therefore whether the appropriate policies and site proposals are proving effective. For policies dealing with specific matters such as design, heritage or landscape impact, but with no direct quantifiable outputs, monitoring of effectiveness to see whether the policy is working, whether it is delivering its underlying objectives, and what the significant effects of this are, will be carried out by looking in detail at what use is being made of the policy and importantly what outcomes, through reference to planning proposals and decisions, are being achieved. Data will be gathered on assessing, for example, how often a policy is used by Development Management in decision making, and the number of appeals upheld or dismissed and the reasons for this.

**11.4** In addition to making clear the objective for each individual policy within the Local Plan, and where relevant any targets related to this, the framework makes clear what indicators are to be employed for monitoring purposes relative to each policy. For each consideration is also afforded to what circumstances may trigger a review of performance and what remedial actions may be pursued as a consequence. The monitoring framework also identifies which Sustainability Appraisal (SA) objectives individual policies support.

**11.5** The results of monitoring will be reported annually within the Council's Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), through which the need to review any policy or proposal within the Local Plan will be raised. The AMR will also be the process through which any significant effects on the SA objectives are reported.

**11.6** The effectiveness of some policies and many of the proposals within the Local Plan will ultimately depend on the timely and co-ordinated delivery of new and upgrades to existing infrastructure. In this regard monitoring whether or not the delivery of infrastructure identified as necessary is keeping pace with development is of equal importance to understanding whether the Local Plan is on track to achieve its intended objectives and vision. This will be achieved through drawing on information within the Local Plan Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP), and reporting on this annually again through the process of the AMR. This reflects that the IDP is a 'living' document which will be updated as and when new information on investment in infrastructure or any pressures become known, or previously identified schemes are delivered.

**11.7** Finally both the implementation and monitoring of the effectiveness of the Local Plan will be supported through continued co-operation with a host of other public and private sector agencies and organisations. Such co-operation has helped to shape the Local Plan, in doing so ensuring that its vision is shared, and in this regard the Council consider that they have an excellent track record of meaningfully engaging with others particularly where to do so is mutually beneficial or in the public interest.

## 12. Glossary

*NOTE: This list is intended only to provide a general explanation of terms used in the Local Plan and does not constitute precise definitions in law.*

**Affordable housing** - Social rented, affordable rented and intermediate housing, provided to eligible households whose needs are not met by the market. Eligibility is determined with regard to local incomes and local house prices. Affordable housing should include provisions to remain at an affordable price for future eligible households or for the subsidy to be recycled for alternative affordable housing provision.

Social rented housing is owned by local authorities and private registered providers (as defined in section 80 of the Housing and Regeneration Act 2008), for which guideline target rents are determined through the national rent regime. It may also be owned by other persons and provided under equivalent rental arrangements to the above, as agreed with the local authority or with the Homes and Communities Agency.

Affordable rented housing is let by local authorities or private registered providers of social housing to households who are eligible for social rented housing. Affordable Rent is subject to rent controls that require a rent of no more than 80% of the local market rent (including service charges, where applicable).

Intermediate housing is homes for sale and rent provided at a cost above social rent, but below market levels subject to the criteria in the Affordable Housing definition above. These can include shared equity (shared ownership and equity loans), other low cost homes for sale and intermediate rent, but not affordable rented housing.

Homes that do not meet the above definition of affordable housing, such as “low cost market” housing, may not be considered as affordable housing for planning purposes.

**Affordable Housing Economic Viability Assessment (AHEVA)**- An assessment of the costs of any requirements likely to be applied to development, focussing on the implications of developers having to provide affordable housing and to ensure that planning policies would not render schemes unviable.

**Air Quality Management Area (AQMA)** - Where a national air quality standard or objective is not likely to be met the relevant Council is required to declare an Air Quality Management Area and produce an Action Plan outlining how they intend to improve the air quality within that area.

**Allocations of Land** - the allocation of sites for specific purposes including housing, employment, retail and open spaces.

**Amenity** - A positive element or elements that contribute to the overall character or enjoyment of an area. For example open land, trees, historic buildings and the inter-relationship between them, or less tangible factors such as tranquillity.

**Amenity Open Space** -The Local Plan identifies areas of land within settlements which make so significant a contribution to their character and to the amenity and enjoyment of nearby residents and the public at large as to warrant long term retention as open space. Such designation does not signify that such areas are available for public access and use although this may be the case in some instances. Rather, it indicates an intention that proposals for built development which would encroach on identified areas will not normally be granted planning permission.

**Amplitude Modulation** - A technique used in electronic communication, most commonly for transmitting information via a radio carrier wave.

**Ancient Woodland** - Natural England is responsible for compiling the inventory of ancient woodlands in Cumbria. The term is applied to woodlands which have existed from at least medieval times to the present day without being cleared for uses other than timber production. The inventory includes ancient semi-natural woodland which is defined as woodland which does not originate from planting, the distribution of species generally reflecting natural variations in site and soil.

**Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)** - Monitoring report recording the delivery of policies in the adopted plan.

**Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)** - AONBs are relatively large areas of land designated under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 by the Countryside Commission. The primary objective of designation is conservation of the natural beauty of the landscape. AONBs differ from National Parks in that the promotion of recreation is not an objective of their designation, though these areas should be used to meet the demand for recreation so far as that is consistent with the conservation of natural beauty, and the needs of agriculture, forestry and other uses.

**Area of Special Control of Advertisements** - Part IV of the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) Regulations 1992 enables a Local Planning Authority to make Areas of Special Control Orders for submission to the Secretary of State for approval. Most of the Plan area has been designated as an Area of Special Control, excluding the settlements of Carlisle, Brampton and Longtown. Within Areas of Special Control the display of advertisements with deemed consent (i.e. without the need for the formal approval of the Local Planning Authority) is subject to greater limitation.

**Backland** - Land (usually landlocked) that lies to the rear of an existing property that often, but not always, fronts onto a road. Such land may be within the existing curtilage of a house, or adjacent to the curtilage.

**Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land** - To assist in assessing land quality, the then Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food has developed a method of classifying agricultural land by grade. There are five grades with grade 3 divided into two grades (3a and 3b). The best and most versatile agricultural land falls into grades 1,2 and 3a. This land ranges from excellent (grade 1) to good quality (grade 3a).

**Biodiversity** - Refers to the variety of plants and animals and other living things in a particular area or region. It encompasses habitat diversity, species diversity and genetic diversity. Biodiversity has a value in its own right and has social and economic value for human society.

**Blue Infrastructure** - The network of aquatic components that lie within and between the city, towns and villages which provide multiple social, economic and environmental benefits. The physical components of blue infrastructure include waterways such as rivers, streams, marshes and lakes.

**Brownfield Land** - Previously-developed land which is or was occupied by a permanent structure, including the curtilage of the developed land and any associated fixed surface infrastructure.

**Business Park** - high quality employment sites aimed at light industrial and office developments, particularly those related to high-tech industries.

**City Centre** - City centres are the highest level of centre identified in development plans. In terms of hierarchies, they will often be a regional centre and will serve a wide catchment (as is the case in Carlisle). The centre may be very large, embracing a wide range of activities and may be distinguished by areas which may perform different main functions.

**City Centre Development Framework (CCDF)** - A development framework for Carlisle City Centre which sets out principles to guide the consideration of future development opportunities and interventions in the City Centre to 2030.

**Climate Change** - Term used to describe changes in weather patterns which threaten our environment and the way we live our lives both now and in the future. It is a coherent and internally consistent description of the change in climate by a certain time in the future, using a specific modelling technique and under specific assumptions about the growth of greenhouse gas and other emissions and about other factors that may influence climate in the future. Climate change is sometimes referred to as global warming because it is currently concerned with rises in global temperatures.

**Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)** - A local charge on most new developments. The money raised will be spent by the local authority on infrastructure. The justification

for the charge is that new buildings have an impact on infrastructure need (i.e. new roads and schools), and should therefore contribute towards that provision.

**Comparison Shopping** - Comparison retailing is the provision of items not obtained on a frequent basis. These include clothing, footwear, household and recreational goods.

**Conditions (or 'planning condition')** - Requirements attached to a planning permission to limit, control or direct the manner in which a development is carried out.

**Convenience shopping** - Convenience retailing is the provision of everyday essential items, including food, drinks, newspapers/ magazines and confectionery.

**Conservation** - The process of maintaining and managing change to a heritage asset in a way that sustains and where appropriate enhances its significance.

**Conservation Areas** - 'areas of special architectural or historic interest the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance'. Such areas are designated by Local Planning Authorities under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. Provisions relating to conservation areas are contained in the Act. The Local Planning Authority has additional powers over the demolition of buildings and the removal of trees within such areas, and certain permitted development rights are either reduced or removed.

**County Wildlife Sites** - Cumbria Wildlife Trust designates some sites, which do not meet the criteria set out by Natural England for SSSI's, as Wildlife Sites. They contain examples of important habitats with uncommon species of plants and animals.

**Critical Drainage Areas** - areas with drainage problems and therefore at risk from surface water flooding, that have been identified as such by the Environment Agency.

**Cumbria Landscape Character Guidance and Toolkit** - a document which maps and describes the character of different landscape types across the County and provides guidance to help maintain their distinctiveness.

**Cumulative Effects** - The state in which a series of repeated actions have an effect greater than the sum of their individual effects; noted here especially in the location of wind turbines.

**Decentralised energy** - Local renewable energy and local low-carbon energy usually but not always on a relatively small scale encompassing a diverse range of technologies.

**Density** - The volume of development relative to the size of the site on which it occurs. From a housing perspective density is generally measured as the number of homes per Hectare of land.

**Designated Heritage Asset** - A World Heritage Site, Scheduled Monument, Listed Building, Protected Wreck Site, Registered Park and Garden, Registered Battlefield or Conservation Area designated as such under the relevant legislation.

**Development Management** - Development Management is the process by which development proposals in the form of planning applications, are considered and decided. It is a positive and proactive approach to shaping, considering, determining and delivering development proposals. It is led by the local planning authority (LPA), working closely with those proposing developments and other stakeholders.

**Duty to Cooperate** - The Localism Act 2011 introduced a Duty to Cooperate, which is designed to ensure that all of the bodies involved in planning work together on issues that are of bigger than local significance.

**Employment Land Review (ELR)** - to assess the demand for and supply of land for employment.

**Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)** - A process by which information about the environmental effects of a proposal are collected, and taken into account by the Planning Authority in forming their judgement about whether or not to grant planning consent. The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment etc.) Regulations 1999 as modified sets out the types of project for which an EIA is required.

**European Marine Sites (EMS)** - European Marine Sites (also known as Natura 2000 sites) are special Areas of Conservation (SACs) for habitats of European importance and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) for birds.

**Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)** - a process designed to ensure that a policy, project or scheme does not discriminate against any disadvantaged or vulnerable people.

**Evidence base** - A range of technical reports and studies that have been or are being prepared to support the development and implementation of policies and proposals in the Local Plan.

**Examination in Public** - This is the examination of a local plan document by an independent planning inspector acting on behalf of the Secretary of State.

**Flood Flows** - The natural distribution of water during a flood event.

**Flood Plain** - All land adjacent to a watercourse over which water flows or would flow, but for the presence of flood defences, in times of flood. The limits of the flood plain are defined by the peak water level of an appropriate return period event on the watercourse or at the coast. On rivers this will normally be the greater of the 1 in 100 year return period flood or the highest known water level. In coastal areas the 1 in 200 year return period flood or the highest known flood will be used.

**Flood Risk** - An expression of the combination of the flood probability or likelihood and the magnitude of the potential consequences of the flood event.

**Flood Risk Assessment (FRA)** - An assessment or test of the risk of flooding from river, tidal, coastal, groundwater and/or local sources conducted to meet the requirements of national policy and practice guidance. The FRA will provide a framework for robust and sustainable flood risk management solutions within (re)developing areas.

**General Permitted Development Order** - The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 prescribes many of the procedures for the determination of planning applications and details those forms of minor development which may be undertaken without the need for an application for planning permission.

**Geodiversity** - The range of rocks, minerals, fossils, soils and landforms.

**Greenfield** - Land on which no development has previously taken place unless the previous development was for agriculture or forestry purposes or, the remains of any structure or activity have since blended into the landscape.

**Green Infrastructure (GI)** - The network of natural environmental components and green spaces that lie within and between the city, towns and villages which provide multiple social, economic and environmental benefits. The physical components include parks, rivers, street trees, moorlands, green corridors, gardens and amenity spaces.

**Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA)** - Assessment of Gypsy and Traveller accommodation needs in order to ensure that the needs and wider demand of the Gypsy and Traveller communities for suitable accommodation can be considered and met equally and fairly alongside other sectors of the community.

**Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)** - HRA assesses the likely impacts of the possible effects of a plan's policies on the integrity of the Natura 2000 sites (including possible effects 'in combination' with other plans projects and programmes).

**Homes and Communities Agency (HCA)** - The Homes and Communities Agency is the national housing and regeneration agency for England. They provide investment for new affordable housing and to improve existing social housing, as well as for regenerating land. They are also the regulator for social housing providers in England.

**Health Impact Assessment (HIA)** - A combination of procedures, methods and tools by which a policy, program or project may be judged as to its potential effects on the health of a population, and the distribution of those effects within the population.

**Heritage Asset** - A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. Heritage asset includes designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing).

**Historic Environment** - All aspects of the environment resulting from the integration between people and places through time, including all surviving physical remains of past human activity, whether visible, buried or submerged, and landscaped and planted or managed flora.

**Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO)** - A House in Multiple Occupation as defined in the 1985 Housing Act is one that is occupied by persons who do not form a single household.

**Housing Need and Demand Study (HNDS)** - Also referred to as a Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA). The Assessment considers future housing requirements, in terms of the number of homes required to meet need and demand. It considers the mix of housing required, in both the affordable and market sectors. It also looks at the housing requirements of specific groups, including older people, Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) households, and those with support needs.

**Infrastructure** - A collective term for services such as roads, electricity, sewerage, water, education, health facilities, parks and recycling and refuse facilities.

**Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP)** - The IDP contains a list of all infrastructure needed to support sustainable growth, as set out in the Local Plan. Infrastructure projects are identified by location, cost and delivery timescale and funding.

**Key Townscape Frontage Buildings** - Key Townscape Frontage Buildings are primarily located within conservation areas and are defined as buildings that make a contribution to the character of a particular area. Such conservation areas include the City Centre, Botchergate, Longtown, Brampton and Dalston.

**Lifetime Homes** - A standard that has been developed to ensure that any home is flexible, adaptable and accessible and that there is added comfort, convenience and safety for tenants and visitors. Lifetime Homes criteria are based on 'Designing Lifetime Homes' produced by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation.

**Listed Building** - The Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, advised by English Heritage, compiles a list of buildings of 'special architectural or historic interest'.

Any material alteration to or demolition/part demolition of a listed building, whether external or internal will require an application for listed building consent.

**Localism Act** - Received Royal Assent in November 2011. In relation to Planning, the Act abolished Regional Strategies but introduced a duty for interested parties to co-operate in the preparation of development plans and introduced Neighbourhood Planning.

**Local Development Scheme (LDS)** - Provides information on how Carlisle City Council intends to produce its Local Plan. It sets out the planning policy documents that form the development plan for the Carlisle District area and their programme of preparation over a three year period.

**Local Distinctiveness** - The positive features of a place and its communities which contribute to its special character and sense of place.

**Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)** - Locally owned partnerships between local authorities and businesses which play a central role in determining local economic priorities and undertaking activities to drive economic growth and the creation of local jobs. Carlisle is part of the Cumbria LEP.

**Local Nature Reserves** - Local Nature Reserves may be established by Local Authorities under section 21 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949. They are habitats of local significance which can make a useful contribution both to nature conservation and to the opportunities for the public to learn more about and enjoy wildlife. Local nature reserves are predominantly ecological, but can also be established on geological sites.

### **Local Planning Authorities (LPAs)**

**Local Strategic Partnership (LSP)** - The Carlisle Partnership is a non-statutory, non-executive partnership bringing together different agencies to support each other and work effectively together on economic, community and environmental issues that matter to local people including crime, employment, education, health and housing. Their aim is to deliver sustainable economic, social and physical regeneration, improved public services, promotion of equality and inclusion, and improvements to the quality of life for local citizens, particularly those from deprived areas and disadvantaged groups. In order to achieve this, partners are required to assess local needs, plan services, set targets and monitor delivery.

**Local Transport Plan 3 (Draft) (LTP3)** - The Transport Act 2000 introduced a statutory requirement for local transport authorities (in Carlisle's case Cumbria County Council) to produce a Local Transport Plan (LTP) every five years and to keep it under review. It sets out the statutory framework for Local Transport Plans and policies.

**Main town centre uses:** Retail development (including warehouse clubs and factory outlet centres); leisure, entertainment facilities the more intensive sport and recreation uses (including cinemas, restaurants, drive-through restaurants, bars and pubs, night-clubs, casinos, health and fitness centres, indoor bowling centres, and bingo halls); offices; and arts, culture and tourism development (including theatres, museums, galleries and concert halls, hotels and conference facilities).

**Masterplan** - A type of planning brief outlining the preferred usage of land and the overall approach to the layout of a development, including the coordination of necessary infrastructure, to provide detailed guidance for subsequent planning applications.

**Natura 2000** - Natura 2000, created by the European Union, is a network made up of Special Protection Areas and Special Areas of Conservation. These designations form an internationally important network of wildlife sites.

**National Nature Reserve** - Areas of national and sometimes international importance which are owned or leased by Natural England or managed in accordance with their wishes. The essential characteristic of such areas is that they are primarily used for nature conservation.

**National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)** - The National Planning Policy Framework sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. It provides a framework within which local people and their accountable councils can produce their own distinctive local and neighbourhood plans, which reflect the needs and priorities of their communities.

**National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG)** - Technical guidance published by the Government to support the practical implementation of the NPPF and the plan -making process.

**Neighbourhood Development Plans** - Introduced by the Localism Act, 'Neighbourhood Planning' aims to give people greater ownership of plans and policies that affect their local area. It enables local people to put together ideas for development (relating to land-use or spatial matters) in their area via a "Neighbourhood Development Plan". Once adopted such plans form part of the statutory development plan.

**Open space** - All open space of public value, including not just land, but also areas of water (such as rivers, canals, lakes and reservoirs) which offer important opportunities for sport and recreation and can act as a visual amenity.

**Out of centre** - A location which is not in or on the edge of a designated retail centre but not necessarily outside the urban area.

**Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1)** - A National Policy Statement (NPS) which sets out national policy for energy infrastructure.

**Permitted Development** - The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 permits certain minor alterations and extensions to be undertaken without the need to apply for planning permission from the Local Planning Authority. Such development is known as permitted development.

**Planning Obligations (also known as s106 agreements – of the 1990 Town & Country Planning Act)** - Private agreements made between local authorities and developers and can be attached to a planning permission to make acceptable development which would otherwise be unacceptable in planning terms.

**Pitch (with regards to Gypsies and Travellers)** - An authorised area of land which is generally home to one Gypsy and Traveller household. There is no one-size-fits-all with regards to the precise size of a pitch but as a general guide an average family pitch must be capable of accommodating an amenity building, a large trailer and touring caravan (or two trailers), drying space for clothes, a lockable shed (for bicycles, wheelchair storage etc), parking space for two vehicles and a small garden area.

**Policies Map** - The Policies Map identifies geographically the adopted policies and proposals of the Local Plan.

**Primary Employment Areas** - Primary Employment Areas are designated when the predominant land use relates to employment. Also included within this designation is land that has planning permission and land allocated for employment use. Such areas are located within Carlisle, Longtown, Brampton and Dalston.

**Primary Leisure Area** - Primary Leisure Areas are the main focal points for leisure activities. Such locations include the Sands Centre, Tullie House, the Sheepmount, community centres, other areas of public open space and parkland as well as privately owned leisure facilities. Such areas should be retained.

**Primary Residential Areas** - Primary Residential Areas are housing areas within Carlisle, Longtown and Brampton. These areas are predominantly residential, and they contain a number of other uses normally acceptable in housing areas such as churches, small shops and public houses.

**Primary Shopping Area** - Primary Shopping Area contains all the important shopping streets and areas in the City Centre. All the major stores are included together with the streets with continuous shopping frontages and sites where shopping development is acceptable in principle. It also includes the main shopping streets in Brampton and Longtown.

**Public Realm** - This is the space between and within buildings that are publicly accessible, including streets, squares, forecourts, parks and open spaces.

**Ramsar Site** - Ramsar sites are wetlands of international importance, particularly as waterfowl habitats. Ramsar sites are listed by the Secretary of State. The provisions of the Ramsar Convention require the promotion of the conservation of the wetlands.

**Regionally Important Geological/Geomorphological Sites (RIGS)** - These are geological/geomorphological sites of local importance which complement the national network of geological SSSI's. The aim of designation is to maintain and enhance specific features of rock and landform, and the dynamic natural processes which create them.

**Register of Battlefields** - The Register of Battlefields identifies a limited number of areas of historic significance where important battles are sufficiently documented to be located on the ground. This register is compiled by English Heritage.

**Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest** - This is a register, produced by English Heritage, which identifies parks and gardens of visual and/or historic interest.

**Renewable and Low-carbon Energy** - Includes energy for heating and cooling as well as generating electricity. Renewable energy covers those energy flows that occur naturally and repeatedly in the environment – from the wind, the fall of water, the movement of the oceans, from the sun and also from biomass and deep geothermal heat. Low carbon technologies are those that can help reduce emissions (compared to conventional use of fossil fuels).

**Rural Exception Sites** - Small sites used for affordable housing in perpetuity where sites would not normally be used for housing. Rural exception sites seek to address the needs of the local community by accommodating households who are either current residents or who have an existing family or employment connection. Small numbers of market homes may be allowed, for example, where essential to enable the delivery of affordable units without grant funding.

**Rural Masterplanning** - Joint working with Parish Councils to establish the capacity for development within the rural area informed by community opinion.

**Scheduled Ancient Monument** - Nationally important monuments usually archaeological remains that enjoy greater protection against inappropriate development through the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979.

**Section 106 Agreement** - Planning Agreements (or 'Planning Obligations') are made under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. Agreements may be made between a Local Planning Authority and a land owner (often a developer) or may be entered into unilaterally by such persons. Agreements are usually employed to restrict the development or use of land in ways which cannot properly or conveniently be achieved by the imposition of conditions.

**Setting of a Heritage Asset** - The surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral.

**Significance of Heritage Assets** - The value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. That interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting.

**Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)** - Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 enables Natural England to designate areas of land which, by reason of their flora, fauna, or geological or physiographic features, it is in the national interest to conserve. To protect SSSI's from operations outside the scope of planning controls, Natural England specify to their owners and occupiers the operations which they consider to be harmful to their conservation interest. Local authorities have a responsibility under the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000 to take reasonable steps to further the conservation and enhancement of the features for which an SSSI has been notified.

**Small scale development** - 'Small scale', for the purposes of Policy IP8 (Planning Obligations) is defined as housing developments comprising of 10 units or less in the urban areas of Carlisle and Brampton, and housing developments comprising of five units or less in designated rural areas within the District. Designated rural areas are defined under section 157(1) of the Housing Act, and include both Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty in the District, and all of the rural parishes with the exception of Geltsdale. The exception to this definition will be, in accordance with national policy, when development in such areas, regardless of the number of units proposed, has a maximum combined gross floorspace of more than 1,000 sq m.

**Special Area of Conservation (SAC)** - Areas established under the EU Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora as contributing to the maintenance of a coherent Communitywide network of habitats called Natura 2000. SAC's are selected for their contribution to the survival of species and habitats of European importance. The areas proposed as SACs are also SSSI's.

**Special Protection Area (SPA)** - Areas established under the EC Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds in order to safeguard habitats of migrating birds and certain threatened species and thereby to conserve populations. All SPA's are also SSSI's.

**Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)** - Explains to the public how they will be involved in the preparation of local planning. It sets out the standards to be met by the authority in terms of community involvement.

**Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)** - A procedure (set out in the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004) which requires the formal environmental assessment of certain plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.

**Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA)** - The SFRA informs knowledge of flooding, refines the information on the Flood Map and determines variations in flood risk from all sources of flooding across and from their area.

**Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA)** - A technical study to inform planning policy relating to planning for housing. It also assists in the monitoring of whether there is an adequate supply of deliverable and developable housing land.

**Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA)** - See 'housing needs and demand study'.

**Sui Generis (Use Class)** - Certain uses do not fall within any use class and are considered 'sui generis'. Such uses include: theatres, hostels providing no significant element of care, scrap yards. Petrol filling stations and shops selling and/or displaying motor vehicles. Retail warehouse clubs, nightclubs, launderettes, taxi businesses, amusement centres and casinos.

**Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)** - Documents which add further detail to the policies in the Local Plan. They can be used to provide further guidance for development on specific sites, or on particular issues, such as design. Supplementary planning documents are capable of being a material consideration in planning decisions but are not part of the development plan.

**Sustainability Appraisal (SA)** - A statutory assessment undertaken on Local Plan's to identify and evaluate the impacts of a plan on the community (social), economy and environment.

**Sustainable Development** - The Bruntland Report in 1987 brought a new approach when it proposed that an ongoing balance could be struck between economic growth and the needs of the environment through the concept of sustainable development. A definition of this concept is 'development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs'. The NPPF identifies a presumption in favour of sustainable development.

**Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDs)** - A sequence of management practices and control structures designed to drain surface water in a more sustainable way than some conventional techniques. SUDS manage surface water on site as near to source as possible by slowing down the rate of run-off and treating it naturally through such design techniques as porous pavements, infiltration trenches and basins, french drains, swales

and passive treatment systems including filter strips, detention basins, retention ponds and wetlands. This approach will allow the release of good quality surface water into watercourses and the groundwater resource.

**Tree Preservation Order (TPO)** - Under Section 198 of the 1990 Act a Local Planning Authority may, in the interests of amenity, make provisions for the preservation of individual trees or woodlands. TPOs prohibit the cutting down, topping, lopping, uprooting, wilful damage or wilful destruction of trees without the prior consent of the Authority.

**Use Classes Order** - The Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987 (as amended) contains a number of Classes into which most uses of land or buildings fall. The change of use of land or buildings, from one class to another, normally requires planning permission. The change of use of land or buildings within a particular Class does not involve development requiring planning permission.

**Use Class A1 Shops** - Shops, retail warehouses, hairdressers, undertakers, travel and ticket agencies, post offices (but not sorting offices), pet shops, sandwich bars, showrooms, domestic hire shops, dry cleaners, funeral directors and internet cafes.

**Use Class A2 Financial and professional services** - Financial services such as banks and building societies, professional services (other than health and medical services) including estate and employment agencies and betting offices.

**Use Class A3 Restaurants and cafés** - For the sale of food and drink for consumption on the premises - restaurants, snack bars and cafes.

**Use Class A4 Drinking establishments** - Public houses, wine bars or other drinking establishments (but not night clubs).

**Use Class A5 Hot food takeaways** - For the sale of hot food for consumption off the premises.

**Use Class B1 Business Use** - Offices (other than those that fall within A2), research and development of products and processes, light industry appropriate in a residential area.

**Use Class B2 General industrial Use** - Use for industrial process other than one falling within class B1 (excluding incineration purposes, chemical treatment or landfill or hazardous waste).

**Use Class B8 Storage or distribution Use** - Storage or Distribution warehouses including wholesale cash and carry. This class includes open air storage.

**Village** - A group of houses, other buildings and open spaces which can include businesses and community uses such as a village hall and village green, church or primary school. The pattern of dispersed villages in the rural area has resulted in a significant number of villages sharing one church, primary school or village hall.

**White Land** - A general expression used to mean land (and buildings) without any specific proposal for allocation in a development plan, when it is intended that for the most part, existing uses shall remain undisturbed and unaltered.

**Wildlife Corridors** - Areas of habitat connecting wildlife populations.

**Windfall Site** - An informal term used to describe a site where planning consent (usually for housing) is granted despite that site not being allocated for development in the Local Plan.

**World Heritage Sites** - The World Heritage Convention from which World Heritage Sites derive was ratified by the UK in 1984. The Convention provides for the identification, protection, conservation and presentation of cultural and natural sites of outstanding universal value. Hadrian's Wall Military Zone was designated as a World Heritage Site in 1987.

**Zero Carbon** - That all emissions from a house or commercial property and the activities that take place within them must be net zero over the course of a year.

# Appendix 1 - Sites Allocated within Policy HO 1

The following site descriptions are intended to aid identification of the sites allocated for housing development in Policy H1. The descriptions identify some of the main issues associated with the sites, but are not intended to be an exhaustive list of every matter to be considered. Anyone considering submitting a planning application is encouraged to undertake early discussions with the Council's Development Management team.

## Urban Area

**U 1 and U 2: land to the south east of junction 44 of the M6**, – these two sites are immediately adjacent to each other at the northern edge of Carlisle, and have good accessibility to the main public transport network and to the M6 via junction 44. U 1 was discussed at the 2008 Local Plan inquiry where the Inspector concluded that the site should be considered as a future allocation. Careful consideration needs to be given to the design of the development so that the two sites integrate, but also respect the privacy of the outdoor play spaces for the adjacent James Rennie College. Opportunities should be taken to link into the public footpath which lies adjacent to the site. In addition, noise attenuation from the M6/Kingstown Road will be required by a combination of planting and bunding. Major junction improvements onto the A7 will be required. The main infrastructure issue in north Carlisle is the current lack of primary school places. Additional housing in this area has the potential to fund the development of primary school provision.

**U 3: site of Pennine Way Primary School, Pennine Way/Edgehill Road** – the school is about to undergo redevelopment in order to accommodate an increased intake of pupils. This will involve relocating the school to an adjacent site on the south side of Edgehill Road. The redevelopment is part of a wider project including a new community hub. There are some surface water issues within the site boundary which will require careful management. The redevelopment of the site provides an opportunity to diversify the housing mix in this area of Harraby.

**U 4: land north of Moorside Drive/Valley Drive** – a previously allocated site which has residential development on its north, western and southern boundary and integrates well with the urban form in this area. Careful consideration should be given so that the design and layout leads to a development which harmonises with the surrounding built context, but has its own sense of place.

**U 5: land between Carlton Road and Cumwhinton Road** – the southern edge of Carlisle in this location is characterised by mainly low density semis and bungalows, before the small village of Carleton, which has a range of designs and sizes of properties. Carlton also has a mix of services including a pub, restaurant, garage and offices. The development of this site will require the upgrade of Sewells Lonnning to two way traffic and provide the opportunity to create an attractive edge to the City, whilst retaining the identity of Carleton as a village.

**U 6: land at Garden Village, west of Wigton Road** - this site is in two ownerships, with the western section being a long narrow strip of land. It will be necessary to develop the site as a whole for optimum design and layout. The site wraps around four existing properties which front onto Wigton Road and one on the A689, and as such the design will need to minimise loss of amenity to these properties. The site is immediately adjacent to the A689, and some noise attenuation measures will be required.

**U 7: land at Newhouse Farm, south east of Orton Road** – this is a significant site in terms of size and is predicted to come forward in the later part of the plan period. Access will be taken from Orton road, as the southern boundary of the site is adjacent to the A689, the Carlisle western bypass. A masterplan approach will be required to guide the development of the site. The overall design and layout will need to consider ways of using the land beneath and around the power lines on the western boundary of the site in ways which will benefit the overall development.

**U 8: land north of Burgh Road** – the site has potential to integrate successfully with the built edge of Carlisle in this location. Established housing areas lie to the south, and to the east is further housing fronting onto Burgh Road, behind which is a small industrial estate. The design and layout of the site will need to address the site boundary with the industrial estate, and the western boundary adjacent to the overhead high voltage cables.

**U 9: former Morton Park Primary School, Burnrigg** – originally the site of a primary school, this is now a cleared site offering potential to improve the character of the area through good design and incorporation of the exiting mature trees on the site which are protected by TPO 245. Development would need to be in accordance with the adopted SPD Trees and Development. The design and layout of the site needs to protect the amenity of the bungalows on Kingrigg. The site lies within walking distance of Newlaithes Primary School, neighbourhood shops, a community centre and the large area of public open space known as Morton Park.

**U 10 and U 11: land off Windsor Way and land east of Lansdowne**

**Close/Lansdowne Court** – the main infrastructure issue in north Carlisle is the current lack of primary school places. Additional housing in this area has the potential to help fund the development of new primary school provision. Careful consideration needs to be given to the relationship/boundary between the two sites, as U 11 is landlocked. Therefore the development of U10 must maintain access to U 11. Access onto Tarraby Lane will not be permitted except for emergency vehicles. Existing flooding problems at the culvert on the adjacent Pennington drive must not be exacerbated by any new development, and plans must include a management regime for surface water run-off.

**U 12: land to the rear of the Border Terrier, Ashness Drive** – the site is owned by a registered affordable housing provider and as such the loss of incidental open space is mitigated by the gain of a significant proportion of affordable housing. The adjacent pub has closed and is being marketed for continued use/redevelopment. If the use as a pub

continues, the design and layout of the site will need to take into account potential noise disturbance. However, at the current time there is uncertainty over the future use of this adjacent piece of land.

**U 13: land east of Beverley Rise, Harraby** – the site is adjacent to an established area of housing which had good local facilities and amenities including a primary school for which there are immediate plans for redevelopment in order to allow expansion for an increased pupil intake. Noise attenuation measures will be required between the site and the M6 which lies to the east. Careful consideration will also need to be given to the boundaries of the site adjacent to existing housing and the Carlisle Settle railway line to the north.

**U 14: land north of Carleton Clinic, east of Cumwhinton Drive** – as part of the long term development strategy for the Carleton Clinic, Cumbria Partnership NHS is consolidating its operations into certain sectors of the site. As such, this site, along with U 19 which was allocated for housing in the previous Local Plan are surplus to NHS requirements, and have been released for development.

**U 15: former dairy site, Holywell Crescent, Botcherby** – planning permission has been granted for 66 houses on this site. Its allocation in the Local Plan safeguards the site for future development for housing over the plan period. It is one of a limited number of brownfield sites within the city which is available for housing development. The site is well located in relation to local services and facilities including a primary school and public open space.

**U 16: land at Deer Park, Belah** – the site is bordered by residential development to the south and east, and by employment uses to the north. The TPOs trees within the site provide a strong green presence, and any development must be in accordance with the adopted SPD Trees on development Sites. The layout and design of the development will need to make provision for adequate separation distance between the houses and the trees. Consideration should also be given to a buffer between new housing and the small industrial estate to the north. The main infrastructure issue in north Carlisle is the lack of primary school places. Development of housing in this area has the potential to fund the development of primary school provision.

**U 17: land to the south west of Cummersdale Grange Farm** – this site formed part of a larger housing, retail, employment and open space allocation in the 2008 Local Plan. In November 2010 outline planning permission was granted for the allocation, but excluded this site. As such it is almost entirely enveloped by land subject to the planning permission. In addition, the land to the south, bounded by Peter Lane, has approval for reserved matters and is under construction. It is therefore imperative that the development of this site integrates both visually and physically with the area subject to the wider planning permission.

**U 18: land opposite Rosehill Industrial Estate** – this site was allocated in the 2008 Local Plan for a premier pedigree livestock centre. However, it is no longer needed for this use and has instead been promoted for housing. The site is well located on the edge of Carlisle in terms of accessing a range of services and facilities, and the wider road network. The site will require considerable noise attenuation measures from the M6, and also a physical barrier such as bunding and planting to reduce the visible impact of the motorway.

**U19: land at Carleton Clinic** – as part of the long term development strategy for the Carleton Clinic, Cumbria Partnership NHS is consolidating its operations into certain sectors of the site. As such, these sites are surplus to NHS requirements, and are being marketed for development. Mature trees and a parkland setting are features of this area, and must be maintained as part of any new development. There are three attractive sandstone buildings within this site which should be retained. TPO 247 protects all the significant trees on the perimeter of this site, thereby limiting the developable area of the site, as the trees must be retained, and adequate separation distances maintained between the trees and any new development.

**U 20: land south of Durranhill Road, Botcherby** – this parcel of land was part of a larger allocation in the 2008 adopted Local Plan. The adjacent site, known as Barley Edge, is under construction, and nearing completion. There is an existing regular bus service along Durranhill Road, and the site is close to local services and facilities, including primary schools and an employment area at Rosehill. The layout and design of the site must take account of the TPO trees, the Carlisle Settle Conservation Area, and adequate separation distances between existing housing and the proposed new housing.

**U 21: former Laings site, Stanhope Road** – to the east of this site, and fronting onto Dalston Road is a site with planning permission for 1 532 sq m retail food store. The layout of the development incorporates an access road designed to link through to this allocated housing site. This is a brownfield site, which was allocated in the 2008 Local Plan for mixed use. High quality and design and layout will be required in order to contribute towards improving the character and appearance of the local area. Dow Beck, which is classified as 'Main River' runs adjacent to the northern boundary of the site.

## **Rural Area**

**R 1: land south of Carlisle Road, Brampton** – this site is located on the edge, but within walking distance of the town centre, which has a wide range of local services and facilities. The site abuts existing housing development on its north eastern, and eastern sides, and is opposite established housing and employment uses on the northern side of Carlisle Road. The western boundary of the site abuts open countryside, and care will need to be taken over the design of the boundaries to ensure that the development integrates with surrounding land uses. Within the site there will be

land set aside for the provision of a medical centre to accommodate the relocation of the Brampton Medical Practice, which has a requirement to expand to purpose built premises.

**R 2: land west of Kingwater Close** – this site is City Council owned land and is likely to be of interest to a registered provider of affordable housing. The government has identified the release of surplus public sector land as a way of meeting the need for new homes. There is agreement with the landowner at Kingwater Close to achieve access to the site. The land is within walking distance of the town centre, which has a wide range of local services and facilities. The landscape has the capacity to absorb additional development without adverse impacts.

**R 3: land north of Greenfield Lane** – this is a large site which is connected to the built edge of Brampton at Dacre Road and Greenfield Lane. The southern corner of the site will require careful design considerations in the context of the small bungalow on the corner of Dacre road, and the protected trees on the boundary of Garth House, which is a listed building. Care will need to be taken over the design of the site in relation to the Brampton to Longtown road frontage, in both matters of layout, design and boundary treatment. In addition, particular measures will need to be taken to either integrate or divert the route of the public footpath which crosses the site.

**R 4: site of former Lochinvar School, Mary Street, Longtown** – this is a former secondary school site owned by Cumbria County Council. The buildings have been cleared. The site is well contained within the existing built form of Longtown. The layout and design of the development on this site will need to protect the amenity of the community buildings, and create a suitable buffer to the playing fields to the east.

**R 5: land south of Old Road, Longtown** - this site lies on the eastern edge of Longtown and is bordered to the south by the Longtown to Brampton Road, and to the north by a minor link road (Old Road). The boundaries of the site are in the main established hedges or tree belts which should be maintained with any new development to help integrate the site with both the adjacent built edge of Longtown and the open countryside beyond. Careful consideration will need to be given to the boundary treatment of the site where it abuts the housing and employment site to the west.

**R 6: land west of Amberfield, Burgh by Sands** – the site adjoins recent housing development to the south of the village, and is close to the primary school. Much of the village is covered by Conservation Area designation, whilst the north of the village lies within the Solway Coast AONB. Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site crosses the central part of the village from west to east. This site lies outside all of these designations, and as such is less constrained. Care should nevertheless be exercised. Development here should seek to create and enhance green infrastructure connections with the centre of the village. The creation of a pavement connecting the site with the Primary School is likely to be required to ensure any development is sustainable from an accessibility perspective.

**R 7 land east of Cummersdale Road, Cummersdale** – a small site with community and parish council support for a modest increase of 14 houses. There are a number of mature trees along the northern boundary of the site, and adequate separation distances will be required between new houses and the canopy of the trees. The location of the site on the edge of the village will not increase traffic flow through the village, as the primary school, pub and village hall are all located within walking distance.

**R 8: land west of How Croft, Cumwhinton** – adequate provision for access can be made between a gap in existing properties on the B6263. The site has housing on its western, northern and eastern boundaries, and is well contained within the landscape. Any development proposals must ensure that any existing surface water drainage issues are fully addressed in the design of the development. The village has a number of local amenities and services, and an hourly bus service to Carlisle.

**R 9: land adjacent to Beech Cottage, Cumwhinton** – the site has planning permission subject to the signing of a Section 106 agreement (appn reference 12/0856), for 15 dwellings including three affordable bungalows and one dwelling for an elderly person. The site is therefore allocated to safeguard the permission, as the principle of development on this site has been accepted.

**R 10: land at Hadrian's Camp, Houghton** – the site has outline planning permission for 96 houses, (planning application reference 12/0610) and is allocated in the Local Plan to safeguard the permission. A reserved matters application (14/0930) was received at the end of October 2014 for 99 houses (including 25 affordable dwellings).

**R 11: Kingmoor Park Harker Estate, Low Harker** – an underused brownfield site with outdated buildings which are something of an eyesore, and which are unsuitable for ongoing commercial use. Its redevelopment for housing would yield a significant amount of affordable housing, and lead to an improvement to the local environment. The site lies close to junction 44 of the M6, and employment areas and other services in the north of Carlisle. There are a number of small businesses in Harker. There is a primary school at Blackford which is just over 2km away. Providing a safe route to school is likely to be an issue which will need to be addressed as part of any planning application.

**R 12: land east of Monkhill Road** – a modest increase of 10 houses over the plan period is considered acceptable for the size and scale of the village. Although there are limited services within the village, other nearby villages of Burgh, Great Orton and Kirkbampton have primary schools, pubs, village halls and a shop. The primary school at Burgh by Sands is currently has spare capacity.

**R 13: land north-west of Stile Farm, Linstock** – this is a small site which can accommodate a modest increase in houses over the Plan period. Linstock is a small village with good accessibility to Carlisle via road and public transport. A careful and

well considered design solution will be required to protect the setting of the nearby Grade II\* listed Linstock Castle which lies to the east of the site. Whilst Linstock has limited local services and facilities, it lies within 2.5 km of Carlisle.

**R 14: land at Tower Farm, Rickerby** – a small village very close to the edge of Carlisle. The whole village is covered by a conservation area designation and the majority of the buildings, apart from this site, lie within flood zones 2 and 3. The scale of the proposed development, at 10 houses, is considered appropriate for the scale and form of the village. The site is a gateway to the conservation area, and the 19<sup>th</sup> century barns and stables should be retained and converted creatively into the redevelopment of this site.

**R 15: land north of Hill Head, Scotby** – this site lies at the northern end of Scotby, with easy access to the A69 and junction 43 of the M6. Careful design of the layout and dwellings will be required to minimise impact on the occupiers of the existing bungalows on Hill Head, in particular where the access is proposed to be located. The access will require upgrading to be wide enough for two way traffic.

**R 16: land at Broomfallen Road, Scotby** – the site has planning permission for 28 houses (including 7 affordable houses), subject to the signing of a Section 106 agreement to secure the affordable units, open space, community transport and education contribution, and waste bins. The site is allocated to safeguard the planning permission.

**R 17: land east of Little Corby Road, Little Corby/Warwick Bridge** - the site presents an opportunity to enhance the approach to Corby Hill with a development that reflects local design. Any development here would need to have full regard to the setting of Little Corby Hall, a grade II listed building. The development boundaries consist of mature hedges which should be retained and reinforced where necessary by additional planting to enhance biodiversity and to help integrate the development with its rural aspect to the north and east.

**R 18: land to the south of Corby Hill to Heads Nook Road, Corby Hill/Warwick Bridge** – located to the east of Corby Hill, this site can be accessed from the Corby Hill to Heads Nook Road, and makes provision for 30 houses. Where the site abuts open countryside to the east and south, careful consideration will need to be given to boundary treatment in order to integrate the development with the open countryside. The frontage of the site onto the public highway will also need high quality design and layout to complement to attractive approach to the village at this point.

**R 19: Wetheral South** – there are acknowledged issues with the capacity of the waste water treatment works (WWTW) for Wetheral. However, increasing the capacity of the WWTW is in the United Utilities forward funding plan. In the meantime UU has advised that any surface water should discharge at the lowest possible rate. This will be at a rate which is less than the average greenfield run-off rate. The surface water drainage

system should include on-site attenuation. The site lies adjacent to Wetheral Conservation Area boundary, and as such new development will be expected to harmonise with the local context, which in this location comprises a range of designs and sizes of two storey dwellings, finished in stone, render and brick.

**R 20: land west of Steele's Bank, south of Ashgate Lane** – whilst the site is bordered to the north and east by existing housing, the landscape in this location is flat and open, and very careful design of the layout and housing will be required to establish an attractive edge to the village and prevent any adverse impact on the properties on both Ashgate Lane and Steele's Bank. Adequate separation distances will be required between the new development and the mature trees which fringe the cemetery, in accordance with the adopted SPD Trees and Development

**R 21: land west of Wreay School** – Wreay is a small village with a good range of local services including a primary school with spare pupil capacity. Though not designated as a conservation area, Wreay is a notable location due to its association with local architect and landowner Sarah Losh 1785-1853. A number of nearby listed buildings include St Mary's Church, (Grade II\*), the Grade II Mausoleum, and to the immediate north of the site is the Grade II Pompeian Cottage, built in 1830 as a school master's house, and a replica of a house excavated at Pompeii. The site is sensitive given its high density of designated heritage assets and also the relative low-density of Wreay as a whole. Any design should be of extremely high quality and fully respond to the sensitivity of its surroundings.

## Appendix 2 – Local Plan Monitoring Framework

The below schedule should be read within the context of Chapter 11 of the Local Plan.

Policy	Objective	Indicator	Trigger	Possible Actions	SA Objective
Spatial Strategy and Strategic Policies					
SP 1	Timely approval of applications that represent sustainable development	% applications determined within statutory timescales	Sustained poor performance	Review circumstances with Development Management and identify further actions as necessary	All
		% Appeals dismissed			
SP 2	Delivery of at least 8,475 net additional homes between 2015 and 2030	Housing Trajectory	Deviation from trajectory	Review circumstances, engage with stakeholders and if necessary review Housing Delivery Strategy aspects of the Local Plan	1,2,5,6,7,11, 13,16
	70% of new homes delivered in the Urban Area	Urban/Rural split of gross housing completions	Negative Trend		
	Adequate delivery of and forward supply of employment land to support economic growth	Employment Land uptake [HA] and type [B1/B2/B8]	Uptake analysis	Review circumstances, engage with stakeholders and if necessary review Employment Land Strategy aspects of the Local Plan	
		Amount of employment land available [HA] and type [B1/B2/B8]	Diminishing forward supply of employment land [HA] and type [B1/B2/B8]		
	Realisation of the opportunity presented by the part commercialisation of	Progress toward the delivery and take up of the opportunity	Stalled progress	Review circumstances, engage with stakeholders and consider options	

Policy	Objective	Indicator	Trigger	Possible Actions	SA Objective
	MOD Longtown [Solway 45]				
	Take up of additional 18,700 sq m additional comparison retail floorspace between 2015 and 2030	New Comparison Retail Floorspace	Under delivery and no forward supply	Review circumstances, engage with stakeholders and consider options	
	Respond to opportunities and encourage development on previously developed land	% of new homes; employment land uptake [HA]; new comparison retail floorspace [sq m] on previously developed land	Negative Trends	Review circumstances, engage with stakeholders and consider options if necessary	
SP 3	Development of Carlisle South contributing to meeting development needs as required	Progress towards masterplanning and adoption of subsequent Development Plan Document	Lack of progression to adoption of Development Plan Document	Review circumstances, engage with stakeholders and consider options if necessary	1,13
SP 4	Protect and enhance the vitality and viability of the City Centre	City Centre Health Check	Negative Trends	Review circumstances, engage with stakeholders and consider options if necessary	1,2,5,6,7,11,13,16,17
	Realisation of City Centre and Caldew Riverside development opportunities	Progress towards the realisation of identified opportunities	Stalled progress	Review circumstances, engage with stakeholders and consider options if necessary	
SP 5	To protect and enhance the strategic connectivity of the District and	Progress towards delivery of identified priorities	Stalled progress	Engage with Stakeholders in particular in context with	1,2,4,7,11,12

Policy	Objective	Indicator	Trigger	Possible Actions	SA Objective
	support delivery of priorities as identified in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan and Local Transport Plan			the IDP/LTP	
SP 6	High quality design which supports/creates a strong sense of place	Policy Usage	Decision Monitoring	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	1,9,10,12,13,14,15,16,17
SP 7	To protect, enhance and enable the enjoyment of the District's Heritage and Cultural Assets	Net change in designated heritage assets	Negative Trends	Review circumstances, engage with stakeholders and consider options if necessary	1,6,16,17
		Number of Conservation Areas with up to date Appraisals and Management Plans	Deviation from agreed programme for appraisals		
		Number of designated Heritage Assets considered to be at risk	Negative Trends		
SP 8	Protection and enhancement of an interconnected and multifunctional Green and Blue Infrastructure network	Policy Usage and S106 Monitoring	Decision Monitoring	Engage with Stakeholders in particular in context with the IDP	1,3,4,5,6,7,11,12,14,15,16,18,19
SP 9	Improve the health and sense of wellbeing of the District's population, and reduce health inequalities	Health Profile/Joint Strategic Needs Assessment of the District	Negative Trends	Review circumstances, engage with stakeholders and consider options if necessary	1,2,4,7,8,9,11,12,13,14,19,20
SP 10	To support efforts to up-	Levels of education	Negative Trends	Review circumstances,	1,2,13,20

Policy	Objective	Indicator	Trigger	Possible Actions	SA Objective
	skill the District's population	attainment		engage with stakeholders and consider options if necessary	
<b>Economy</b>					
EC 1	To support economic growth and increase the level of high value jobs within the local economy through making land available for employment land purposes	Take up of the allocated 45HA employment land	Stalled progress in bringing the allocations forward.	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	1,2
EC 2	To safeguard primary employment areas to ensure land and premises are available to provide the wide variety and certainty of sites required to meet the needs of business across the plan period	Total employment land available [HA]	Diminishing supply of available employment land	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	1,2,7,20
		Vacant floorspace [m sq] on primary employment areas	Increasing vacancy rates		
		Loss of primary employment areas[HA] to non employment relating uses	Negative trend		
EC 3	To maintain the vitality and viability of Primary Shopping Areas through the retention of high levels of retailing [Use Class A1] at ground floor levels	% of ground floor units within the Primary Shopping Areas in A1 use	Negative Trend	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	1,2,5,6,7,11
		% of ground floor units designated Primary Shopping Frontages in A1 use			

Policy	Objective	Indicator	Trigger	Possible Actions	SA Objective
EC 4	Delivery of a District Centre	Progress toward the delivery and take up of the allocation including foodstore anchor [sq m]	Progress towards the build out of the allocation	Review circumstances and if appropriate engage with stakeholders and review allocation	1,2,7,11,14
EC 5	To protect the vitality and viability of District and Local Centres	District and Local Centre Health Checks	Negative Trends	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and designations	1,2,7,11,16, 20
EC 6	To protect the vitality and viability of defined retail centres through inappropriate out of centre retail and leisure developments	Retail Centre Health Checks	Negative Trends	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	1,2,5,7,11
		New Comparison Retail floorspace [m sq] in out of centre locations			
EC 7	To help establish a strong sense of place through well designed shop fronts	Policy Usage	Decision Monitoring	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	7,16,17
EC 8	To facilitate the creation of a vibrant and viable food and drink offer across the District	Retail Centre Health Checks	Negative Trends	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	1,2,7,11,20
		Policy Usage	Decision Monitoring		
EC 9	To protect and enhance the District's arts, cultural, tourism and leisure offer	Policy Usage	Decision Monitoring	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	1,2,7,11,12,14,16
EC 10	To facilitate visitor accommodation in appropriate locations	Policy Usage	Decision Monitoring	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	1,2,4,16,17

Policy	Objective	Indicator	Trigger	Possible Actions	SA Objective
EC 11	To enable rural diversification in order to support the rural economy	Policy Usage	Decision Monitoring	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	1,2,5,16
EC 12	To support ongoing agricultural investment and activities within the District	Policy Usage	Decision Monitoring	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	1,2,16,20
EC 13	To support ongoing equestrian investment and activities within the District	Policy Usage	Decision Monitoring	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	1,2,12,16,20
<b>Housing</b>					
HO 1	Delivery of at least an annualised average of 565 houses with a mix of dwelling types, sizes and tenures	Housing Trajectory	Deviation from trajectory Mix of dwelling types not meeting local housing need	Review Housing Trajectory and Housing Allocations	1,2,5,6,7,11,12,13
		Regular Housing Delivery Update			
HO 2	To contribute to the supply of housing	Housing Trajectory	Deviation from trajectory	Review delivery from windfall applications	1,2,6,9,13
HO 3	To preserve the character and quality of housing areas	Policy Usage	Decision Monitoring	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	1,9,13,14,16
HO 4	To contribute towards meeting affordable housing needs through securing affordable homes from qualifying open market housing developments	No. of affordable homes delivered.	Negative Trends	Review circumstances and engage stakeholders and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	1,6,13,14

Policy	Objective	Indicator	Trigger	Possible Actions	SA Objective
HO 5	To make provision for rural housing need	Policy Usage	Decision Monitoring	Review circumstances and engage stakeholders and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	1,2,13
HO 6	To protect the open countryside from inappropriate housing development whilst recognising there may be special circumstances where new housing will be allowed	Policy Usage	Decision Monitoring	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	1,2,5,13,14
HO 7	To assist in protecting Heritage Assets	Policy Usage	Decision Monitoring	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	1,5,6,9,13,17, 20
HO 8	To assist in adaption of existing dwellings to meet changes in lifestyle	Policy Usage	Decision Monitoring	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	1,2,9,13,16, 20
HO 9	To contribute to the mix of housing offer within the District	Policy Usage	Decision Monitoring	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	6,10,13,14
HO 10	To contribute to the mix of housing offer within the District	Policy Usage Number of additional specialist and/or supported housing units delivered	Decision Monitoring No additional specialist and/or supported housing units delivered	Review circumstances and engage stakeholders and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	2,7,9,11,12, 13,14

Policy	Objective	Indicator	Trigger	Possible Actions	SA Objective
HO 11	To meet the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople	No. of pitches and plots delivered.	Progress towards the build out of the allocation	Review circumstances and engage stakeholders and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	11,12,13,14
			Number of unauthorised pitches		
HO 12	To protect the amenity of Primary Residential Areas	Policy Usage	Decision Monitoring	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	1,2,13,14,20
<b>Infrastructure</b>					
IP 1	To ensure timely delivery of infrastructure to support delivery of the Plan	Type, nature and location of infrastructure	Continued deficit as identified in the IDP	Engage with Stakeholders in particular in context with the IDP	1,3,4,6,7,11,12,14
IP 2	To minimise the impact of new developments on the transport network	Type, nature and location of new developments	Continued deficit as identified in the IDP	Engage with Stakeholders in particular in context with the IDP	1,2,4,7,9,11,16,18,19,20
IP 3	To ensure appropriate parking standards are adhered to	Compliance with any standards in operation	Parking Standards SPD not adopted by 2016 Decision Monitoring	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy, SPD and/or alternatives	1,2,6,9,13,14
	To reduce the level of inappropriate on-street parking	Policy Usage			
IP 4	To ensure new developments benefit from access to high speed internet.	Policy Usage	Decision Monitoring	Engage with Stakeholders in particular in context with the IDP	1,2,13
		Infrastructure Delivery Plan	Continued deficit as identified in the IDP		

Policy	Objective	Indicator	Trigger	Possible Actions	SA Objective
IP 5	To reduce the level of waste and improve levels of recycling	Levels of residual household waste per household [kg]	Negative trend	Engage with stakeholders and review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	4,10,13,19,20
		Levels of household waste sent for re-use, Recycling or Composting [%]			
IP 6	To ensure sufficient capacity for foul water drainage to support growth	Policy Usage	Decision Monitoring Continued deficit as identified in the IDP	Engage with Stakeholders in particular in context with the IDP	3,13,20
		Infrastructure Delivery Plan			
IP 7	To facilitate the ongoing operation of Carlisle Airport	Policy Usage	Decision Monitoring	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	1,2
IP 8	To secure any measures agreed as necessary to make development acceptable in planning terms	S106 Monitoring	Non delivery of previously agreed measures	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	1,7,11,12,13,14
<b>Climate Change and Flood Risk</b>					
CC 1	To facilitate/enable development which contributes to generating renewable energy	Capacity in kW output	Negative Trends	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	1,2,4,8,10,19
CC 2	To facilitate/enable development which contributes to generating renewable energy from wind	Capacity in kW output	Negative Trends	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	1,2,4,8

Policy	Objective	Indicator	Trigger	Possible Actions	SA Objective
CC 3	To ensure development proposals are energy efficient and resilient to the impacts of climate change	Policy Usage	Decision Monitoring	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	4,8,9,10,13
CC 4	No development which would be subject to flood risk or increase the possibility of flood risk elsewhere.	Number of applications granted against flood authority advice	Negative trend	Engage with Stakeholders in particular in context with the IDP	1,3,4,13,14, 20
CC 5	Surface water discharge rates: <b>Greenfield:</b> discharge rate will be no greater than existing rates <b>Brownfield:</b> discharge rates will be less than existing rates.	Pre and post development surface water discharge rates	Negative trends	Engage with Stakeholders in particular in context with the IDP	3,4,9,12,13, 14,15
<b>Health, Education and Community</b>					
CM 1	Support New Health Care Provision	Type, nature and location of new healthcare provision	Continued deficit as identified in the IDP	Engage with Stakeholders in particular in context with the IDP	11,12,14
CM 2	Support Educational Provision	Sufficient capacity to support proposed growth	Continued deficit as identified in the IDP	Engage with Stakeholders in particular in context with the IDP	1,2
CM 3	Avoid loss of valued community facilities and services	Policy Usage	Decision Monitoring	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	1,2,7,12,14
		Number of facilities registered as a	Increase of assets at risk		

Policy	Objective	Indicator	Trigger	Possible Actions	SA Objective
		Community Asset			
CM 4	Design of Development deters crime	Policy Usage	Decision Monitoring	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	1,4
CM 5	To protect the environmental and residential amenity	Policy Usage	Decision Monitoring	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	3,4,5,6,10,12,13,14,15,16,18,19,20
CM 6	To facilitate and enable additional Cemetery and Burial Grounds	Type, nature and location of new cemetery provision	Continued deficit as identified in the IDP	Engage with Stakeholders in particular in context with the IDP	3,4,12,18,20
<b>Historic Environment</b>					
HE 1	To protect Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site from inappropriate development	Policy Usage	Decision Monitoring	Review circumstances and engage with stakeholders.	1,12,16,17
HE 2	To protect scheduled and non-designated archaeological assets as a resource for research, education, leisure, tourism and for their influence on perceptions of identity and sense of place	Net Change in Designated Heritage Assets	Negative Trends	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	1,16,17
HE 3	To protect buildings and/or structures that				1,6,9,16,17

Policy	Objective	Indicator	Trigger	Possible Actions	SA Objective
HE 4	have been placed on the Statutory List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest				1,12,15,16,17
HE 5					1,12,15,16,17
HE 6	To protect locally important heritage assets that have not been placed on the Statutory List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest	Policy Usage  No of assets included on a Local List	Decision Monitoring  Negative Trends	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	1,6,9,16,17
HE 7	To preserve or enhance the character and appearance of conservation areas	Policy Usage	Decision Monitoring	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	1,6,9,16,17
<b>Green Infrastructure</b>					
GI 1	To protect and enhance against insensitive development	Policy Usage	Decision Monitoring	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	1,12,14,15,16,20
GI 2	To protect and enhance the natural beauty and special characteristics and landscape quality of the Solway Coast and the North Pennine AONBs	Policy Usage	Decision Monitoring	Review Policy and alternatives	1,9,12,14,15,16,17
GI 3	No net loss of Biodiversity or	Net Change in Designated Biodiversity	Negative Trend	Review circumstances and if appropriate	3,4,15,16,18,19

Policy	Objective	Indicator	Trigger	Possible Actions	SA Objective
	Geodiversity	and Geodiversity assets.		review Policy and alternatives	
GI 4	No net loss of public open space	Amount of public open space [HA]	Negative Trend	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	1,4,11,12,14,15,16,18,19,20
GI 5	No net loss of public rights of way	Amount of Public Rights of Way [Km]	Negative Trend	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	1,2,7,11,12,14,16,18,19
GI 6	No unauthorised loss of trees subject to a TPO or hedgerows qualifying as 'important' under the Hedgerow Regs 1997	Number of TPOs Amount of 'important' hedgerow	Negative Trend	Review circumstances and if appropriate review Policy and alternatives	4,15,16,18,19

## Appendix 3 – Schedule of Superseded Policies

In accordance with Regulation 8(5) of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) 2012 Regulations, the below table makes clear where saved policies from the Carlisle District Local Plan (2001 - 2016) are intended to be superseded by policies within the Carlisle District Local Plan (2015 - 2030) upon its formal adoption.

<b>Saved Policy Ref.</b>	<b>Saved Policy Title Carlisle District Local Plan (2001 - 2016)</b>	<b>Superseded by Policy Ref.</b>	<b>Superseded by Policy Title Carlisle District Local Plan (2015 - 2030)</b>
DP1	Sustainable Development Locations	SP 1, SP 2	Sustainable Development, Strategic Growth and Distribution
DP2	Regeneration	SP 2, SP 4	Strategic Growth and Distribution, Carlisle City Centre and Caldew Riverside
DP3	Carlisle Airport	SP 5, IP 7	Strategic Connectivity, Carlisle Airport
DP5	Trunk Roads	IP 2	Transport and Development
DP7	European Natura 2000 Sites	GI 3	Biodiversity & Geodiversity
DP8	University Development	SP 10	Supporting Skilled Communities
DP9	Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty	GI 2	Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty
CP1	Landscape Character	GI 1	Landscapes
CP2	Biodiversity	GI 3	Biodiversity & Geodiversity
CP3	Trees and Hedges on Development Sites	GI 6	Trees and Hedgerows
CP5	Design	SP 6	Securing Good Design
CP6	Residential Amenity	CM 5	Environmental and Amenity Protection
CP7	Use of Traditional Materials	SP 6	Securing Good Design
CP8	Renewable Energy	CC 1, CC 2	Renewable Energy, Energy from Wind

<b>Saved Policy Ref.</b>	<b>Saved Policy Title Carlisle District Local Plan (2001 - 2016)</b>	<b>Superseded by Policy Ref.</b>	<b>Superseded by Policy Title Carlisle District Local Plan (2015 - 2030)</b>
CP9	Development, Energy Conservation and Efficiency	CC 3	Energy Conservation, Efficiency and Resilience
CP10	Sustainable Drainage Systems	CC 5	Surface Water Management and Sustainable Drainage Systems
CP11	Protection of Groundwaters and Surface Waters	CM 5	Environmental and Amenity Protection
CP12	Foul and Surface Water Sewerage and Sewage Treatment	IP 6	Foul Water Drainage on Development Sites
CP13	Pollution	CM 5	Environmental and Amenity Protection
CP14	Waste Minimisation and the Recycling of Waste	IP 5	Waste Minimisation and the Recycling of Waste
CP15	Access, Mobility and Inclusion	SP 6	Securing Good Design
CP16	Public Transport, Pedestrians and Cyclists	SP5, IP 2	Strategic Connectivity, Transport and Development
CP17	Planning Out Crime	CM 4	Planning Out Crime
EC1	Primary Employment Areas	EC 2	Primary Employment Areas
EC3	Office Development	SP 2, EC 6	Strategic Growth and Distribution, Retail and Main Town Centre Uses outside Defined Centres
EC4	Primary Retail Area	EC 3	Primary Shopping Areas and Frontages
EC5	Large Stores and Retail Warehouses	SP 2, EC 6	Strategic Growth and Distribution, Retail and Main Town Centre Uses outside Defined Centres
EC6	Primary Shopping Frontages	EC 3	Primary Shopping Areas and Frontages
EC7	Neighbourhood Facilities	EC 5	District and Local Centres
EC8	Shopfronts	EC 7	Shop Fronts

<b>Saved Policy Ref.</b>	<b>Saved Policy Title Carlisle District Local Plan (2001 - 2016)</b>	<b>Superseded by Policy Ref.</b>	<b>Superseded by Policy Title Carlisle District Local Plan (2015 - 2030)</b>
EC9	Use of Upper Floors	SP 4, HO 2	Carlisle City Centre and Caldew Riverside', 'Windfall Housing Development
EC10	Food and Drink	EC 8	Food and Drink
EC11	Rural Diversification	EC 11	Rural Diversification
EC13	Sustaining Rural Facilities and Services	CM 3	Sustaining Community Facilities and Services
EC14	Farm Shops	EC 11	Rural Diversification
EC15	Tourism Caravan Sites	EC 10	Caravan, Camping and Chalet Sites
EC16	Tourism Development	EC 9	Arts, Culture, tourism and Leisure Development
EC22	Employment & Commercial Growth Land Allocations	EC 1, EC 4	Employment Land Allocations, Morton District Centre
H1	Location of New Housing Development	HO 1, HO 2	Housing Strategy and Delivery, Windfall Housing Development
H2	Primary Residential Areas	HO 12	Other Uses in Primary Residential Areas
H5	Affordable Housing	HO 4	Affordable Housing
H6	Rural Exception Sites	HO 5	Rural Exception Sites
H7	Agricultural and Forestry Need and Other Occupational Dwellings	HO 6	Other Housing in the Open Countryside
H8	Conversion of Existing Premises	HO 6	Other Housing in the Open Countryside
H9	Backland Development	HO 3	Housing in Residential Gardens
H10	Replacement Dwellings in the Rural Area	H O6	Other Housing in the Open Countryside
H11	Extensions to Existing Residential Premises	HO 8	House Extensions

<b>Saved Policy Ref.</b>	<b>Saved Policy Title Carlisle District Local Plan (2001 - 2016)</b>	<b>Superseded by Policy Ref.</b>	<b>Superseded by Policy Title Carlisle District Local Plan (2015 - 2030)</b>
H12	Subdivision of Houses and Houses in Multiple Occupation	HO 9	Large Houses in Multiple Occupation and the Subdivision of Dwellings
H13	Special Needs Housing	HO 10	Housing to Meet Specific Needs
H14	Gypsies and Travellers	HO 11	Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Provision
H15	Travelling Showpeople	HO 11	Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Provision
H16	Residential Land Allocations	HO 1	Housing Strategy and Delivery
LE2	Sites of Special Scientific Interest	GI 3	Biodiversity and Geodiversity
LE3	Other Nature Conservation Sites	GI 3	Biodiversity and Geodiversity
LE4	River Corridors	SP 8, GI 1, GI 3	Green and Blue Infrastructure, Landscapes, Biodiversity and Geodiversity
LE5	Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site	HE 1	Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site
LE6	Scheduled/Nationally Important Ancient Monuments	HE 2	Scheduled Ancient Monuments and Non-Designated Archaeological Assets
LE7	Buffer Zone on Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site	HE 1	Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site
LE8	Archaeology on other sites	HE 2	Scheduled Ancient Monuments and Non-Designated Archaeological Assets
LE9	Other known Sites & Monuments of Archaeological Significance	HE 2	Scheduled Ancient Monuments and Non-Designated Archaeological Assets
LE10	Archaeological Field Evaluation	HE 2	Scheduled Ancient Monuments and Non-Designated Archaeological Assets
LE11	Enhancement of Major Archaeological Sites	SP 7	Valuing our Heritage and Cultural Identity

<b>Saved Policy Ref.</b>	<b>Saved Policy Title Carlisle District Local Plan (2001 - 2016)</b>	<b>Superseded by Policy Ref.</b>	<b>Superseded by Policy Title Carlisle District Local Plan (2015 - 2030)</b>
LE12	Proposals Affecting Listed Buildings	HE 3	Listed Buildings
LE13	Alterations to Listed Buildings	HE 3	Listed Buildings
LE14	Development Involving the Demolition of Listed Buildings	HE 3	Listed Buildings
LE15	Change of Use of Listed Buildings	HE 3	Listed Buildings
LE16	Historic Structures and Local Listings	HE 6	Locally Important Heritage Assets
LE17	Development Involving the Demolition of Unlisted Buildings in Conservation Areas	HE 7	Conservation Areas
LE18	Buildings at Risk	SP 7	Valuing our Heritage and Cultural Identity
LE19	Conservation Areas	HE 7	Conservation Areas
LE20	Cathedral Precinct	SP 7, HE 2, HE 3, HE 7	Valuing our Heritage and Cultural Identity, Scheduled Ancient Monuments and Non-Designated Archaeological Assets, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas
LE22	Historic Parks, Gardens and Battlefields	HE 4, HE 5	Historic Parks and Gardens, Historic Battlefields
LE24	Equestrian Development	EC 13	Equestrian Development
LE25	Agricultural Buildings	EC 12	Agricultural Buildings
LE26	Undeveloped Land in Flood Plains	CC 4	Flood Risk and Development
LE27	Developed Land in Flood Plains	CC 4	Flood Risk and Development
LE29	Land Affected by Contamination	CM 5	Environmental and Amenity Protection
LE30	Derelict Land	CM 5	Environmental and Amenity Protection
LE31	Hazardous Substances	CM 5	Environmental and Amenity Protection
T1	Parking Guidelines for Development	IP 3	Car Parking

<b>Saved Policy Ref.</b>	<b>Saved Policy Title Carlisle District Local Plan (2001 - 2016)</b>	<b>Superseded by Policy Ref.</b>	<b>Superseded by Policy Title Carlisle District Local Plan (2015 - 2030)</b>
T2	Parking in Conservation Areas	IP 3, HE 7	Car Parking, Conservation Areas
T3	Parking Outside Conservation Areas	IP 3	Car Parking
T5	Rail Freight	SP 5, IP 2	Strategic Connectivity, Transport and Development
T6	Public Transport Interchange	SP 5	Strategic Connectivity
LC1	Leisure Development	SP 2, EC 6, EC 9	Strategic Growth and Distribution, Retail and Main Town Centre Uses outside Defined Centres, Arts, Culture, Tourism and Leisure Development
LC2	Primary Leisure Areas	EC 9, GI 4	Public Open Space, Arts, Culture, Tourism and Leisure Development
LC3	Amenity Open Space	GI 4	Public Open Space
LC4	Children's Play and Recreational Areas	GI 4	Public Open Space
LC5	Playing Fields	GI 4	Public Open Space
LC	Allotments	GI 4, SP 9	Public Open Space, Healthy and Thriving Communities
LC8	Rights of Way	GI 5	Public Rights of Way
LC9	Disused Railway Lines	SP 5, SP 8	Strategic Connectivity, Green and Blue Infrastructure
LC11	Educational Needs	CM 2	Educational Needs
LC13	Doctors' Surgeries and Health Centres	SP 9, CM 1	Healthy and Thriving Communities, Health Care Provision
LC14	Carlton Clinic	HO 1	Housing Strategy and Delivery
IM1	Planning Obligations	IP 8	Planning Obligations

For the avoidance of doubt the following table makes clear the status of those saved policies from the Carlisle District Local Plan (2001 - 2016) which are not intended to be superseded by policies within the Carlisle District Local Plan (2015 - 2030) upon its formal adoption.

<b>Saved Policy Ref.</b>	<b>Saved Policy Title Carlisle District Local Plan (2001 - 2016)</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Comments</b>
DP4	Carlisle Racecourse	Out-of-Date	No longer considered a need and therefore justification for a separate and site specific policy for Carlisle Racecourse.
DP10	Landscapes of County Importance	Out-of-Date	This designation has been abandoned following the revocation of the Regional Spatial Strategy for the North West of England.
CP4	Agricultural Land	Out-of-Date	The National Planning Policy Framework contains more up to date advice which it is not considered necessary to repeat at the local level.
EC2	Mixed Commercial Areas	Out-of-Date	Considered to be of limited value and prohibit flexibility. Other policies would enable any proposals to be assessed in any event therefore avoiding policy vacuum.
EC12	Live/Work Units	Out-of-Date	No longer considered a need and therefore justification for a separate policy for this form of housing.
EC17	Advertisements	Out-of-Date	Redundant in that advertisements are governed by the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) (England) Regulations 2007
EC18	Areas of Special Control of Advertisements	Out-of-Date	Redundant in that advertisements are governed by the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) (England) Regulations 2007
EC19	Telecommunications	Out-of-Date	Considered to be out of date and largely redundant in any event within the context of recent changes to permitted development rights.

EC20	Satellite Receiving Equipment	Out-of-Date	Considered to be out of date and largely redundant in any event within the context of recent changes to permitted development rights.
EC21	Overhead Power Lines	Out-of-Date	No longer considered a need for a policy to cater for the specific circumstances outlined in this policy. Other policies would enable any proposals to be assessed in any event therefore avoiding policy vacuum.
H4	Residential Development on Previously Developed Land and Phasing of Development	Out-of-Date	Evidence with regards to land availability does not support the continued operation of the targets and phasing approach required by this policy.
LE1	Urban Fringe Landscape	Out-of-Date	No evidence to support continued operation of this designation, particularly within the context of the National Planning Policy Framework.
LE21	Townscape Improvement Areas	Out-of-Date	No longer considered a need and therefore justification for this policy and designation. Specific improvements in Conservation Areas would be identified through the process of Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plans.
LE23	MOD Safeguarding Zone	Out-of-Date	Policy considered largely redundant in that sufficient processes are in place with regards to validating and determining planning applications to ensure consideration is afforded to hazardous installations within the District.
LE28	Undeveloped Coastal Zone	Out-of-Date	No longer considered a need for a policy to cater for the specific circumstances outlined in this policy. Other policies would enable any proposals to be assessed in any event therefore avoiding policy vacuum.
T4	Park and Ride	Out-of-Date	No longer any firm proposals or evidenced need for Park and Ride provision within the District. Other policies would enable any proposals to be assessed in any event therefore avoiding

			policy vacuum.
LC6	Surplus Playing Fields	Out-of-Date	No longer considered a need for a policy to cater for the specific circumstances outlined in this policy. Other policies would enable any proposals to be assessed in any event therefore avoiding policy vacuum.
LC10	Golf Courses	Out-of-Date	No longer considered a need for a policy to cater for this specific land use. Other policies would enable any proposals to be assessed in any event therefore avoiding policy vacuum.
LC12	Cumberland Infirmary	Out-of-Date	The land to which this policy relates has now been developed as intended and in this regard the policy is evidently redundant.
LC15	Percent for Art	Out-of-Date	It is not considered that sufficient evidence exists, including that with regards to viability, to justify the continued implementation of this policy.
LC16	Recreational Land Proposals/Allocations	Out-of-Date	The circumstances of some of these sites have changed and it is no longer considered necessary or appropriate to therefore continue these allocations.
IM2	Monitoring	Out-of-Date	There is a statutory requirement arising from the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) to prepare an Annual Monitoring Report and in this regard the policy serves no purpose and constitutes unnecessary repetition.

## APPENDIX TWO -

### Local Plan Programme of Preparation

Preparation Stage 'Key Milestone'	Target Date	Programme Plan Legend
Preferred Options Stage One Consultation	July/August 2013	
PINS Compliance Visit	September 2013	
Preferred Options Stage Two Consultation	March/April 2014	
Formal 6 week consultation on 'Publication' (Proposed Submission Draft) Local Plan	February/March 2015	
Submission to Secretary of State	May 2015	
Pre-Hearing Meeting	July 2015	
Examination Hearing Sessions	August 2015	
Consultation on Modifications (if required)	October/November 2015	
Receipt of Inspectors Report (Final)	January 2016	
Adoption	April 2016 (Subject to Committee Cycles)	A

2013												2014											
J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
2015												2016											
J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

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## **EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE HELD ON 15 DECEMBER 2014**

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**EX.142/14    CARLISLE DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN (2015-2030) PROPOSED  
SUBMISSION DRAFT**  
(Key Decision – KD.31/14)

**Portfolio**     Economy, Enterprise and Housing

**Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel**     Environment and Economy

**Subject Matter**

The Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder submitted report ED.50/14 concerning the Carlisle District Local Plan (2015 - 2030) Proposed Submission Draft. The background position and evolution of the Plan since the Preferred Options (Stage Two) Draft were as detailed at Sections 1 and 2 of the report.

In terms of the next steps, the Portfolio Holder explained that the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 made clear that prior to submitting a Local Plan to the Government for independent examination, the City Council must first publish and consult on a 'publication' draft of the Local Plan which was that which they intended to 'submit'. Importantly the Council must at that stage consider the plan to be 'sound'. In order to be so the NPPF identified that it must be:

- Positively prepared - the plan should be prepared based on a strategy which sought to meet objectively assessed development and infrastructure requirements, including unmet requirements from neighbouring authorities where it was reasonable to do so and consistent with achieving sustainable development;
- Justified - the plan should be the most appropriate strategy, when considered against the reasonable alternatives, based on proportionate evidence;
- Effective - the plan should be deliverable over its period and based on effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic priorities
- Consistent with National Planning Policy - the plan should enable the delivery of sustainable development.

It was contended that the draft Local Plan fulfilled those requirements and could and should therefore be regarded as 'sound'.

Sections 3 and 4 also set out details of consultation undertaken.

The Portfolio Holder advised that, in order to ensure that the required resources were available to maintain momentum and progress the Local Plan through the next key stages outlined, it was necessary to maintain staff resources within the Local Plans team at current levels. One of the two existing Planning Officer posts within the team was however on a fixed term basis and was due to expire on 31 March 2015. It was therefore considered necessary to extend that fixed term post by a further 12 months until the 31 March 2016. The associated costs, including on-costs, amounted to £38k.

A budget of £175k had already been allocated to support ongoing and future work associated with progressing the Local Plan through its next stages of preparation towards adoption. The majority of that funding was, however, specifically earmarked to cover the anticipated costs of the EiP and therefore remained available. Permission was therefore sought to approve the use of £38k from that budget in the manner proposed.

She also highlighted for Members the risks associated with re-allocating the budget as requested, and the key risk associated with not acting to secure the appropriate resources.

The Portfolio Holder also expressed thanks to all members of staff involved for their meticulous work. They had dealt with in excess of 800 separate representations and worked extremely hard. She also wished to place on record thanks to Members of the cross-party working group for their participation.

In conclusion the Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder moved the recommendations, commenting that it was essential that staff resources were maintained.

The Leader seconded the recommendations. In so doing he echoed the Portfolio Holder's thanks to the Local Plans team for their outstanding professionalism and the valuable work undertaken by the cross-party working group. He asked that those thanks be taken back to the parties involved.

**Summary of options rejected**    None

## **DECISION**

That the Executive:

1. Had considered the Proposed Submission Draft of the Carlisle District Local Plan (2015 – 2030) and, in accordance with Article 4 of the Council's Constitution and its Budget and Policy Framework, made it available for consideration by the Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel.
2. Approved the use of £38k of the allocated Local Plan budget (£175k) in order to retain the necessary staff resources needed within the Local Plans team to progress the Local Plan through its next key stages of preparation.

## **Reasons for Decision**

1. To accord with Article 4 of the Council's Constitution and its Budget and Policy Framework, and a necessary and important step prior to the Executive considering at their meeting of 26 January 2015 referral of the Local Plan to Council. Referral to Council was necessary in order to secure approval for the necessary actions to enable the timely advancement of the Local Plan towards adoption, in accordance with the process governed by the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012; and
2. To ensure that sufficient funds were available to retain the necessary staff resources required to advance the Local Plan towards adoption

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## **EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL HELD ON 22 JANUARY 2015**

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### **EEOSP.07/15 CARLISLE DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN (2015-2030) PROPOSED SUBMISSION DRAFT**

The Director of Economic Development presented Report ED.05/15 which accompanied the latest draft of the emerging Carlisle District Local Plan (2015-2030) – the Proposed Submission Draft – and detailed how the Plan had evolved since the previous Preferred Option Stage Two draft. The report also set out the next key stages in the process towards the adoption of the Plan.

The Investment and Policy Manager outlined the background to the Local Plan which responded to guidance within the National Planning Policy Framework which strongly advocated that Local Planning Authorities should have an up to date Local Plan in place, which set out a positive vision for the future of the area and provide a practical framework within which decisions on planning applications could be made. The Carlisle District Local Plan (2015-2030) sets out a planning framework for guiding the location and level of development in the District up to 2030, as well as a number of principles that would shape the way that Carlisle would develop between now and then.

Work commenced on the preparation of the emerging Local Plan in its current form in March 2012 and since then a comprehensive evidence base had been developed upon which policies and proposals within the emerging Local Plan had been founded. There had also been extensive engagement with local communities and stakeholders at various key stages including the Preferred Options (Stage Two) draft of the Plan.

The report set out how the draft Local Plan had evolved since the Preferred Options (Stage Two) draft including how regard had been given to the outcomes of the most recent public consultation as well as setting out the next key stages in the process towards the adoption of the Local Plan.

The Investment and Policy Manager explained the evolution of the Local Plan since the Preferred Options (Stage Two) draft and the next steps in progressing the Local Plan. Legislation made clear that prior to submitting a Local Plan to the Government for independent examination, the City Council must first publish and consult on a 'publication' draft of the Local Plan, which is that which they intend to 'submit'. At this stage the Council must consider the plan to be 'sound'. The National Planning Policy Framework identified that the plan must be positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with National Planning Policy. The Investment and Policy Manager contended that the draft Local Plan fulfilled those requirements and could and should therefore be regarded as 'sound'.

Consultation on the 'publication' or 'proposed submission' draft of the Local Plan was intended as the final formal consultation and at this stage it would be made available for consultation, alongside other relevant supporting documentation for a minimum period of six weeks. The Investment and Policy Manager explained the documentation and supporting documentation including a series of background papers covering key policy areas that may also be made available.

Whilst the required consultation on the proposed submission draft would mirror the approach employed in the previous preferred options consultation it would differ in that it constituted a formal and statutory stage of consultation, and also that it would seek views specifically on the 'soundness' and legal compliance of the Plan.

The Investment and Policy Manager advised that the next stage in the preparation process would be for the City Council to formally 'submit' the Local Plan and all relevant supporting documentation to the Secretary of State, who will appoint an independent Planning Inspector to hold an Examination in Public (EiP) into the content of the Local Plan. The EiP would focus on checking that the plan had complied with the necessary legal and procedural requirements which governed the plan making process. The Inspector would then focus on examining the 'soundness' of the Local Plan in accordance with the relevant tests as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework.

Following the close of the EiP the Planning Inspector will issue a report to the Council to advise whether the Local Plan is considered to be 'sound'. If amendments are required the Planning Inspector must be invited by the Council to make those amendments. Once the Local Plan is deemed to be 'sound' the Council may proceed to formally adopt the Local Plan at which point it will replace the existing Local Plan.

It would be difficult to predict the length of the EiP but the anticipated timescales were set out within Appendix 2 of the report.

Members of the Planning Policy team presented the emerging Local Plan and outlined the key changes within the following key chapters:

- vision and objectives
- strategic policies
- economy
- housing
- infrastructure
- climate change and flood risk
- health, education and community
- historic environment
- green infrastructure, and
- monitoring framework.

In considering the report Members raised the following comments and questions:

- *Where did the evidence base come from and how robustly was it challenged?*

The Investment and Policy Manager explained that the national guidance provided detailed information on necessary evidence and recognised models and studies had been used to compile the evidence. Some aspects of the evidence were subject to consultation. Key pieces of the evidence base were brought to Members when possible and some had been brought to Scrutiny. All of the evidence was available on the Council's website. Consultation was a way of challenging the evidence as was the forthcoming examination of the Local Plan by a Planning Inspector.

The Director of Economic Development added that the evidence was tested at every stage of the process and the process of evaluating the evidence would depend upon the type of evidence concerned.

- *Members of the Local Plan Working Group had accepted the changes to housing policy but some Members had been critical of the evidence underpinning policies in respect of retail.*

The Investment and Policy Manager agreed to circulate the link to the relevant page to Members of the Panel. He explained that there was a home news page that was updated regularly.

- *Ward Councillors often receive negative feedback from residents querying why so many new houses were being built. Ward Councillors need the evidence to answer those questions. A Member had looked on the website but had been unable to access the updated Strategic Housing Market Assessment.*

The Director of Economic Development reminded Members that the 2014 update had been brought to a previous meeting of the Panel.

- *Did the representations received relating to housing also include comments on the allocated housing sites?*

The Monitoring Officer (Planning) confirmed that they included the detailed development management policies and the site allocations and that they would be covered in more depth later in the presentation.

### Vision and Objectives

The Investment and Policy Manager explained that the vision had been expanded and the suite of strategic objectives strengthened.

- *The main objective of the vision appears to be the urban area with no great reference to the rural area which comprises over 30% of Carlisle district.*

The Investment and Policy Manager stated that the Local Plan did mention rural areas and reminded Members that there was a 70/30 split for housing in urban and rural areas. That would enable development in the rural areas and support services, transport, etc in those areas. The Investment and Policy Manager was confident that the rural areas were sufficiently covered in the Local Plan.

- *Residents in rural areas often feel sidelined and in fairness to them there should be more information included.*

The Director of Economic Development explained that there was a lot of information about rural areas in the Local Plan but if Members believed that was inadequate comments could be taken to the Executive and the revisions to the Plan considered.

### Strategic Policies

The Investment and Policy Manager explained that the policies had been refocused and expanded and three new strategic policies introduced in respect of strategic connectivity, valuing the City's heritage and cultural identity and healthy and thriving communities.

No questions were raised by Members in respect of strategic policies.

### Economy

The Investment and Policy Manager explained that Policy EC1 had been refocused exclusively on employment land allocations, a policy on Mixed Use Areas had been removed from the Plan, retail/service centre hierarchy updated and Morton District Centre updated to cover other uses and to include safeguards.

- *With regard to employment land in Brampton, where was the employment land allocated to provide jobs for the residents in the 400 plus new homes planned in Brampton. The industrial estate was almost at capacity. Where would the next stage be located?*

The Investment and Policy Manager advised that there was no overwhelming evidence for additional employment land in Brampton. The industrial estate was valued and well used and there are some opportunities for infilling and redeveloping as well as providing offices above existing units in Brampton Town Centre. Nothing in the plan would preclude an application in Brampton to extend the existing industrial estate, or a new employment site providing the need for this could be justified. Each application would be considered on its merits.

The Director of Economic Development explained that the environment had changed since the introduction of the National Planning Policy Framework and the Council were able to be more flexible with proposals than in the past.

- *How would flexibility be built into the plan?*

The Director of Economic Development advised that care was taken when writing the policies to ensure there were not so many constraints and that policies were flexible enough to respond to changing circumstances across the plan period.

### Housing

The Principal Planning Officer explained that the housing target had been reduced from 665 per year to 565 per year. There had been changes to the portfolio of sites and the introduction of new national planning guidance had resulted in changes to the affordable housing policy. The policy in respect of Carlisle South had been expanded and clarified.

Carlisle South would have its own Masterplan and the Atlas team, funded through the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) would assist in that work.

- *With regard to site allocations will people have the opportunity to object if sites have been removed and have them put back in?*

The Principal Planning Officer explained that people could respond to the consultation to this effect but that debate would be held at the examination of the Local Plan. If it was a smaller site a planning application could be submitted and the site would be considered in that context. A larger site would be considered at the examination stage.

- *People may think that sites were not included in the emerging Local Plan because they were included in the previous Plan. Would they have the opportunity to object at the examination stage?*

The Director of Economic Development confirmed that they would have the opportunity at that stage. The Plan would go out to a six week consultation period before submission to the Planning Inspector.

The Principal Planning Officer advised that Officers had ongoing dialogue with site owners.

- *With regard to affordable housing three zones were indicated within the new Plan. People may think that Brampton was classified as the same as Carlisle.*

The Principal Planning Officer advised that Brampton had been classified as not rural by the Secretary of State. The zones on the map indicated viability (not an urban/rural distinction) and the Plan could be amended to make that more clear. The text in the Plan touched on viability and that could be expanded and drawn out in the text.

- *Was there a minimum standard for builders in respect of affordable housing?*

The Principal Planning Officer explained that affordable housing requirements related to need. Officers worked with colleagues in Housing Services and Registered Providers to determine that requirement.

- *Were there different strategies for villages and towns? Dalston was a village but with the recent large development was now considered to be a town.*

The Principal Planning Officer advised that Officers took care to ensure the allocation was in scale and form with the village in which a development would be located. The Council also had a windfall policy which was not included in the site allocations policy. The windfall policy had to meet a number of criteria and be in keeping with the scale, form and function of the village.

The Principal Planning Officer further advised that there were no further allocations for Dalston in place. However if an application was submitted it would be considered under the windfall policy.

The Principal Planning Officer explained that the new legislation in respect of affordable housing became relevant in December 2014 and ending pending applications would be subject to the new legislation.

The Director of Economic Development advised that the Development Management team were currently dealing with the new legislation and members of the Development Control Committee had considered a report on the matter.

The Principal Planning Officer stated that there had been a slight change to the Gypsy and Traveller policy.

With regard to Carlisle South the Director of Economic Development advised that it was included in the Plan as developments of such sites took many years to complete and by including it in the Local Plan it would provide an indication that the site was available.

The Principal Planning Officer explained that the Carlisle South Masterplan would be delivered towards the end of the plan period but it had been included as Officers were looking ahead which was the most sustainable way to ensure continuous growth of the City.

- *If an application was submitted for Carlisle South would it need to wait until completion of the Masterplan?*

The Principal Planning Officer advised that piecemeal development would not be considered.

The Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder advised that Carlisle South was an important, large development which would be handled in the most appropriate way to ensure the appropriate services and infrastructure was in place. It was important to protect the area against piecemeal development and it was essential that the area was included in the Local Plan.

- *How would the work of the Atlas team be fed back to Members?*

The Principal Planning Officer advised that the work would be presented to members of the Local Plan Working Group and would be monitored by Officers.

The Director of Economic Development explained that Officers would use the Masterplan as a way to take Members through the process. The Working Group had worked very well and the Director of Economic Development stated that she would like to use the Group to take the Masterplan forward.

- *It would be helpful if this Panel could be kept informed on substantial development in the City.*
- *How was Carlisle South defined?*

The Principal Planning Officer explained that the area was between junction 42 of the M6 and carried on west past the Racecourse. The area did not extend into the City Centre but stopped at the edge of the urban area. Some of the area would not be used as it would be designated as flood plain or have biodiversity or other value.

## Infrastructure

The Planning Officer explained that a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) was a tax levied on new developments to pay for infrastructure needed to support that development. The process was complicated and it had not yet been determined whether the City Council would implement the Levy.

The Director of Economic Development advised that the CIL would probably be required for development at Carlisle South. Officers would be considering the CIL on completion of the Local Plan.

In response to a query from a Member the Planning Officer advised that there were clear guidelines about how a CIL would work and there would not be any overlap with Section 106 Agreements.

The Investment and Policy Manager reminded Members that things were still changing and Officers had tried to ensure that the Local Plan had been future proofed.

- *How would the airport policy affect businesses around the site? Would they be included to be allowed to develop and expand?*

The Planning Officer advised that the policy related to land within the boundary of the airport and other businesses would be covered by other policies. The boundary of the airport was defined in the Local Plan.

## Climate Change and Flood Risk

The Planning Officer advised that the Planning Inspector had accepted an 800 metre separation distance between wind turbines and residential properties in Allerdale Council's Local Plan on the grounds of safety and amenity. As that could apply anywhere Officers decided to include a similar separation distance within the Carlisle Local Plan but would be flexible. The Planning Officer explained that Scotland already had a limit and Eden Council were looking to include similar limits.

The previous legislation related to wind turbines over 25 metres high and the separation distance was 350 metres. Wind turbines were now bigger so larger separation distances were required.

The Director of Economic Development advised that the policy was in relation to something that should already be in place. It would provide guidance to applicants and ensure residential amenity and safety. Flexibility was included in the policy.

The Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder believed that it would be useful if there was guidance from Government as wind turbines were unpopular with residents. Members of the Development Control Committee had to make the best decisions they could and often approved applications on planning grounds that were against what local people would prefer.

- *Had there been any feedback from builders with regard to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions?*

The Planning Officer advised that only the Home Builders Federation had submitted any feedback. Sainsbury's had submitted information advising that they supported more efficient design and technology which had been used when building their recent stores.

- *Who was responsible for setting the flood zones?*

The Planning Officer advised that the Environment Agency were responsible for updating the mapping of flood zones.

- *Had the flood zones changed with the implementation of the flood defences?*

The Planning Officer explained that whilst the risk of flooding would be reduced areas were still considered as an area of high flood risk as the defences could fail and the areas would be more badly affected.

### Health, Education and Community

The Planning Officer advised that policy CM2 had been strengthened, the Access, Mobility and Inclusion Policy had been amalgamated into Policy SP6, the Safeguarding Zones policy had been removed and separate policies had been amalgamated to form Policy CM5 – Environmental and Amenity Protection.

No questions were raised by Members in respect of strategic policies.

### Historic Environment

The Planning Officer explained that there had only been minor changes made to the section.

- *Some Members of the Local Plan Working Group were not confident that English Heritage had accepted some areas of development such as proposals to expose some areas of the Roman Wall. Were those comments still included in the Plan?*

The Planning Officer advised that the policies explained the opportunities available.

The Investment and Policy Manager explained that a new bullet point had been included to reflect the suggested wording as agreed by the Local Plan Working Group.

The Director of Economic Development advised Members that English Heritage had complemented the team and the Council as they had provided the best response with regard to heritage comments submitted on a Local Plan in the North West.

### Green Infrastructure

The Planning Officer advised that there had been no significant changes made to policies. The AONB policy had been updated to bring it more in line with Allerdale Council's AONB policy due to joint responsibility for the Solway Coast. There had been some minor amendments to biodiversity and the geodiversity policies and the Open Space policy had been renamed Public Open Space to make it clear that it applied to public open spaces only and not areas such as back gardens.

No questions were raised by Members in respect of strategic policies.

### Monitoring Framework

The Monitoring Officer (Planning) explained that it was necessary for the Council to measure the effectiveness of the policies and objectives of the Local Plan. The Plan included a framework of clear policy objectives and indicators and included possible actions to be taken in the event of negative trends emerging. The Plan was more robust and transparent and would be reported annually in the Council's Monitoring Report.

No questions were raised by Members in respect of the monitoring framework.

The Investment and Policy Manager advised that as the Local Plan was progressed more weight could be given to the policies it contained.

The Director of Economic Development advised that the Development Management team would start to use the emerging Local Plan following approval by Council when training sessions would be arranged for Members. The Director of Economic Development was requesting the Executive to approve delegated authority to make minor non-material amendments to the Local Plan; more fundamental changes would be taken to Council.

- *Are there some things that cannot be introduced until the Local Plan was adopted?*

The Investment and Policy Manager advised that the weight attached to the emerging Local Plan was in respect of guidance, that the stage that the Plan was at, the more advanced the stage the more weight it carried, and the number of unresolved objections.

- *If a developer looked at the emerging Local Plan and submitted an application before April 2016, when it was anticipated the Local Plan would be adopted, would they be required to comply with the policies within?*

The Investment and Policy Manager advised that the Council had an existing Plan. Officers would look at the existing Plan and the emerging Plan.

- *Was there a way of getting more responses from the forthcoming consultations? More people may respond if the Plan was made available in separate sections.*

The Investment and Policy Manager advised that was how the Plan was available for the previous consultation and would be done for the forthcoming consultation. The Plan would also be available on disc.

- *At the end of the consultation period would any new responses be passed to the Executive?*

The Investment and Policy Manager explained that any responses to the forthcoming consultation would be considered by the Planning Inspector.

The Director of Economic Development advised that the Plan was now going through more formal stages.

- *The general impression from Members was that they were generally stimulated by the emerging Local Plan. Was it anticipated that there would be any problems with the forthcoming responses from residents?*

The Investment and Policy Manager acknowledged that housing was a big issue to residents because it was the most tangible.

The Principal Planning Officer explained that there was not any one site that had raised massive objections. Most of the objections had been constructive and were in respect of access and density, etc rather than the principle of development. Officers had engaged and met with residents to discuss concerns.

The Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder identified that before the Local Plan was submitted to the Planning Inspector a lot of the objections would have been sorted out by the team. The Portfolio Holder wished it recorded that Members appreciated the amount of work undertaken by the team, as well as the hard work and professionalism of the team.

The Portfolio Holder also thanked the Local Plan Working Group who had offered interesting, helpful and relevant comments.

The Chairman reiterated the appreciation of the work undertaken.

In response to a query the Investment and Policy Manager explained that the version of the report submitted to the Executive was the subtly different to that submitted to the Panel with the amendments highlighted within the report and an addendum having been circulated to Scrutiny.

RESOLVED: 1. That report ED.05/15 – Carlisle District Local Plan (2015-2030) Proposed Submission Draft – be noted.

2. That the Panel had checked the draft Local Plan and considered comments from Officers and were happy to inform the Executive of their support, subject to two minor changes detailed at resolution 4.

3. That the Panel requested that Members should be notified of any material changes to the draft Local Plan as it progressed through examination, and asked for arrangements to be put in place to ensure this happened.

4. That considerations be afforded as to whether the wording of the vision could be strengthened with regards to ensuring coverage for rural areas, and that consideration be afforded to Policy HO4 and its supporting text as to whether the use of the different viability zones could be better explained, including with regards to the zone for Brampton.

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## **EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL EXECUTIVE HELD ON 26 JANUARY 2015**

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**EX.11/15      \*\*CARLISLE DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN (2015-2030) PROPOSED  
SUBMISSION DRAFT**  
(Key Decision – KD.31/14)

(In accordance with Paragraph 15(i) of the Overview and Scrutiny  
Procedure Rules, The Mayor had agreed that call-in procedures should  
not be applied to this item)

**Portfolio**      Economy, Enterprise and Housing

**Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel**      Environment and Economy

### **Subject Matter**

Pursuant to Minute EX.142/14, the Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder submitted report ED.04/15 presenting the Carlisle District Local Plan (2015 – 2030) Proposed Submission Draft (Version 4). She outlined the background position, including the long and complex procedure followed; the evolution of the Plan; and summarised the key changes since the Preferred Options (Stage Two) Draft.

The Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder paid tribute to the Officers who had worked tirelessly on the Local Plan, keeping up with all changes in planning policy and ensuring that the Plan met all necessary requirements.

The Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel had considered the matter on 22 January 2015 and the Portfolio Holder thanked the Panel for their very useful comments detailed within Minute Excerpt EEOSP.07/15, copies of which were also submitted.

The Panel had resolved:

“1. That report ED.05/15 – Carlisle District Local Plan (2015-2030) Proposed Submission Draft – be noted.

2. That the Panel had checked the draft Local Plan and considered comments from Officers and were happy to inform the Executive of their support, subject to two minor changes detailed at resolution 4.

3. That the Panel requested that Members should be notified of any material changes to the draft Local Plan as it progressed through examination, and asked for arrangements to be put in place to ensure this happened.

4. That considerations be afforded as to whether the wording of the vision could be strengthened with regards to ensuring coverage for rural areas, and that consideration be afforded to Policy HO4 and its supporting text as to whether the use of the different viability zones could be better explained, including with regards to the zone for Brampton.”

The Portfolio Holder informed the meeting that consideration had been given to the points raised in the above resolutions, and those had been incorporated within an amended Spatial Vision; and Policy HO4 (the amendments being highlighted in red), copies of which were tabled. She expressed the hope that the amendments met with the Panel’s intentions.

In terms of the next steps in progressing the Local Plan, the Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder explained that the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 made clear that, prior to submitting a Local Plan to the Government for independent examination, the City Council must first publish and consult on a ‘publication’ draft of the Local Plan, namely that which they intended to ‘submit’. Importantly the Council must at that stage consider the Plan to be ‘sound’. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) identified that the Plan must be positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with National Planning Policy in order to be so.

It was contended that the draft Local Plan fulfilled those requirements and could and should therefore be regarded as ‘sound’.

Consultation on the ‘publication’ or ‘proposed submission’ draft of the Local Plan was intended as the final formal consultation and at that stage it would be made available for consultation, alongside other relevant supporting documentation for a minimum period of six weeks. The Portfolio Holder explained the documentation and supporting documentation, including a series of background papers covering key policy areas that may also be made available.

The Portfolio Holder said that the Council had already consulted broadly and more deeply than required; had been very flexible in dealing with the consultation feedback, and the dates for submission of comments.

It was recognised that Parish Councils were not necessarily scheduled to meet within the six week consultation period. Officers had therefore written to the Parish Councils to alert them to the consultation in order that they may have the opportunity to adjust their timetables / hold special meetings if required.

The Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder advised that the next stage in the preparation process (providing that the further consultation did not highlight any fundamental issues of ‘soundness’) would be for the City Council to formally ‘submit’ the Local Plan and all relevant supporting documentation to the Secretary of State, who would appoint an independent Planning Inspector to hold an Examination in Public (EiP) into the content of the Local Plan.

In order to support submission of the Plan as quickly as possible following the close of the next stage of consultation on the Local Plan, it was necessary to delegate authority to proceed with submission as recommended. Such an approach was commonly employed by local planning authorities across England and, in the manner proposed, would ensure that an appropriate degree of accountability prevailed.

If the decision was taken to proceed with submitting the Plan, the Council would not at that stage be able to make any further changes to the document including in light of the consultation. Instead the Council could suggest changes it was minded to make to address any comments made, but it would be the role of the Inspector to consider the need for any changes and recommend those to the Council at a later date. In the event that it was considered that fundamental changes were necessary to address comments made through the required consultation, the decision would be taken not to submit the Plan as envisaged, and those changes considered necessary would be brought back before Council and would again require to be subject to consultation prior to then proceeding with submission of the Plan.

The EiP would focus on checking that the plan had complied with the necessary legal and procedural requirements which governed the plan making process. The Inspector would then focus on examining the 'soundness' of the Local Plan in accordance with the relevant tests as set out in the NPPF.

Prior to the commencement of the EiP the appointed Inspector would determine and communicate which matters would constitute the focus of the examination. That would be aided by a report which the Council was required to prepare following the consultation on the proposed submission draft which set out the main issues raised by respondents to it.

Following the close of the EiP the appointed Inspector would issue a report to the Council to say whether the Local Plan was considered to be 'sound'. That report may contain recommended changes necessary to ensure that the Local Plan could be considered sound but, in order to be able to do so the Inspector must first be invited by the Council, pursuant to Section 20(7C) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended), to do so. It was therefore recommended that approval to extend that invitation be explicitly sought from Council.

The Portfolio Holder emphasised that it was important to note that changes necessary to make the Local Plan sound may arise from discussions at the Examination hearing sessions at which the Council may be asked by the Inspector to negotiate with other parties and agree changes prior to them being formally recommended by them. That reflected that in reality a key role of the Inspector was to consider differences in opinion between the Council and other participants in the Plan preparation process with a view to trying to broker, but only where in their opinion needed and possible, compromise. In such circumstances it was simply not practical to keep deferring the examination to enable the consideration of such changes by Council or any other committee with an inherently lengthy lead in cycle. Consequently it was instead necessary to delegate authority, as recommended, to enable the examination process to proceed as intended, whilst again however ensuring a strong degree of accountability.

Upon receipt of an Inspector's report which advised that the Local Plan was deemed to be 'sound' or capable of being made 'sound' through the recommended changes, then the Council could, following a formal resolution to do so, proceed to formally adopt the Local Plan at which point it would replace the existing Carlisle Local Plan (2002 – 2016) and become the primary document against which planning applications for development within the District would be assessed.

The Portfolio Holder added that the length of the EiP was difficult to accurately predict and would ultimately be dependent on the number and complexity of the issues identified for examination by the appointed Inspector. Nevertheless the anticipated timescales associated with the remaining key stages of the preparation of the Local Plan were as set out in Appendix 2 of the report.

It was also important to note that, prior to the formal adoption of the new Local Plan, weight could in accordance with national policy, be legitimately attributed to it (in most circumstances) from its date of publication as a material consideration in the determination of planning applications. In that regard the emerging Local Plan would take a degree of effect and positively influence development in the manner desired from the date at which the proposed submission draft was published for consultation. Notwithstanding the provisions to that effect in national policy (mainly paragraph 216 of the NPPF), it was considered necessary, in the interests of clarity, to put in place a formal Council resolution to that effect.

An initial briefing session with the Council's Development Control Committee would be organised to raise awareness of the need to begin to have regard to the emerging Local Plan, with subsequent sessions held as necessary in response to any specific need to do so.

Members' attention was further drawn to Section 5 which set out details of the consultation undertaken.

The Acting Chairman of the Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel was in attendance at the meeting.

The Acting Chairman informed the Executive that the Panel had been able to thoroughly scrutinise the Carlisle District Local Plan proposed submission draft. That scrutiny had been made easier by the excellent presentation provided by the Team, with many questions having been answered through the presentation. The process which spanned many years demonstrated that Officer / Member involvement had gone a great way in assisting the Local Plan to move through the decision making process.

The Acting Chairman indicated that she had enjoyed scrutinising the Local Plan and had learned a great deal. She felt that working together in the manner identified had been a great success and suggested that approach would be of benefit for other large scale projects. It was also suggested that, should any material changes arise, all Members be involved if it affected their Wards.

In conclusion, the Acting Chairman thanked the Executive for their quick response to the Panel's recommendations, adding that the Panel was very happy to support the Local Plan.

In response, the Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder reiterated the Executive's thanks to the Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel for their very useful comments. She also thanked the Local Plan Working Group and the Acting Chairman for their input, adding that any material considerations would of course be brought back.

The Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder then moved the recommendations set out within the report, together with the amended Spatial Vision and the amended Policy HO4.

The Leader seconded the recommendations. In so doing he echoed the Portfolio Holder's thanks to the Members of the Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel; and the Local Plans Working Group. He concluded by expressing special thanks to the Local Plans team for their outstanding professionalism and the excellent work.

**Summary of options rejected**    None

## **DECISION**

That the Executive:

1.     Noted and had considered / responded to the feedback from the Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel following their consideration of the Carlisle District Local Plan (2015 – 2030) Proposed Submission Draft at their meeting of the 22 January 2015; and
2.     Referred the Carlisle District Local Plan (2015 – 2030) Proposed Submission Draft to Council for:
  - i.     Approval of the content of the draft Local Plan, including the amended Spatial Vision and Policy HO4, for the purposes of a further six week (minimum) formal period of public consultation in accordance with Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) 2012 Regulations;
  - ii.    Authorisation of the Director of Economic Development, following consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Executive Member for Economy, Enterprise and Housing, post consideration of the issues raised in response to the Regulation 19 consultation, to proceed with the submission of the Carlisle District Local Plan (2015 – 2030) to the Secretary of State for Independent Examination in accordance with Regulation 22 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) 2012 Regulations;

- iii. Approval to extend an invitation to the person appointed to carry out the examination, to formally request that s/he recommend any necessary modifications to the Plan to make it sound, pursuant to Section 20(7C) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended);
- iv. Authorisation of the Director of Economic Development, following consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Executive Member for Economy, Enterprise and Housing, to agree any minor amendments necessary to help secure the soundness of the Local Plan through the examination process;
- v. Authorisation of the Director of Economic Development, following consultation with the Executive Member for Economy, Enterprise and Housing, to make further editorial and technical amendments to the Proposed Submission Draft of the Local Plan, which did not materially affect its content, prior to commencement of consultation and/or submission;
- vi. Approval of a resolution that once published for consultation, weight be given to the Carlisle District Local Plan (2015 – 2030) as a material consideration when exercising Development Management policy decisions, in accordance with paragraph 216 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

### **Reasons for Decision**

The recommendations are necessary in order to enable the timely advancement of the Carlisle District Local Plan (2015 – 2030) towards adoption, in accordance with the process governed by the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. The Constitution makes clear that the approval of Local Plans rests with Council following their submission to the Executive, a requirement which is deemed to extend to each key draft stage of the Plan in the preparation process.

Delegated authority is necessary in the regards stated within the report in order to be able to practically progress the Local Plan through the Examination. The nature of delegation specified is considered proportionate to the matter to which it relates and importantly will ensure a degree of accountability prevails throughout the plan preparation process.

# Report to Council

Agenda  
Item:

**9**

Meeting Date: 10 February 2015

Portfolio: Cross Cutting

Key Decision: Not Applicable

Within Policy and  
Budget Framework Not Applicable

Public / Private Public

Title: OPERATION OF THE PROVISIONS RELATING TO CALL-IN  
AND URGENCY

Report of: Director of Governance

Report Number: GD.15/15

## Purpose / Summary:

To report on the operation of call-in and urgency since the previous report to Council on 3 February 2015.

## Recommendations:

That the position be noted.

## Tracking

Executive:	N/A
Overview and Scrutiny:	N/A
Council:	10 February 2015

## **1. BACKGROUND**

This report has been prepared in accordance with Rule 15(i) of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules which deals with the procedure in respect of occasions where decisions taken by the Executive are urgent, and where the call-in procedure should not apply. In such instances the Chairman of the Council (i.e. the Mayor) must agree that the decision proposed is reasonable in the circumstances and should be treated as a matter of urgency.

The record of the decision and the Decision Notice need to state that the decision is urgent and not subject to call-in. Decisions, which have been taken under the urgency provisions, must be reported to the next available meeting of the Council together with the reasons for urgency.

## **2. OPERATION OF THE PROVISIONS RELATING TO CALL IN AND URGENCY**

The Executive, at a special meeting held on 26 January 2015, considered a report concerning the Carlisle District Local Plan (2015 – 2030) Proposed Submission Draft which was referred to Council. The matter is to be considered by the Council at its special meeting on 10 February 2015. If a call-in was to be received, the call-in procedure would overlap the special City Council meeting.

The report has also been considered by the Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 22 January 2015.

All Members will have received copies of the above Minutes and report with the Summons for the Special Council Meeting and will have the opportunity to debate the matter at the special Council meeting on 10 February 2015. It was considered that any delay caused by a call-in would prejudice the Council's interest in progressing towards approval of the recommendations set out in the Director of Economic Development's report.

For the above reasons, the Mayor has agreed that the above decision was urgent and the call-in process should not be applied.

## **4. CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

**4.1** That the position be noted.

**Contact Officer:** Morag Durham

**Ext:** 7036

**Appendices**                      **None**  
**attached to report:**

**Note:** in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers:

- **None**

**CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS/RISKS:**

**Chief Executive's** – None

**Community Engagement** – None

**Economic Development** – None

**Governance** – Compliance with Procedure Rule 15(i) is important in terms of the Council's governance arrangements.

**Local Environment** – None

**Resources** - None

