

Report to:

Council

Agenda
Item

11(b)(iv)

Meeting Date: 03 March 2015

Public/Private*: Public

Title: **Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder's Report –
Councillor Heather Bradley**

Carlisle District Local Plan (2015-2030)

The next draft of the Local Plan – the 'proposed submission' draft – has successfully completed its journey through the committee cycle, with approval forthcoming from Council at their meeting of the 10th February to proceed with undertaking the next stages in progressing the plan.

The next key stage will see the proposed submission draft and relevant supporting documentation subject to a minimum six week period of consultation. Given that this next stage of consultation is a formal stage with regards to the statutory provisions of the governing regulations, the City Council will not be able to be as flexible as it has been previously with regards to the end date for accepting representations. In order to be proactive in this regard, the Council wrote in early January to all those who have participated in the process to date, and other key stakeholders, to advise of the forthcoming consultation and to provide indicative dates to aid their planning for responding.

A firm start date is not yet in place but it is envisaged the consultation will commence before the end of February and run through to mid April. The approach to consultation will mirror that used for previous stages given the success of these. Beyond the close of consultation consideration will be afforded to the representations received and a view reached as to whether to proceed with the submission of the plan as drafted to the Secretary of State for independent examination, exercising delegated authority forthcoming from Council to do so.

Southern Carlisle Master planning

The Council working in partnership with the County Council has been awarded £250k from the Homes and Community Agency to undertake a master planning exercise for the southern area of Carlisle allocated for development beyond 2030. The focus will initially be on infrastructure required to support the development.

National Practitioner Support Services Gold Standard Challenge

The Governments 'Making Every Contact count: A joint approach to preventing homelessness' encourages better cross service working between councils, charities, health services and the police to focus on earlier support for all people likely to become homeless, which is the approach which has been adopted within the Interagency Homelessness Strategy for Carlisle 2015-20.

The National prevention report set out 10 local challenges for local authorities which if addressed will lead to local homelessness services meeting the best or gold standards. Prior to addressing the challenges outlined below each authority must complete a diagnostic peer review (DPR). Within Cumbria 5 authorities have committed to the gold standard approach and the DPR's will begin in March in Eden, with Carlisle's audit scheduled to be undertaken in April. Once the DPR is complete with a score of over 60% each individual authority can apply to undertake 3 local challenges at a time each quarter.

It is anticipated that all 5 DPR's will be complete by August 2015; and as part of the Homelessness Strategy Action plan 2015-20 that all of the 10 Gold standard challenges will be achieved in Carlisle in 2016/17.

Local Challenges:

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| 1 | Adopt a corporate commitment to prevent homelessness which has buy in across all local authority services |
| 2 | Actively work in partnership with voluntary sector and other local partners to address support, education, employment and training needs |
| 3 | Offer a 'housing options' prevention service, including written advice to all clients |
| 4 | Adopt a No Second Night Out model or an effective local alternative |
| 5 | Have housing pathways agreed or in development with each key partner and client group that include appropriate accommodation and support |
| 6 | Develop a suitable private rented sector offer for all client groups; including advice |

and support to both clients and landlords

- 7** Actively engage in preventing mortgage repossessions including through the Mortgage Rescue Scheme
 - 8** Have a Homelessness Strategy which sets out a pro-active approach to preventing homelessness and is reviewed annually so that it is responsive to emerging needs
 - 9** Not place any young person aged 16 or 17 in bed and breakfast accommodation
 - 10** Not to place any families in bed and breakfast accommodation unless in an emergency and then for no longer than 6 weeks
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