

AGENDA

Executive

Monday, 20 March 2023 AT 16:00
In the Flensburg Room, Civic Centre, Carlisle, CA3 8QG

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive apologies for absence.

PUBLIC AND PRESS

To agree that the items of business within Part A of the agenda should be dealt with in public and that the items of business within Part B of the agenda should be dealt with in private.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

MINUTES

To note that at Council, at its meeting on 28 February 2023, received and adopted the minutes of the meetings held on 4 January 2023 and 20 February 2023.

[Copy minutes in Minute Book Vol 49(5)]

PART A

To be considered when the Public and Press are present

- A.1 SMOKE CONTROL AREA EMISSION REPORT** **5 - 28**
- (Key Decision – KD.02/23)
- The Corporate Director of Governance and Regulatory Services to submit proposed updates to the Council’s policy on emission breaches in the District’s smoke control areas and implementation of a civil penalty structure under the updates to the Clean Air Act 1993 under the Environment Act 2021
(Copy Report GD.10/23 herewith)
- A.2 NOTICE OF EXECUTIVE KEY DECISIONS** **29 - 36**
- (Non Key Decision)
- The Notice of Executive Key Decisions, published on 17 February 2023, is submitted for information.
(Copy Notice herewith)
- A.3 SCHEDULE OF DECISIONS TAKEN BY OFFICERS** **37 - 40**
- (Non Key Decision)
- A Schedule detailing decisions taken by Officers under delegated powers is attached for information.
(Copy Schedule herewith)
Background Papers – as detailed within the Schedule
- A.4 JOINT MANAGEMENT TEAM** **41 - 42**
- (Non Key Decision)
- The Minutes of the meeting of the Joint Management Team held on 20 February 2023 are submitted for information.
(Copy Minutes herewith)

A.5 CARLISLE RURAL STRATEGY

**43 -
68**

(Non Key Decision)

The Corporate Director of Economic Development to submit the emerging Carlisle Rural Strategy. The matter was considered by the Place Panel at its meeting on 2 March 2023.

(Copy Report ED.06/23 herewith and Minute Excerpt to follow)

A.6 CARLISLE ENTERPRISE FUND

**69 -
90**

(Non Key Decision)

The Corporate Director of Economic Development to submit a report outlining the policy and administration process for the Carlisle Enterprise Fund.

(Copy Report ED.10/23 herewith)

PART B

To be considered when the Public and Press are excluded from the meeting

B.1 DISPOSAL OF VARIOUS PROPERTY ASSETS

(Key Decision KD.03/23)

The report is not for publication by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as the report contains exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)

The Corporate Director of Governance and Regulatory Services to submit a report regarding the disposal of various Property Assets.

(Copy Report GD.04/23 herewith)

Members of the Executive

Councillor J Mallinson (Leader's Portfolio)

Councillor G Ellis (Deputy Leader, and Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder)

Councillor Mrs Bowman (Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder)

Councillor N Christian (Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder)

Councillor S Higgs (Culture, Heritage and Leisure Portfolio Holder)

Councillor Mrs E Mallinson (Communities, Health and Wellbeing Portfolio Holder)

Enquiries, requests for reports, background papers etc to:
democraticservices@carlisle.gov.uk

Notes to Members:

All decisions on the agenda will be exempt from call in and will become live when the decisions are published.

Carlisle City Council Report to Executive

Item
A.1

Meeting Date:

Portfolio: Environment and Transport

Key Decision: KD. 02/23

Policy and Budget

Framework Yes

Public / Private Public

Title: Smoke Control Area
Smoke Control Emission Enforcement Policy

Report of: Corporate Director Governance and Regulatory Services

Report Number: GD 10/23

Purpose / Summary:

The purpose of this report is to put forward a proposed Smoke Control Area Emission policy following the updates to the Clean Air Act 1993, under the Environment Act 2021. The adoption of the policy feeds into the air quality priorities under the Air Quality Action Plan 2021 in fulfilment of Part IV of the Environment Act 1995 Local Air Quality Management Framework.

Recommendations:

- 1. To approve the smoke control area emission policy including the new proposed civil penalty charging structure therein.**

Tracking

Executive:	20 th March 2023
Scrutiny:	
Council:	N/A

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Local authorities have a major role to play in monitoring and improving air quality. The Environment Act 1995 included the responsibilities of local authorities to actively review and assess potential concentrations and sources of air quality pollutants. The 2019 Clean Air Strategy¹ sets out the case for action, with goals even more ambitious than EU requirements, to reduce exposure to harmful pollutants. The Road to Zero² sets out the approach to reduce exhaust emissions from road transport through several mechanisms.
- 1.2 Monitored air pollution levels are steadily declining, year on year in Carlisle. Our extensive monitoring programme has shown that Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) is the only pollutant of concern. There are four localised areas, where levels are exceeding or could potentially exceed the national objective level. In these areas Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA's) have been declared.
- 1.3 In declaring Air Quality Management Areas, the Council is obliged to produce an Action Plan, that sets out the measures that it, and its partners, intend to take to reduce NO₂ concentrations. The annual air quality assessments and Action Plan 2021 were undertaken by Carlisle City Council's Environmental Health service and can be viewed here: [pollution-and-air-quality \(carlisle.gov.uk\)](https://www.carlisle.gov.uk/pollution-and-air-quality)
- 1.4 The action plan prepared and approved by Executive in 2021, sets out 12 key priorities for the period 2021 to 2026. Priority Number 8 focuses on the Authorities duty to investigate black smoke, smoke nuisance and managing the smoke control areas. It also includes enforcement action where necessary.

Table 1 (Local Air Quality Action Plan 2021, section 5.1)

Carlisle City Council

Measure No.	Measure	EU Category	EU Classification	Lead Authority	Planning Phase	Implementation Phase	Key Performance Indicator	Target Pollution Reduction in the AQMA	Progress to Date	Estimated Completion Date	Comments
8	The City Council will continue to investigate complaints of black smoke and smoke nuisance as well as managing smokeless zones. Enforcement action will be taken as necessary.	Public Information	Other	Carlisle City Council	Ongoing	Ongoing	Reduction in the number of complaints from members of the public. Reduction in repeat offences.	Not calculated	There is information on website. Environmental Health provide advice and enforcement as required. Smoke complaints are responded to involving domestic fires, bonfires, trade waste, industrial and dark smoke. Advice leaflet sent out for all cases of domestic burning. Advice given to minimise potential for smoke issues and ensure compliance with smokeless zones.	Ongoing	The Air Quality Strategy set out a goal to cut public exposure to particulate matter pollution. The aim is to reduce by half the number of people in the United Kingdom exposed to the WHO guideline concentration of 10 µg m ⁻³ by 2025. The measures set out here will contribute to this target.

¹Defra. Clean Air Strategy, 2019

² DfT. The Road to Zero: Next steps towards cleaner road transport and delivering our Industrial Strategy, July 2018

2. SMOKE CONTROL AREAS - THE LEGISLATIVE BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Clean Air Acts of 1956 and 1968 were introduced to deal with the smogs of the 1950s and 1960s which were caused by the widespread burning of coal for domestic heating and by industry. These smogs were blamed for the premature deaths of hundreds of people in the UK. The Acts gave local authorities powers to control emissions of dark smoke, grit, dust and fumes from industrial premises and furnaces and to declare “smoke control areas” in which emissions of smoke from domestic properties are banned. Since then, smoke control areas have been introduced in many of our large towns and cities in the UK.
- 2.2 The implementation of smoke control areas, the increased popularity of natural gas and the changes in the industrial and economic structure of the UK lead to a substantial reduction in concentrations of smoke and associated levels of sulphur dioxide (SO₂) between the 1950s and the present day.
- 2.3 These Acts, together with other associated clean air legislation, were repealed and consolidated by the [Clean Air Act 1993](#) which, together with regulations and Orders made under the Act, provide the current legislative controls. The Clean Air Act 1993 was updated by the [Environment Act 2021](#) and introduces a new legislative framework for Local Authorities in relation to smoke control areas. The new updates make provisions to:
- imposing financial penalties for the emission of smoke in smoke control areas in England
 - about offences relating to the sale and acquisition of solid fuel in England,
 - for applying smoke control orders to vessels in England, and
 - for authorised fuels and exempted fireplaces to be listed in Wales.
- 2.4 The details of which are contained within Schedule 12 of the Act, which in part makes principal amendments to the Clean Air Act 1993. England. Are Amendments to Smoke Control Area enforcement under the Environment Act 2021 came into effect on 1st May 2022.

3. SMOKE CONTROL AREAS IMPLEMENTED IN THE CARLISLE DISTRICT

- 3.1 Under the Clean Air Act of 1956, Carlisle has historically declared smoke control areas between 1976 and 1977. (see **Appendix 1 of the policy**) This information is also available on interactive map. [Smoke Control Area Interactive Map \(defra.gov.uk\)](https://defra.gov.uk)

The smoke control areas had been declared to make part of the authority to be a smoke control areas. It means it is an offence for any resident or business occupying these areas to emit smoke from a chimney of a building, from a furnace or from any fixed boiler if located in a designated smoke control area. The Council is responsible for enforcing the legislation in smoke control areas.

4. SMOKE CONTROL AREA EMISSION ENFORCEMENT POLICY

- 4.1 The guidance provided by Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) sets out how Local Authorities should be implementing the enforcement of the smoke emission rules and is available [Smoke control area enforcement by local authorities in England - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/smoke-control-area-enforcement-by-local-authorities-in-england), The Policy on smoke control emission enforcement will make reference to the guidance when dealing with any complaints regarding emissions in smoke control areas and the process for any enforcement by means of a civil penalty. The Policy must be formally adopted by the Authority before any financial penalty can be imposed, the penalty can range from a minimum of £175 to a maximum of £300 for each notice of intent you send. The Policy must be based on how serious the offence is and if it's a repeat offence. The proposed policy for enforcement is referenced in **Appendix 1** of this report. The details of the civil penalty structure are contained in **Appendix 2** of the policy.

5. RISKS

- 5.1 The adoption of an enforcement policy and civil penalty structure will ensure that officers are able to apply enforcement in a fair and consistent manor in recognition of the Enforcement Concordat and the Regulators' Compliance Code. If there was no approved policy or structure, then the Council could be subject to challenge having not adopted a policy in line with the guidance issued by DEFRA.

6. CONSULTATION

- 6.1 Consultation was undertaken by DEFRA when implementing the Environment Act 2021, the penalty structure is already set at minimum and maximum level. The policy adoption locally is required to ensure we are following guidance. If implemented wide publicity will be undertaken to inform those affected of a change to the enforcement policy.

7. CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 Air quality is extremely important for our residents and visitors to the area. Air pollution is associated with adverse health impacts. It is recognised as a contributing factor in the onset of heart disease and cancer. Additionally, air pollution particularly affects the most vulnerable in society: children, the elderly, and those with existing heart and lung conditions. There is also often a strong correlation with equalities issues. Areas with poor air quality are often less affluent areas^{3,4}. The mortality burden of air pollution within the UK is equivalent to 28,000 to 36,000 deaths at typical ages⁵, with a total estimated healthcare cost to the NHS and social care of £157 million in 2017⁶.
- 7.2 Our monitoring data confirms that all pollutant concentrations are below the national objective levels. Carlisle complies with both the UK standards and the World Health Organisation guidelines for particulate matter. There are four small areas where NO₂ has the potential to exceed national guidelines, which we are working to improve.
- 7.3 Air quality will continue to be monitored in the district and focussed on those areas which are most likely to require intervention.

8. CONTRIBUTION TO THE CARLISLE PLAN PRIORITIES

- 8.1 The proposals will help support the Carlisle Plan priority to: Continue to improve the quality of our local environment and green spaces so that everyone can enjoy living, working in and visiting Carlisle: By continuing to monitor NO₂ and other pollutants we continue to ensure that where necessary steps are taken to ensure air quality is highlighted for improvement.

Contact Officer:	Amelia Morphet	Email
	Principal Health and	<u>amelia.morphet@carlisle.gov.</u>
	Housing Officer	<u>uk</u>

³ Public Health England. Air Quality: A Briefing for Directors of Public Health, 2017

⁴ Defra. Air quality and social deprivation in the UK: an environmental inequalities analysis, 2006

⁵ Defra. Air quality appraisal: damage cost guidance, July 2020

⁶ Public Health England. Estimation of costs to the NHS and social care due to the health impacts of air pollution: summary report, May 2018

Appendices **Appendix 1 – Smoke Control Area, Emission Policy 2023**
Appendix reference in Emission Policy
Appendix 1 (a) Maps
attached to report: **Appendix 2 – Penalty Framework**
Appendix 3 – Procedure, reference in policy.

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:

Legal – The policies referred to in the Report are not ones reserved to full Council and are, therefore, a matter for the Executive. Relevant legal comments are contained within the body of the Report.

Property Services – None

Finance – The monitoring of local air quality is contained within the Council’s base budgets. The introduction of financial penalties for the enforcement of the smoke emission rules could generate additional income for the Council.

Equality – None

Information Governance – None

Smoke Control Area Smoke Control Emission Enforcement Policy 2023

Legislative background

The Clean Air Acts of 1956 and 1968 were introduced to deal with the smogs of the 1950s and 1960s which were caused by the widespread burning of coal for domestic heating and by industry. These smogs were blamed for the premature deaths of hundreds of people in the UK. The Acts gave local authorities powers to control emissions of dark smoke, grit, dust and fumes from industrial premises and furnaces and to declare “smoke control areas” in which emissions of smoke from domestic properties are banned. Since then, smoke control areas have been introduced in many of our large towns and cities in the UK.

The implementation of smoke control areas, the increased popularity of natural gas and the changes in the industrial and economic structure of the UK lead to a substantial reduction in concentrations of smoke and associated levels of sulphur dioxide (SO₂) between the 1950s and the present day.

These Acts, together with other associated clean air legislation, were repealed and consolidated by the [Clean Air Act 1993](#) which, together with regulations and Orders made under the Act, provide the current legislative controls. Control of smoke emissions may also help reduce emission of a wide range of other pollutants such as particles, sulphur dioxide, [PAH and PCDD/F \(dioxins and furans\)](#), which may be present in smoke.

The Clean Air Act 1993 was updated by the [Environment Act 2021](#) and introduces a new legislative framework for Local Authorities in relation to smoke control areas. The new updates make provisions to

- (a) imposing financial penalties for the emission of smoke in smoke control areas in England
- (b) about offences relating to the sale and acquisition of solid fuel in England,
- (c) for applying smoke control orders to vessels in England, and
- (d) for authorised fuels and exempted fireplaces to be listed in Wales.

The details of which are contained within Schedule 12 of the Act, which in part makes principal amendments to the Clean Air Act 1993. England. Are Amendments to Smoke Control Area enforcement under the Environment Act 2021 came into effect on 1st May 2022.

Smoke control areas implemented in the Carlisle area

Under the Clean Air Act of 1956, Carlisle has historically declared smoke control areas between 1976 and 1977. (see **Appendix 1a**) This information is also available on interactive map. [Smoke Control Area Interactive Map \(defra.gov.uk\)](#) The smoke control areas had been declared to make part of the authority to be a smoke control areas. If you live or occupy a property within one

of these areas, then it is an offence to emit smoke from a chimney of a building, from a furnace or from any fixed boiler if located in a designated smoke control area. It is also an offence to acquire an “unauthorised fuel” for use within a smoke control area unless it is used in an “exempt” appliance (“exempted” from the controls which generally apply in the smoke control area).

Prior to the update in the legislation under the Environment Act 2021, the maximum level of fine was £1,000 for each offence. The Council is responsible for enforcing the legislation in smoke control areas.

The guidance provided by Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) sets out how Local Authorities should be implementing the enforcement of the smoke emission rules and is available [Smoke control area enforcement by local authorities in England - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/policies/smoke-control-area-enforcement-by-local-authorities-in-england), The Policy on smoke control emission enforcement will make reference to the guidance when dealing with any complaints regarding emissions in smoke control areas and the process for any enforcement by means of a civil penalty. The Policy must be formally adopted by the Authority before any financial penalty can be imposed, the penalty can range from a minimum of £175 to a maximum of £300 for each notice of intent you send. The Policy must be based on how serious the offence is and if it's a repeat offence.

Civil Penalties for smoke emissions

The Environment Act 2021 amends the Clean Air Act 1993 to allow civil penalties to be imposed as an alternative to prosecution for certain offences. The Council can impose a penalty of up to £300.00. The level of the financial penalty will be calculated with reference to the guidelines set out by DEFRA.

If the Council wishes to impose a civil penalty as an alternative to prosecution, it must first issue a notice of intent. This must set out the reasons for the proposed penalty and the amount of the proposed penalty. The full details of determining the level of penalty are set out in **Appendix 2**

The person who has been given the notice then has 28 days to make representations to the Council. This will not be considered by the serving Officer, but the relevant Head of department. A right to make representations against the penalty notice is given and any representations for a reduction in fine levied, considering any extenuating circumstances. At the end of this 28 day period, the Council must decide if it wishes to impose a penalty, and if it does, it must issue a final notice. If individual does not object, the penalty should be issued within 56 days from the end of the 28-day objection period. If they object unsuccessfully, you should issue the financial penalty within 56 days from the date they objected.

The final notice must set out the amount of the penalty, the reasons for imposing the penalty, the period for paying the penalty, information on how to pay, information on rights of appeal, and the consequences of failure to comply. A person on whom a final notice is served has a right of appeal to the First Tier Tribunal. If an appeal is made, the notice is suspended until the outcome of the appeal is determined. The penalty may be recovered through the county court as if it were payable under an order of that court. The financial penalties may be retained by the local authority and may be used to meet the costs of enforcement action.

The full process for Officers to follow is to set out in **Appendix 3**.

CITY OF



CARLISLE

THE CLEAN AIR ACT 1956

THE CITY OF CARLISLE (No. 1) SMOKE CONTROL ORDER
1976

The Council of the City of Carlisle in exercise of the powers conferred upon them by Section 11 of the Clean Air Act 1956, hereby make the following Order:-

1. This Order may be cited as the City of Carlisle (No. 1) Smoke Control Order 1976.
2. The area which is coloured green on the map prepared in duplicate, sealed with the Common Seal of the said Council of the City of Carlisle and marked "Map Referred To in the City of Carlisle (No. 1) Smoke Control Order 1976" is hereby declared to be a Smoke Control Area. One duplicate of the map is deposited in the offices of the said Council of the City of Carlisle and the other is deposited in the offices of the Secretary of State for the Environment.
3. This Order shall come into operation on the First day of November 1976.

GIVEN under the Common Seal of the Council of the City of Carlisle the Twenty-ninth day of January, 1976.

THE COMMON SEAL of THE)
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF)
CARLISLE was hereunto)
affixed in the presence)
of:-)

Town Clerk



The Secretary of State for the Environment
hereby confirms the foregoing Order.

Signed by authority
of the Secretary of
State
22ND APRIL 1976

CITY OF CARLISLE

MAP REFERRED TO IN THE
CITY OF CARLISLE (NO.1) SMOKE CONTROL ORDER 1976



SCALE 6 1/4 MILE THE COMMON SEAL OF THE COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF CARLISLE WAS HEREUNTO
AFFIXED 29th ~~THE~~ January ~~DAY~~ OF 1976



1998
TOWN CLERK

CITY OF



CARLISLE

THE CLEAN AIR ACT 1956

THE CITY OF CARLISLE (No. 2) SMOKE CONTROL ORDER 1976

The Council of the City of Carlisle in exercise of the powers conferred upon them by Section 11 of the Clean Air Act 1956, hereby make the following Order:-

1. This Order may be cited as the City of Carlisle (No. 2) Smoke Control Order 1976.
2. The area which is coloured green on the map prepared in duplicate, sealed with the Common Seal of the said Council of the City of Carlisle and marked "Map Referred To in the City of Carlisle (No. 2) Smoke Control Order 1976" is hereby declared to be a Smoke Control Area. One duplicate of the map is deposited in the offices of the said Council of the City of Carlisle and the other is deposited in the offices of the Secretary of State for the Environment.
3. This Order shall come into operation on the First day of November 1976.

GIVEN under the Common Seal of the Council of the City of Carlisle the Twenty-ninth day of January, 1976.

THE COMMON SEAL of THE)
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF)
CARLISLE was hereunto)
affixed in the presence)
of:-)



Town Clerk

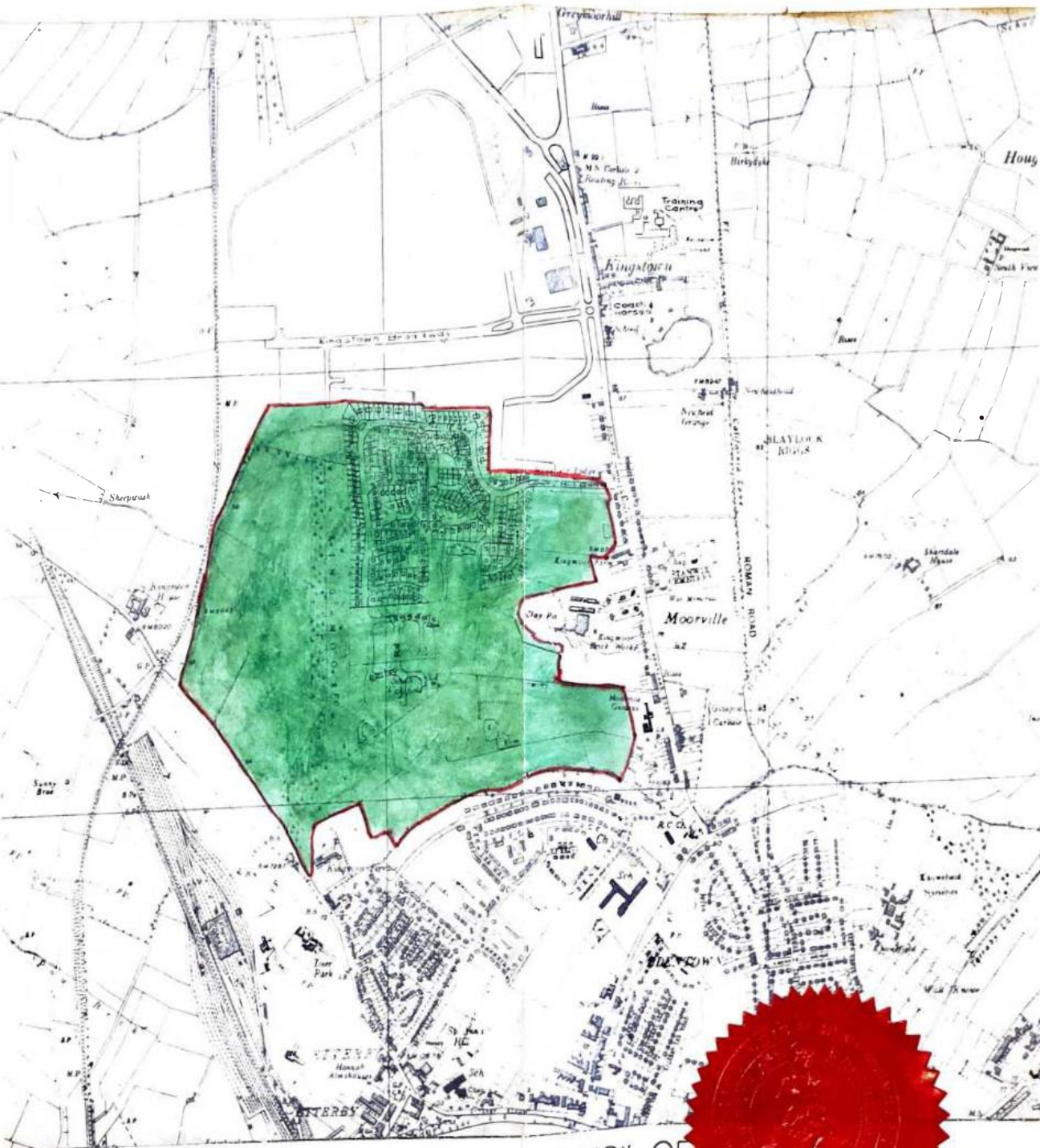
The Secretary of State for the Environment hereby confirms the foregoing Order.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State

22ND APRIL 1976.

CITY OF CARLISLE

MAP REFERRED TO IN THE
CITY OF CARLISLE (NO.2) SMOKE CONTROL ORDER 1976



SCALE 1/5000
THE COMMON SEAL OF THE COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF CARLISLE WAS HEREUNTO
AFFIXED 29th January 1976

Page 16 of 90



J. H. H. H.
TOWN CLERK



THE CLEAN AIR ACT 1956

THE CITY OF CARLISLE (No. 3) SMOKE CONTROL ORDER 1976

The Council of the City of Carlisle in exercise of the powers conferred upon them by Section 11 of the Clean Air Act 1956, hereby make the following Order:-

1. This Order may be cited as the City of Carlisle (No. 3) Smoke Control Order 1976.
2. The area which is coloured green on the map prepared in duplicate, sealed with the Common Seal of the said Council of the City of Carlisle and marked "Map Referred To in the City of Carlisle (No. 3) Smoke Control Order 1976" is hereby declared to be a Smoke Control Area. One duplicate of the map is deposited in the offices of the said Council of the City of Carlisle and the other is deposited in the offices of the Secretary of State for the Environment.
3. This Order shall come into operation on the First day of November 1976.

GIVEN under the Common Seal of the Council of the City of Carlisle the Twenty-ninth day of January, 1976.

THE COMMON SEAL of THE)
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF)
CARLISLE was hereunto)
affixed in the presence)
of:-)

Town Clerk



19982

The Secretary of State for the Environment hereby confirms the foregoing Order.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State

22ND APRIL 1976

CITY OF CARLISLE
 MAP REFERRED TO IN THE
CITY OF CARLISLE (NO 3) SMOKE CONTROL ORDER 1976



SCALE THE COMMON SEAL OF THE COUNCIL OF
 1/4 MILE THE CITY OF CARLISLE WAS HEREUNTO
 AFFIXED THE 29th DAY OF January 1976



Page 18 of 90
 TOWN CLERK



THE CLEAN AIR ACT 1956

THE CITY OF CARLISLE (No. 4) SMOKE CONTROL ORDER 1976

The Council of the City of Carlisle in exercise of the powers conferred upon them by Section 11 of the Clean Air Act 1956, hereby make the following Order:-

1. This Order may be cited as the City of Carlisle (No. 4) Smoke Control Order 1976.
2. The area which is coloured green on the map prepared in duplicate, sealed with the Common Seal of the said Council of the City of Carlisle and marked "Map Referred To in the City of Carlisle (No. 4) Smoke Control Order 1976" is hereby declared to be a Smoke Control Area. One duplicate of the map is deposited in the offices of the said Council of the City of Carlisle and the other is deposited in the offices of the Secretary of State for the Environment.
3. This Order shall come into operation on the First day of November 1976.

GIVEN under the Common Seal of the Council of the City of Carlisle the Twenty-ninth day of January, 1976.

THE COMMON SEAL of THE)
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF)
CARLISLE was hereunto)
affixed in the presence)
of:-)



19983

Town Clerk

The Secretary of State for the Environment hereby confirms the foregoing Order.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State

22nd APRIL 1976

CITY OF CARLISLE

MAP REFERRED TO IN THE
CITY OF CARLISLE (NO.4) SMOKE CONTROL ORDER 1976



SCALE THE COMMON SEAL OF THE COUNCIL OF
1/5 MILE THE CITY OF CARLISLE WAS HEREUNTO
AFFIXED THE 29th DAY OF January 1976



19983.

TOWN CLERK



THE CLEAN AIR ACT 1956

THE CITY OF CARLISLE (NO. 5) SMOKE CONTROL ORDER 1977

The Council of the City of Carlisle in exercise of the powers conferred upon them by Section 11 of the Clean Air Act 1956, hereby make the following Order:-

1. This Order may be cited as the City of Carlisle (No. 5) Smoke Control Order 1977.
2. The area which is coloured green on the map prepared in duplicate, sealed with the Common Seal of the said Council of the City of Carlisle and marked "Map referred to in the City of Carlisle (No. 5) Smoke Control Order 1977" is hereby declared to be a smoke control area. One duplicate of the map is deposited in the offices of the said Council of the City of Carlisle and the other is deposited in the offices of the Secretary of State for the Environment.
3. This Order shall come into operation on the First day of November 1977.

GIVEN under the Common Seal of the Council of the City of Carlisle the Twenty seventh day of January 1977.

THE COMMON SEAL of THE COUNCIL)
OF THE CITY OF CARLISLE was)
hereunto affixed in the)
presence of:-)

[Handwritten Signature]
Town Clerk.



20808

The Secretary of State for the Environment
hereby confirms the foregoing Order.

T.R. Clark
Signed by authority
of the Secretary of
State

18 APR 1977

CITY OF CARLISLE

MAP REFERRED TO IN THE

CITY OF CARLISLE (NO 5) SMOKE CONTROL ORDER 1977



SCALE
1-2500

THE COMMON SEAL OF THE COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF CARLISLE WAS
HEREUNTO AFFIXED

Page 22 of 90

the 27th day of January 1977.

20809

[Signature]
TOWN CLERK

Appendix 2: Penalty Policy Framework – Smoke Emissions

	Penalty amount as Issued	Penalty reduction threshold after representations
First Offence	£175.00	£115.00
Second Offence in 12 months	£200.00	£135.00
Second Offence in 6 months	£250.00	£165.00
Repeat Offender	£300.00	None

Factors, which the Council will consider in reducing the penalty

The Council will consider any factors, which indicate a reduction in the penalty and in so doing will have regard to the following factors relating to the wider impacts of the financial penalty.

- impact of the financial penalty on offender’s ability to comply with the law or make restitution to victims;
- impact of the financial penalty on employment of staff, service users, customers and local economy.
- Reduction for early admission of guilt. (early payment fee structure)

The following factors will be considered in setting the level of reduction. When deciding on any reduction in a financial penalty, consideration will be given to:

- The stage in the investigation or thereafter when the offender admitted guilt
- The circumstances in which they admitted guilt
- The degree of co-operation with the investigation

The maximum level of reduction in a penalty for an admission of guilt will be one-third. In some circumstances, there will be a reduced or no level of discount. For example where the evidence of the offence is overwhelming or there is a pattern of criminal behaviour. Any reduction should not result in a penalty, which is less than the amount of gain from the commission of the offence itself

Smoke Control Area Procedure Note

Complaints.

If we receive a complaint in a smoke control area, then we need as much information as possible at first point of contact to establish if the issue needs to be investigated as a potential statutory nuisance, a smoke control area breach or if it would be considered actionable as significant impact on the community for Community Protection.

The complainant will be asked to provide contact name, address, contact number and e-mail, without this information the Officers will be unable to progress the case. The Officer may also find it relevant to gather additional information such as how many people live in the property, are there children in the household, how long have you been in the property, do you have any issues with the neighbour.

If the matter is determined as a potential statutory nuisance, then the Officer will provide the complainant with a Bothered by Nuisance Booklet at first point of contact.

If the issues reported are potential smoke control area breaches, the complainant should be asked to provide video evidence if possible, this can be submitted to EnvironmentalHealth@carlisle.gov.uk referencing the service request number.

If this is not possible, then the Officer will ask the complainant to provide a diary of when the breaches are occurring, so the Officer can then make reasonable attempts to visit the property to witness any potential breaches. Providing dates and time will enable our resources to be used more effectively during any investigation. A maximum of three visits will be undertaken to witness any breaches after which the complaint will be closed.

Enforcing after confirming a smoke emission

If an Officer detects a substantial amount of smoke from a chimney in a smoke control area, they can issue a warning to the person responsible. But this is not a legal requirement. The departments initial approach will be to educate and inform individuals at first point of contact, this may then be followed up by a formal letter, enclosing any advice leaflets.

No action will be required if individuals are using an authorised fuel or an exempt appliance correctly. This is because the appliance should not be emitting substantial amounts of smoke.

If they continue to emit a substantial amount of smoke from their chimney after an initial warning, you must follow these steps:

1. Issue a notice of intent.
2. Issue a final notice with a financial penalty.

You may give a written warning or notice by one of the following means:

- handing it to the person responsible
- leaving it at the person's address
- sending it by post to the person at their address

- emailing it to the person (if you have their consent).

Information required when issuing a written warning

The notice should include:

- the smoke control area's restrictions
- specific details about when the smoke was seen
- an explanation of how the person has broken smoke control area rules
- information about the negative impact on local air quality
- information about how the person can burn solid fuels without emitting a substantial amount of smoke, including appropriate fuel to burn and which appliances to use
- details of next steps if they do not follow the rules

Issuing a notice of intent

You can give a notice of intent to the person responsible for smoke emissions from a chimney in a smoke control area. It must tell them:

- that there is enough evidence to prove that smoke was emitted from their chimney in a smoke control area
- when smoke was emitted from a chimney in a smoke control area
- that you intend to issue them with a financial penalty under Schedule 1A of the Clean Air Act (as amended by the Environment Act 2021)
- the proposed amount of the penalty, which can be any amount between £175 and £300, as determined by the penalty policy.
- that they have the right to object in writing to the proposed financial penalty within 28 days from the day after the notice was given – The details of how to make representations will be in the notice and then should include supporting evidence

If there are further smoke emissions from a chimney after you send a notice of intent, you can issue additional notices for each separate incident.

Financial penalty amount

The financial penalties range from a minimum of £175 to a maximum of £300 for each notice of intent you send. The amount is set out in the Smoke Control Area, Emission Policy.

If someone objects to your notice of intent to issue a financial penalty

You can agree to an objection and cancel the fine if any of the following apply:

- there was no smoke emitted from the chimney at the time given in the notice of intent

- a smoke control order did not apply to the chimney at the time given in the notice of intent
- the person sent the notice of intent was not responsible for the chimney at the time given in the notice of intent – in this case, they must provide the name and address of the person who was liable at the time (if they know)
- there are other compelling reasons why the financial penalty should not be imposed

If you agree to the objection and decide not to impose a financial penalty, you must tell the person responsible in writing.

Issue a final notice

You can issue a final notice with a financial penalty if the person responsible:

- does not object to the notice of intent within 28 days
- objects within 28 days but you reject the reasons for their objection

If they do not object, you should issue the financial penalty within 56 days from the end of the 28-day objection period.

If they object unsuccessfully, you should issue the financial penalty within 56 days from the date they objected.

The final notice must include:

- the name of the person responsible
- the amount of the financial penalty
- the reasons for imposing the penalty
- information about how to pay the penalty
- the amount of time they have to pay the penalty (within 28 days)
- information about their right to appeal

Withdrawing or amending notices

You can withdraw a notice of intent or a final notice at any time. You can also reduce the amount of the financial penalty.

If you decide not to impose a financial penalty, you must tell the person responsible in writing.

Appeals process

In the final notice, you must tell the person they have the right to appeal within the 28-day period, starting on the day after the final notice was given. They'll need to appeal to the [first-tier tribunal](#).

You must inform them that they can appeal the financial penalty if it was:

- based on a factual error
- based on a legal error
- unreasonable

If a person appeals against the penalty, you must suspend the final notice until you get the result of the appeal or the appeal is withdrawn.

The first-tier tribunal may:

- cancel the final notice
- confirm the final notice
- change the final notice by reducing the amount of the financial penalty
- ask you as the relevant local authority to decide whether to withdraw or confirm the final notice or reduce the amount of the financial penalty

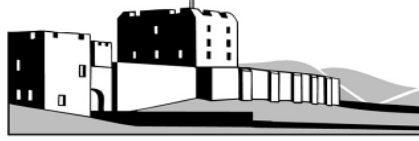
Keeping and recording financial penalties

You can keep any income you receive from the financial penalties.

It's good practice to keep a record of financial penalties collected. The information might include the:

- number of financial penalties issued
- number of financial penalties collected
- amount collected

**CARLISLE
CITY COUNCIL**



www.carlisle.gov.uk

Item
A.2

NOTICE OF EXECUTIVE KEY DECISIONS

17 FEBRUARY 2023

Notice of Key Decisions

This document provides information on the 'key decisions' to be taken by the Executive within the next 28 days. The Notice will be updated on a monthly basis and sets out:

- Details of the key decisions which are to be taken;
- Dates of the Executive meetings at which decisions will be taken;
- Details of who will be consulted and dates for consultation;
- Reports and background papers which will be considered during the decision making process;
- Details of who to contact if further information is required
- Details of where the document can be inspected
- Details of items which the public may be excluded from the meeting under regulation 4(2) and the reason why
- Details of documents relating to the decision which need not, because of regulation 20(3) be disclosed to the public and the reason why.

The dates on which each new Notice will be published are set below:

Publication Dates

20 January 2023

17 February 2023

Key decisions are taken by the City Council's Executive and these are usually open to the public. Agendas and reports and any other documents relevant to the decision which may be submitted can be viewed in the Customer Contact Centre at the Civic Centre, Carlisle or on the City Council's website (www.carlisle.gov.uk). Agendas and reports are published one week ahead of the meeting.

A Key Decision is an Executive decision which is likely –

- (a) to result in the relevant local authority incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant* having regard to the local authority's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates;
- (b) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards or electoral divisions in the area of the relevant local authority.

*significant expenditure or savings to the authority in excess of £70,000

The City Council's Executive Members are:

Councillor J Mallinson (Leader / Chair)

Councillor G Ellis (Deputy Leader, and Finance, Governance and Resources Portfolio Holder)

Councillor N Christian (Environment and Transport Portfolio Holder)

Councillor S Higgs (Culture, Heritage and Leisure Portfolio Holder)

Councillor Mrs Mallinson (Communities, Health and Wellbeing Portfolio Holder)

Councillor Mrs Bowman (Economy, Enterprise and Housing Portfolio Holder)

Should you wish to make any representations in relation to the items being held in private or If you require further information regarding this notice please contact Democratic Services on 01228 817039 or committeeservices@carlisle.gov.uk.

Index of Active Key Decisions

		Date Decision to be considered:	Date Decision to be taken:
KD.02/23	Smoke Control Area Emission Report		20 March 2023
<hr/>			
KD.03/23	Disposal of various Property Assets		20 March 2023
<hr/>			
KD.04/23	Market Square Project – Future High Streets Fund		20 March 2023
<hr/>			

Notice of Key Decisions to be taken by the Executive

The following key decision is to be made on behalf of Carlisle City Council:

Key Decision Reference:	KD.02/23
Type of Decision:	Executive
Decision Title:	Smoke Control Area Emission Report
Decision to be taken:	The Executive will be asked to agree the proposed updates to the Councils policy on emission breaches in the Districts smoke control areas and implementation of a civil penalty structure under the updates to the Clean Air Act 1993 under the Environment Act 2021
Date Decision to be considered:	
Date Decision to be taken:	20 March 2023
Is the Decision Public or Private?:	The decision will be taken in public.
Documents submitted for consideration in relation to the Decision:	The report of the Corporate Director of Governance and Regulatory Services will be available five working days before the meeting
Contact Officer for this Decision:	Corporate Director of Governance and Regulatory Services, Carlisle City Council, Civic Centre, Carlisle, CA3 8QG
Relevant Portfolio Area:	Environment and Transport (Councillor Christian)
Relevant or Lead Overview and Scrutiny Panel:	People Panel

All public reports can be viewed in the Customer Contact Centre of the Civic Centre, Carlisle, the Public Library and on the Council's website www.carlisle.gov.uk.

Other documents relevant to the matter may be submitted to the decision maker. These, if available, may be obtained by contacting the named contact officer.

Notice of Key Decisions to be taken by the Executive

The following key decision is to be made on behalf of Carlisle City Council:

Key Decision Reference:	KD.03/23
Type of Decision:	Executive
Decision Title:	Disposal of various Property Assets
Decision to be taken:	The Executive will be asked to approve the disposal of these assets
Date Decision to be considered:	
Date Decision to be taken:	20 March 2023
Is the Decision Public or Private?:	The decision will be taken in private. The report is not for publication by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as the report contains exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)
Documents submitted for consideration in relation to the Decision:	The report of the Corporate Director of Governance and Regulatory Services will be available five working days before the meeting
Contact Officer for this Decision:	Corporate Director of Governance and Regulatory Services, Carlisle City Council, Civic Centre, Carlisle, CA3 8QG
Relevant Portfolio Area:	Finance, Governance and Resources (Councillor Ellis)
Relevant or Lead Overview and Scrutiny Panel:	Place Panel

All public reports can be viewed in the Customer Contact Centre of the Civic Centre, Carlisle, the Public Library and on the Council's website www.carlisle.gov.uk.

Other documents relevant to the matter may be submitted to the decision maker. These, if available, may be obtained by contacting the named contact officer.

Notice of Key Decisions to be taken by the Executive

The following key decision is to be made on behalf of Carlisle City Council:

Key Decision Reference:	KD.04/23
Type of Decision:	Executive
Decision Title:	Market Square Project – Future High Streets Fund
Decision to be taken:	The Executive will be asked to approve the design and cost plan for the project to date and delegate authority to enter into contracts to allow the delivery of the project
Date Decision to be considered:	
Date Decision to be taken:	20 March 2023
Is the Decision Public or Private?:	The decision will be taken in public
Documents submitted for consideration in relation to the Decision:	The report of the Corporate Director of Economic Development will be available five workign days before the meeting.
Contact Officer for this Decision:	Corporate Director of Economic Development Carlisle City Council, Civic Centre, Carlisle, CA3 8QG
Relevant Portfolio Area:	Economy, Enterprise and and Housing (Councillor Mrs Bowman)
Relevant or Lead Overview and Scrutiny Panel:	Place Panel

All public reports can be viewed in the Customer Contact Centre of the Civic Centre, Carlisle, the Public Library and on the Council's website www.carlisle.gov.uk.

Other documents relevant to the matter may be submitted to the decision maker. These, if available, may be obtained by contacting the named contact officer.

Notice prepared by Councillor John Mallinson,
Leader of Carlisle City Council

Date: 17 February 2023

Officer Decisions

Item A.3

Below is a list of decisions taken by Officers which they have classed as significant, full details and supporting background documents can be viewed on the Council's website www.carlisle.gov.uk/CMIS/

Decision Ref No	Title: Subject and Decision Taken:	Reports and Background Papers considered:	Date Decision Taken:	Decision Maker:
OD.14/23	Landlord's consent to a lease renewal. To grant Landlord's consent to a lease renewal of unit 88 at The Lanes Shopping Centre.	None	09 February 2023	Head of Property Services
OD.15/23	Enforced Sale of an empty property To use the Enforced Sale procedure to recover debts incurred by the Council on an empty property, 11 Red Bank Square, Carlisle, Cumbria, CA2 4BG.	Officer case notes.	20 February 2023	Corporate Director of Governance and Regulatory Services.
OD.16/23	Longtown Draft Place Plan submission to the Borderlands Place Programme Board The submission of the Longtown Place Plan to the Borderlands Place Programme Board, following minor amendments to the document.	ED.02/23	17 February 2023	Corporate Director of Economic Development
OD.17/23	Carlisle Southern Link Road Amendment to the Grant Determination Agreement (January 2023) Homes England have requested an amendment to the existing Grant Determination Agreement (GDA) for the Carlisle Southern Link Road (CSLR). This would make changes and clarifications to the GDA regarding the production of a remediation plan in the event of General Default. Whilst production of a remediation plan is addressed within the original GDA, the proposed amendment provides more detail without materially altering provisions regarding the timing and deliverability. Given the County and Coty Councils are technically already in General Default of the GDA, the changes clarify the process and requirements for continuing such that the issues regarding the General Default can be addressed.	None	09 February 2023	Corporate Director of Economic Development

	Approved the proposed amendment to the existing Grant Determination Agreement for the Carlisle Southern Link Road and progresses the deed of variation for sealing.			
OD.18/23	<p>Petteril Valley Park - Construction of a New Footpath</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This project forms part of a package of work to former grazing land located off Petteril Bank Road, Harraby, funded by the UK Government's Levelling Up Parks Fund. • The grant totals £85,000 and includes conditions to allocate funds towards specific themes of work, linking together to create a new public green space. • Existing access through the site is informal and focussed on two main desire-lines running North to South across the area. The most heavily used desire line, leading between two existing entrance points, has been selected for upgrade. • The path will be excavated and re-built with a compacted stone sub-base and asphalt surface to a width of 1.5 metres. Passing places will be provided at regular intervals and seating will be included at equal distances. • The entrance points will be replaced with wheelchair and mobility scooter accessible chicanes, constructed from steel and located on concrete bases. • A tender package was distributed to contractors placed on the existing Carlisle City Council Green Spaces Framework Agreement on 10/01/2023 and responses requested by 03/02/2023 • Quotations were received from three contractors and the most competitive price was submitted by Evans Agricultural Contractors Ltd at £46,200. 	N/A	15 February 2023	Deputy Chief Executive
OD.19/23	<p>Play Areas - Replacement Safer Surfacing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High levels of use and age-related wear and tear have led to a requirement for the replacement and upgrade of play area safer surfacing at three sites in Carlisle. • Heysham Park play area dates from 2011 and features grass surfacing throughout. Heavy use and increasingly wet winters have resulted in the grass struggling to grow and a tendency for 	N/A	15 February 2023	Deputy Chief Executive

	<p>the area to be wet and muddy. The site requires upgrading to accessible, all weather, wet pour surfacing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Denton Holme play area was constructed in 2016, the existing wet pour surfacing has become worn in high use areas and requires overlaying with a new surface course, eliminating damage and injecting fresh colour to the site.• Chances Park play area has seen small upgrades at various times. The oldest section of existing wet pour is now 21 years old and in poor condition, it will be completely replaced with new surfacing.• A tender package, to provide materials and labour to install new wet pour (following site preparation by Carlisle City Council), was distributed to contractors placed on the existing Carlisle City Council Play Areas Framework Agreement on 03/02/2023, with a requirement for works to be completed in March 2023.• Quotations were received from two contractors and, following tender assessment, the decision was made to award the contract to Abacus Playgrounds Ltd for a total value of £39,539.00.• This project is funded by the 2022/23 play areas additional capital funding and revenue maintenance budgets.			
--	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--	--	--

JOINT MANAGEMENT TEAM

MINUTES – 20th February 2023

Attendees	Leader; Deputy Leader; PH Culture, Heritage & Leisure; PH Environment & Transport; PH Economy, Enterprise & Housing; PH Communities, Health & Wellbeing; Chief Executive; Deputy Chief Executive; Corporate Director of Governance & Regulatory Services; Corporate Director of Finance & Resources; Corporate Director of Economic Development
Apologies	None

Agenda Item 1 – Minutes of Meeting 18th January 2023	Action
Noted and agreed	
Agenda Item 2 – Local Government Reorganisation	
The Chief Executive updated attendees with information available at this time	
Agenda Item 3 – Transition of Carlisle City Council : Legacy Project	
The Chief Executive updated Members of JMT on the progress made to date on this Project	

Agenda Item 4 - Updates on Borderlands; St Cuthbert's Garden Village; Central Plaza	
Members of SMT attending provided the Executive with their update on the current position regarding each area	
Agenda Item 5 - JMT Forward Plan	
It was agreed to remove this item from the next Agenda which will be the final meeting of JMT	



Carlisle City Council Report to Executive

Item
A.5

Report details

Meeting Date: 23 March 2023
Portfolio: Economy, Enterprise and Housing
Key Decision: No
Policy and Budget Framework: No
Public / Private: Public

Title: Carlisle Rural Strategy
Report of: Corporate Director of Economic Development
Report Number: ED.06/23

Purpose / Summary:

This report provides members of the Executive with an overview of the emerging Rural Strategy for the Carlisle area. The strategy, which is included as Appendix 1, has been developed following the workshop with Members that was held on 3 November 2022, where a number of recommendations were made. The Strategy sets out six aims designed to deliver economic, demographic and environmental sustainability for the Carlisle's rural communities and businesses.

Recommendations:

Members of the Executive are asked to:

1. Note the contents of the Strategy in terms of the challenges, opportunities, strategic aims and objectives.
2. Note the comments from the Place Panel, which considered the draft Strategy on 2 March 2023.
3. Provide feedback on the Strategy to inform its finalisation for onward recommendation to Cumberland Council.

Tracking

Executive:	23 March 2023
------------	----------------------

Scrutiny:	02 March 2023
Council:	

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The production of the Carlisle Rural Strategy (“the Strategy”) has been evidence-led to ensure that it is developed to respond to rural needs and opportunities of the area. Up-to-date data has been used to ensure that the approach is pertinent to the current socio-economic situation and challenges.
- 1.2 The Strategy also takes account of existing economic development strategies that relevant are to the area, including the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal, the Carlisle City Council Plan and the Carlisle Economic Strategy. The Strategy has also been developed considering the priorities set out in the Cumberland Council Plan, which will come into effect on 1 April 2023. The recently approved Shared Prosperity Fund Investment Plan for Carlisle, including the Rural England Prosperity Fund addendum, has also informed the approach.
- 1.3 The first stage in the production of the Strategy involved the collation of a comprehensive evidence base. This included a gathering range of data sets covering the whole of the area and where relevant, exploring differences between the rural and urban areas) under the following headings:
- Population and demographics
 - Deprivation
 - Economy, productivity and incomes
 - Housing
 - Skills, jobs and recruitment
 - Digital and physical connectivity
 - Agriculture and natural capital
- 1.4 From the data analysis, a high-level summary of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) was produced. The SWOT identified a number of issues, both positive and negative, that have implications for the future economic, demographic and environmental sustainability of Carlisle’s rural communities and businesses.

2. WEAKNESSES AND THREATS FACING RUAL CARLISLE

RURAL DEMOGRAPHY

- 2.1 Rural Carlisle's population has a high proportion of people over retirement age, which impacts across a number of different issues such as recruitment, the provision of public services and transport infrastructure.
- 2.2 Increase to the average working age will mean a greater need for more social and health care services in the future and will continue to cause recruitment problems for local businesses. At the same time, the outward migration of young people reduces the level of economic activity and impacts on vibrancy and diversity of the area.

LOCAL DIGITAL AND PHYSICAL CONNECTIVITY

- 2.3 Public transport systems only operate on radial routes in and out of the City from market towns, with the north-east of the district having very little provision. This results in a high-level of car dependency and a greater level of transport disadvantage / deprivation in the outlying rural areas.
- 2.4 Digital connectivity for both broadband and mobile is below the average for rural England making it more difficult for residents living in rural parts of Carlisle to work remotely and connect to the internet. It also affects business performance and limits the ability for hybrid working.

PRODUCTIVITY AND RECRUITMENT

- 2.5 Productivity in rural Carlisle is generally low and this has created a 'cyclical effect', as low productivity results in lower business growth, higher operational costs and consequently, means businesses are less inclined to invest in new technology.
- 2.6 Recruitment is an issue, with businesses experiencing difficulties filling both skilled and unskilled positions. There is a labour force shortage, that is being exacerbated by the out migration of young people and the impacts of Brexit.

3. STRENGTHS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR RURAL CARLISLE

LOCATION

- 3.1 As the only city and the largest settlement of the Borderlands area, Carlisle acts as a sub-regional hub. There is an opportunity to capitalise on this role to drive rural growth and deliver economic, demographic and environmental sustainability for rural communities and businesses.

- 3.2 Carlisle has good connectivity to other key regions of the UK, which provides opportunities for rural economic growth. The district forms significant link between the Scottish and English economies, being well connected to Scotland's central belt via the A/M74, the south via the M6 and the north-east via the A69.

AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL CAPITAL

- 3.3 Carlisle has benefits from high-quality natural spaces, including sections of the Solway Coast and North Pennines Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. These provide a high quality-of-life offer and also the opportunity for growth in the visitor economy.
- 3.4 Large amounts of agricultural land and natural capital provide an opportunity for environmental sustainability projects and renewable energy generation. The growing issue relating to UK food production and food security creates a strategic opportunity for agricultural investment to increase local production.

POST COVID INCREASE IN REMOTE / HYBIRD WORKING

- 3.5 The response to Covid-19 has opened up more opportunities and potential for workers to work from home. Changes in lifestyle and working patterns make living in Carlisle a more realistic offer for more people, as proximity to workplace becomes less important, and flexible / hybrid working arrangements become more commonplace.
- 3.6 Carlisle is an affordable place to live with average house prices significantly lower than the England average. Combined with the strategic connectivity to other key regions of the UK, this makes Carlisle potentially attractive for people seeking to relocate.

NEW TECHNOLOGY

- 3.7 Advances in digital technology provides potential solutions to some of the challenges facing rural Carlisle. The development of digitally enabled rural 'request a ride' transport schemes could be supported to address transport disadvantage and the lack of public transport options.
- 3.8 Advances in renewable energy technology present an opportunity for rural Carlisle in current context of the current energy crisis. The available land allows for greater

deployment of bioenergy, hydro, PV, wind and battery storage scheme. This in turn creates potential supply chain and research and development opportunities for the local economy.

4. RURAL STRATEGY AIMS

4.1 The Strategy has been developed following the workshop with Members on 3 November 2022. Members considered that the Strategy should be deliverable, that the aims should focus on inclusive and sustainable economic growth and ensuring that the activities and investments improve the health and wellbeing for all sections of the rural community.

4.2 Consequently, the Strategy has a strong focus on deliverability, taking into account the amount of central government funding that is likely to be available in the coming years. The broad approach is to progress partnership working to maximise the benefits from mainstream service provision and be more entrepreneurial / innovative with the involvement of existing businesses and third-sector organisations.

4.3 As agreed with Members, a ‘hub and spoke’ approach underpins the Strategy with an emphasis on actions, activity and investment that amplifies the roles of the market towns (Longtown, Brampton and Dalston) as centres for services, business, entrepreneurship, transport and community. The objective is to ensure that activity is sufficiently concentrated to be effective for the benefit of the majority of residents and businesses, including those located within the deeper rural areas of the district.

4.4 The complexity and interrelated nature of rural Carlisle’s strengths, weaknesses, threat and opportunities requires a diverse set of aims to deliver sustainability for Carlisle’s rural communities. The Strategy sets out six aims that build on the strategies set out in the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal, the Carlisle Plan, and the Carlisle Economic Strategy.

1. Maintaining a productive and stable business environment:

- Boost survivability and growth in existing sectors, including agriculture
- Develop the role of the rural hubs – Longtown, Brampton and Dalston
- Increase the value of the visitor economy by supporting entrepreneurship and farm diversification

2. Improving physical and digital connectivity to services and jobs:

- Increase reliability, coverage and speed of internet access.
- Support the delivery of EV charging stations in the rural hubs

- Develop innovative solutions to rural transport / mobility, including digitally enabled 'request-a-ride' services
3. Supporting the development of a high-quality and accessible built environment:
- Continue to support the delivery of new housing in rural areas, with a focus on the supply of low-cost and affordable units
 - Enhance the quality of formal blue / green spaces for leisure and recreation
 - Improve energy efficiency in residential and commercial buildings in terms of both new build and retrofitting
4. Promote sustainable use of the environment and natural capital:
- Explore opportunities for the energy production and storage
 - Protect the natural environment and explore opportunities for biodiversity enhancement
 - Support the agriculture sector, with a focus on developing supply chains, driving innovation and supporting food production
5. Encourage growth of a qualified, balanced and engaged workforce:
- Attract / retain economically active residents to grow the workforce
 - Improve access to education and training
 - Enhance the attractiveness and accessibility of apprenticeships
6. Foster healthy, vibrant and resilient rural communities:
- Promote community-led regeneration and local decision-making
 - Improve health and wellbeing
 - Encourage social enterprise, co-operatives and volunteering

5 CONSULTATION

- 5.1 The consultants appointed to support the development of the Strategy conducted a series of interviews with Members, businesses and stakeholders and partners over the course of the scoping and production of the evidence base for the Strategy.
- 5.2 An in-person workshop with Members was held on 3 November 2022 to review and make recommendations on the emerging Strategy. Further modification was recommended and in particular, strengthening the focus on deliverability, the likely levels of government funding available and maximising opportunities from mainstream service provision.

- 5.3 Members of the Place Panel considered the draft Strategy on 2 March 2023 and agreed with the challenges, opportunities, strategic aims and objectives set out in the Strategy. Members also concurred with the principle of the ‘hub and spoke’ approach as way of seeking to ensure that day-to-day services and facilities were delivered within rural area, to minimise the need to travel. Digital connectivity was reiterated as a key priority of the Strategy, as it was felt to be essential to the future sustainability of rural communities and businesses.

6 CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 This Strategy sets out a framework - based on analysis of the key issues, challenges and opportunities - to drive inclusive and sustainable rural growth within the Carlisle area. Its production has been evidence-led in order to ensure that it responds to local needs and opportunities, with the use of up-to-date data so that it is pertinent to the current economic climate and challenges.
- 6.2 The Strategy recognises the role this Council has to play in delivering the Strategy through leadership, proactively using our resources and available powers where appropriate. Nevertheless, it equally recognises that that Council does not have control over all the actions and activities required to deliver it. Therefore, it reinforces the commitment to working in partnership with our public, private and voluntary sector partners to deliver the objectives and outcomes.
- 6.3 It is recommended that Members of the Executive:
- Note the contents of the Strategy in terms of the challenges, opportunities, strategic aims and objectives.
 - Note the comments from the Place Panel, which considered the draft Strategy on 2 March 2023.
 - Provide feedback on the Strategy to inform its finalisation for onward recommendation to Cumberland Council.

7 CONTRIBUTION TO THE CARLISLE PLAN PRIORITIES

- 7.1 The delivery of the Rural Strategy will support the delivery of the vision set out in the Carlisle Plan, which is to enable Carlisle to grow and prosper as the capital of the Borderlands region.

7.2 The Strategy will contribute directly to the priority of delivering inclusive and sustainable rural economic growth, by improving the health and wellbeing of our local communities and making Carlisle a more attractive place for investment.

Contact Officer: Steven Robinson

Ext: 7535

Appendices attached to report: Appendix 1 – Draft Carlisle Rural Strategy

Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government Act 1972 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers:

- **None**

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS:

LEGAL – Local Government Reorganisation occurs on 1 April 2023 and with this in mind the Place Panel and Executive are to work up the policy for onward recommendation to the new Cumberland Council. Accordingly, there are no formal decisions being made which will give rise to implications.

PROPERTY SERVICES – The Council owns a significant property portfolio that can assist with delivery of the strategy however careful consideration will be necessary to ensure that income generation is retained/maximised.

FINANCE – The Council supports the activities to underpin the Economic Strategy through investment in base budgets to fund the Economic Development team which then allows it to look towards inward investment opportunities and receipt of significant grant funding opportunities. External funding such as Towns Deal, Future High Street Fund, Garden Village, Borderlands Growth Deal and UK Shared Prosperity Fund will all help the Council to achieve the priorities outlined in the Strategy.

EQUALITY – The Strategy references protected characteristics, in particular age in the context of an ageing rural population

INFORMATION GOVERNANCE – There are no information governance implications with this report



Reaching rural Carlisle

Rural strategy

January 2023





Reaching rural Carlisle

A draft report for Carlisle City Council

Emmanuel Campion-Dye, Clare Leckie,
Rebecca Munro and Mark Pragnell



DRAFT IN STRICT CONFIDENCE

Circulation to client working group only

Not for distribution or publication

Disclaimer

This report has been commissioned from Pragmatix Advisory Limited and funded by Carlisle City Council and Eden District Council.

The views expressed herein are those of Pragmatix Advisory Limited. They are not necessarily shared by Carlisle City Council nor Eden District Council.

While every effort has been made to ensure that the data quoted and used for the research behind this document is reliable, there is no guarantee that it is correct, and Pragmatix Advisory Limited can accept no liability whatsoever in respect of any errors or omissions. This document is a piece of socioeconomic research and is not intended to constitute investment advice, nor to solicit dealing in securities or investments.

Please note numbers in tables may not add due to rounding.

Cover photo by Toa Heftiba on Unsplash.

Pragmatix Advisory Limited. enquiries@pragmatixadvisory.com. 020 3880 8640. pragmatixadvisory.com
Registered in England number 12403422. Registered address: 146 New London Road, Chelmsford, Essex
CM2 0AW. VAT Registration Number 340 8912 04

© Pragmatix Advisory Limited, 2020-2022.

Contents

Carlisle's rural needs	5
Towards a sustainable rural Carlisle	10



A photograph of a rural landscape. In the foreground, there is a stone wall made of rough-hewn stones. The ground is covered in snow or frost. In the background, there is a hill with a path leading up to it. The sky is overcast and grey.

Carlisle's rural needs

Carlisle district is largely rural by land mass

Carlisle is a large local authority district in the North West of England. In April 2023, it will form part of Cumberland unitary authority alongside Allerdale and Copeland.

Except for the city itself, Carlisle is an entirely rural place according to government’s classification of small areas. Longtown and Brampton are designated as rural towns and the remainder of the district is comprised of other villages and dispersed settlements. Those that surround the city such as Dalston to the southwest and Wetheral to the east are significantly less sparsely populated than those to the northeast of the district.

Not all needs can be met in particularly sparse communities, as the ‘rural premium’ for delivering services rises in harder to reach places, while the population that benefits from such efforts is relatively small. It is therefore imperative to the sustainability of these communities that local centres or ‘rural hubs’ remain prosperous and accessible in key strategic locations across the district. However, it is not always practicable or desirable for local centres to cater for all needs and access to Carlisle city and other urban centres will remain important.

In many respects rural Carlisle is not unlike other rural places in the United Kingdom. However, the specific combination of strengths, opportunities, challenges and threats that it faces is unique. This rural strategy is informed and supported by an evidence base document, a high-level summary of which is set out on the following page. It is expected that the overarching approach and many of the aims, objectives and actions identified herein will be relevant to rural Allerdale and Copeland as well.

Rural urban classifications
Carlisle District,
lower super
output areas,
2021



Strengths

Carlisle has a well-developed plan, which provides a strong strategic framework for economic development and growth.

Residents tend to be older, with significant levels of inward migration for the 50-64 age bracket who often bring with them substantial savings and professional experience. Many support the active volunteer community.

Income deprivation is relatively rare outside Longtown and Brampton, and mass unemployment is not a concern. GCSE pass rates and apprenticeship starts are both high, particularly outside the market towns and areas near the Scottish border.

Housebuilding is facilitated by the planning department, with more dwelling starts per capita than the average for urban areas and housing is generally more affordable than other parts of England.

It has large natural spaces, including parts of the Solway Coast and North Pennines Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and significant heritage assets such as Hadrian's Wall.

Strong road and rail links to London, Scotland and elsewhere in the north.

Weaknesses

An ageing population means services, such as health and public transport, face especially high provision costs. Recruitment of workers can be a challenge across all sectors, but especially for low-paying or specialist roles, given high living costs.

Mental and physical health is poor, especially in Longtown and the borderlands area, and obesity is a particular problem.

Digital connectivity for both broadband and mobile is below the average for rural England, with large 'not spots' outside market towns.

Public transport systems only functional for radial routes in and out of Carlisle city from market towns, with the northeast of the district having almost no provision. High transport emissions per capita result from frequent car usage and limited active travel.

Poor housing quality with limited options for energy supply affect rural areas across the entire district, although Brampton suffers less than most places. Fuel poverty is a particular issue in the borderlands and to the east of the district.

Wages and productivity are generally lower than some other places in England.

Opportunities

Improved digital connectivity of the rural area could support access to education, work and services as well as social and civic activities.

Post-covid increase in remote and hybrid working has the potential for workers to move out from urban centres. Carlisle's housing affordability is not decreasing at the rate of most other places in the country. This could be attractive for inward immigration of remote workers.

Small-scale innovative transport schemes, particularly with digital solutions, could help to address transport challenges.

Significant amounts of open land and natural capital provide an opportunity to take a lead in environmental sustainability, food security and renewable energy generation.

Unexpected rises in living costs may lead some of the many retired residents to re-join the workforce. Out of work older people could further contribute to local communities, through volunteering and/or part-time roles.

Threats

Projected increase in proportion of population over working age will mean more social care and health services are needed.

At the same time, outward migration of young people reduce density of economic activity and may impact on diversity and/or vibrancy. A reliance on private cars may discourage young families from moving to the area, exacerbating the demographic shifts.

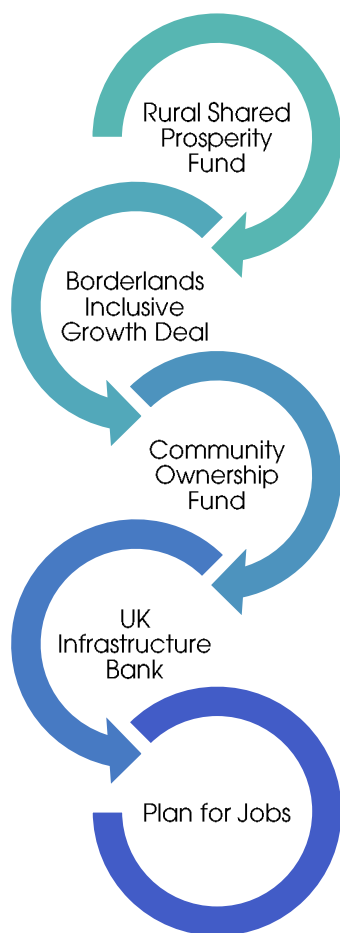
Failure to improve digital connectivity could penalise businesses and limit hybrid/remote working.

Agriculture is under threat from future changes to the subsidies regime and changing market of food. Old farms have been bought for sequestration by corporations from outside the district.

Low productivity leads to cyclical effects, since it results in less investment. Wage depression makes it less likely that people will migrate inwards.

Increasing difficulties keeping pubs and cafes open and attracting staff may threaten the existing tourism offer.

This rural strategy is focussed on deliverability



Examples of
external funding
schemes and
grant
programmes
Carlisle District,
2022

The focus of this strategy is on deliverability and it therefore takes a pragmatic view of the amount of central government funding that is likely to be available in the coming years.

Delivery of the strategy should be overseen by a steering group with a membership drawn from the public, private and not-for-profit sectors. More focused working groups may also be formed to progress specific actions where needed.

Given the likelihood of funding scarcity, the approach adopted in developing the action plan is to promote partnership working to maximise the benefit from existing resources in so far as this is possible. Ways in which this might be achieved include:

- Maximising opportunities from mainstream service provision;
- Being entrepreneurial and making use of resources within existing businesses and third-sector organisations;
- Using public land and property resources efficiently, often in partnership with others; and
- Better utilising under-used and vacant buildings in private ownership.

Where additional funding is necessary to progress certain actions, the steering group will need to work with partners to access external funding and investment. With new grant schemes and bidding opportunities likely to emerge at short notice, the development of a strong project pipeline will ensure that the steering group has a range of 'oven ready' projects ready to access public funding as it is made available. The action plan also seeks to extend the efforts of the Carlisle Plan for 2021-2023 to proactively position Carlisle for future investment where this aligns with the overall aims of the strategy.

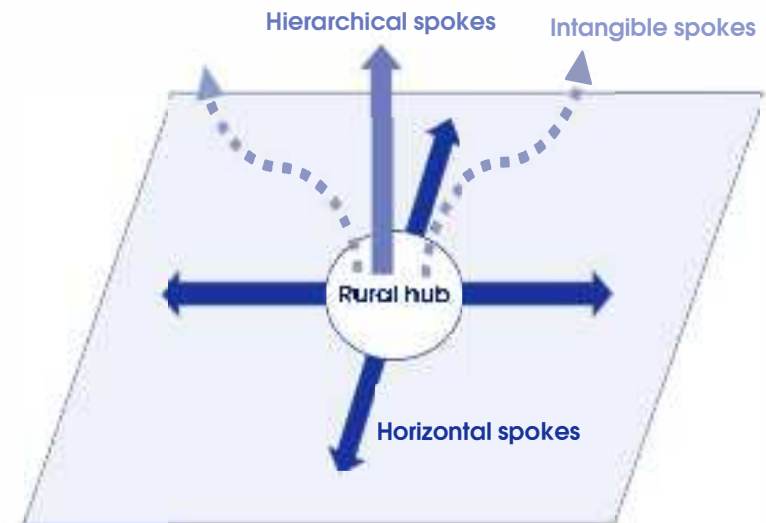
A hub-and-spoke model will be most effective

Even with additional grant monies, this strategy will not be able to deliver everything everywhere.

In light of this, a hub-and-spoke approach underpins this strategy, with a focus on developing multi-activity hubs in Longtown, Brampton and Dalston. It is envisaged that they will each serve as centres for enterprise activity, transport, services, creativity and community, with interventions and support appropriate to the locality.

This will ensure that the actions identified within this strategy are sufficiently concentrated to be effective for the benefit of all rural residents and businesses in the district and beyond, without compromising their distinctly rural character. These hubs are and will be more than just agglomerations of people and resources. By actioning bespoke local plans that build on the place planning work in the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal, these rural hubs will be a driver of community interactions that spread beyond the boundaries of the market towns, and once established could provide a focal point for engagement with policy makers.

While much of this strategy focusses on the development of the hubs, their outward linkages in the local rural and regional economy will be equally significant for the achievement of the strategy's aims. Much of the focus in this strategy and its accompanying action plan is on the horizontal spokes that reach out across space to other rural parts of the district and the new Cumberland unitary authority. The vertical spokes that link the hubs to Cumbria-wide, regional and national institutions, and the more intangible identity-based spokes that influence how rural Carlisle is perceived from an external perspective are also considered.



Representation of horizontal, hierarchical and intangible spokes
Longtown, Brampton and Dalston



Towards a
sustainable
rural Carlisle

Carlisle's rural strategy has six aims

This rural strategy has six aims designed to deliver sustainability for Carlisle's rural communities.

There are challenges ahead that will especially impact Carlisle's rural areas due to their ageing population, constrained digital connectivity and often higher living and infrastructure costs. This strategy is not about maintaining a status quo. It's about getting to a point that is economically, demographically and environmentally sustainable.

As it stands, Carlisle's communities and economy are unlikely to be sustainable at current projected population levels, with a dependency ration of 97 per cent (compared with 83 per cent for England) forecast for 2042, up from 81 per cent today. Population growth will likely be necessary to ensure the ratio of workers to non-workers is adequate and to take advantage of economies of scale.

The complexity and interrelated nature of rural Carlisle's strengths, weaknesses, threats and opportunities calls for a diverse set of aims, many of which build on the ongoing work of the Carlisle Plan 2021-2023, Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal, and Shared Prosperity Fund investments. Failure to make progress towards any one of these aims risks undermining the remainder of the strategy.

Many of the actions identified are intended to be short to medium term interventions, with benefits apparent within two to five years. However the overall strategy has been designed with a view to achieve long term impact, with some benefits continuing to develop for ten to fifteen years and beyond.

Aims of rural strategy
Carlisle, 2023



In the context of ongoing economic uncertainty, interventions should boost survivability and growth in existing sectors.

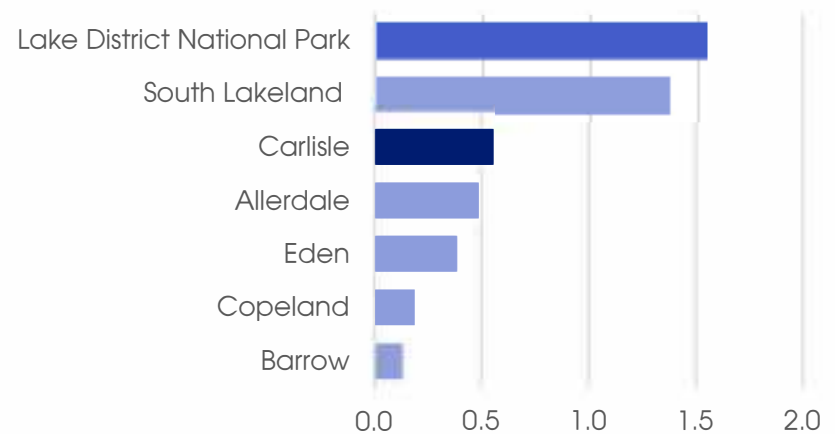
Now is the time to double down on current strengths, foster peer networks and provide cross-industry support to access financial resources and advice that builds on existing business support. In the short to medium term, a focus on the development of rural hubs with enterprise centres, affordable co-working spaces and the provision of rural services will help existing businesses to remain open, safeguard local jobs and ensure that households can continue to meet their needs within the local economy.

Having left the European Union’s Common Agricultural Policy, it remains unclear what the United Kingdom’s funding model for farming will be. Particular attention should be paid to ensure that agriculture-specific support is accessible to farmers.

Objectives related to first aim of rural strategy
Carlisle, 2023



Total economic impact of tourism
Cumbria, 2019, £ millions



Rural hubs will help to attract greater footfall and facilitate economic development in the long term.

Most new businesses are started in Carlisle as entrepreneurs and small business owners are attracted to the lifestyle that the district offers. While progressive planning and strong business services won’t hurt, any attempt to be overly prescriptive within this strategy with respect to which new industries to target is unlikely to present good value for money.

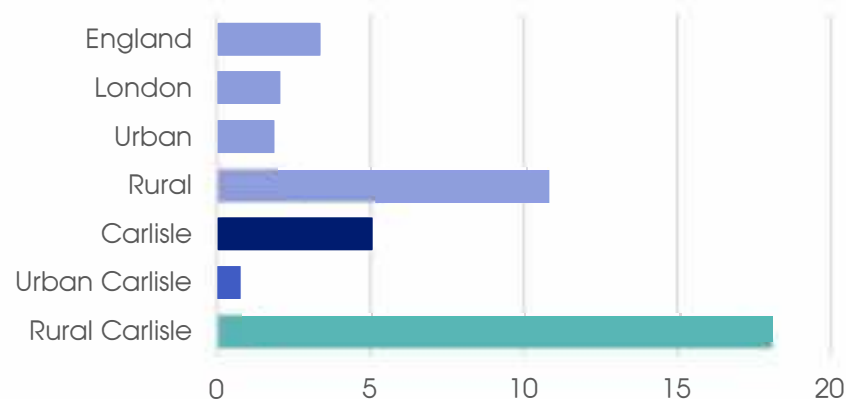
A coordinated approach to marketing Carlisle’s tourism offering in conjunction with that of the rest of Cumberland is likely to have a significant impact on the value of the visitor economy by increasing the number of visitors at any one time, increasing their spend and extending the tourism season. Experiential tourism is rising in popularity and festivals and special events provide a real opportunity to drive high-value, year-round green tourism.

Almost one in five in rural Carlisle can't receive fast broadband, versus one in ten in other rural areas.

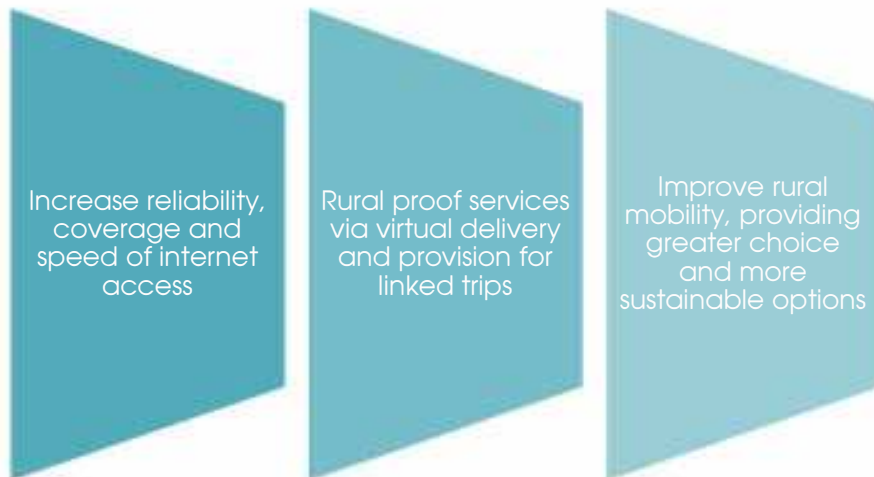
A lack of digital connectivity limits access to jobs, education, and services, and has a negative impact on businesses and the promotion of the visitor economy. While broadband and mobile connectivity is rolled-out and upgraded across other parts of Carlisle with the support of the Borderlands Digital programme, rural hubs should offer public broadband access alongside workspaces and service provision.

But the need to travel will remain. And for this residents in rural Carlisle continue to be dependent on private cars. This is partly associated with older residents, but largely due to the reduced availability of alternatives with thin public transport services and a lack of appropriate active travel infrastructure, including safe walking and cycling routes between towns and villages.

Proportion of houses unable to receive 30 megabits per second upload speeds
Lower super output areas, 2022, per cent



Objectives related to second aim of rural strategy
Carlisle, 2023



Increasing data and digital capability will unlock new digitally-enabled models of transport provision.

Such platforms can be flexible in the services they provide to meet demand, increasing their commercial viability, while providing greater convenience for users. Building on the experiences of Cumbria County Council's Rural, Village and Community Wheels programmes, new models of 'feeder services' such as shared taxis and demand-responsive transport, could be trialled. Digital applications for car and ride-sharing can make these services easier to use.

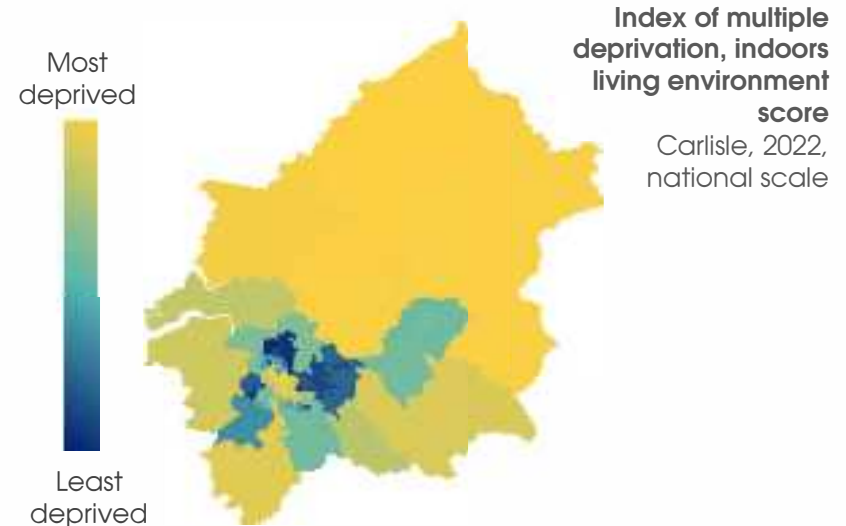
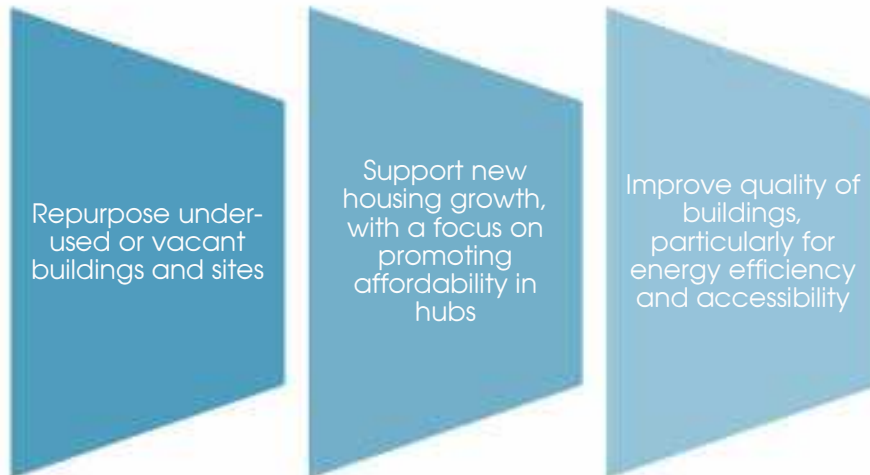
The extension and improvement of cycle paths and walking routes that connect into the ongoing upgrades to active travel opportunities in Carlisle city centre will help local people access services, education, and work in local hubs and support the growth of green tourism options.

As more activities move online, high streets and town centres may look different going forward.

This provides smaller, local businesses an opportunity to move into now vacant spaces. But with lower barriers to entry there is a risk that profit-margins could be eroded. It may be prudent to convert current retail space to flexible workspaces, or even affordable residential buildings. It might be necessary to support local businesses with grants to ensure that high streets remain balanced and productive during this transition.

Ensuring that the appropriate quantum of affordable housing is made available within rural hubs could help to entice more working age households to the area and make local service provision more viable. Communities will be encouraged to work proactively with their planning authority to identify private and public sector vacant buildings to repurpose and improve.

Objectives related to third aim of rural strategy Carlisle, 2023



While houses are not especially expensive, housing quality is poor, and fuel poverty remains a concern.

The index of multiple deprivation score for indoors living environment measures houses that don't have central heating, and that fail to live up to the 'Decent Homes' standard. Rural Carlisle is high on both these measures. Poorly insulated housing that is unconnected to mains gas will require owners to spend much more on alternative fuel sources to heat, incurring further unseen costs of everyday living.

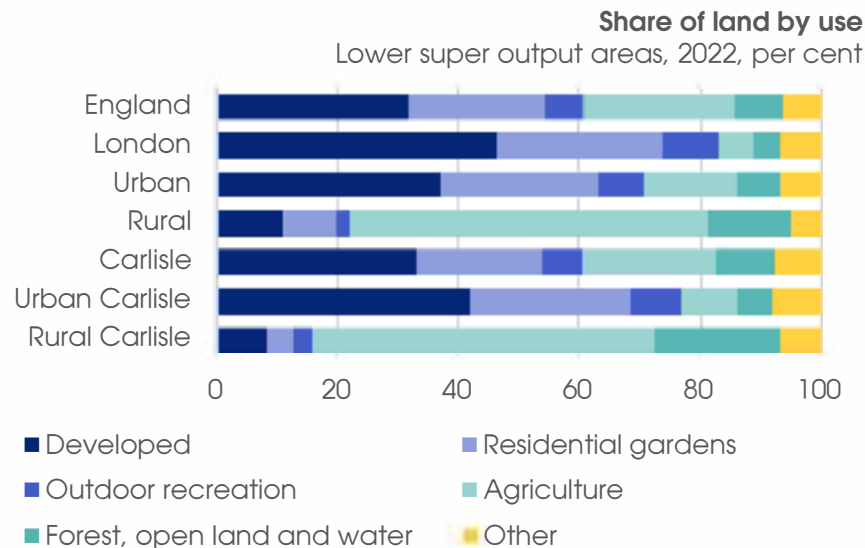
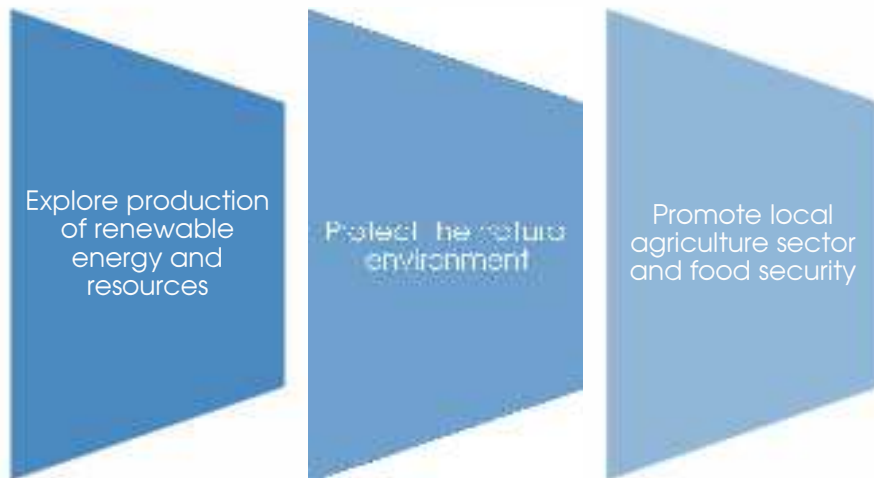
The costs associated with improving energy efficiency are high and many households will be unable to afford the upfront investment required to improve insulation and switch fuel sources. But such investments are vital to reduce fuel poverty and meet environmental targets. Lobbying central government for additional funding to support this will be important.

Rural Carlisle has plenty of land that could be used for multiple purposes and a wealth of natural capital.

The district currently generates relatively small amounts of renewable energy considering its land mass and rurality. Though some communities have historically been opposed to the development of projects in their local areas, perceptions may be changing with the current energy crisis. Renewable energy generation via solar panels, biomass or wind turbines, energy storage could potentially take place on land that is also used for agriculture and or tourism purposes.

This presents both an opportunity to attract investment to the district, but also means that protecting the environment must remain a priority now and in the future. With natural disasters such as floods likely to continue rising, measures to prevent against environmental degradation are needed.

Objectives related to fourth aim of rural strategy Carlisle, 2023



The main two uses of land in Rural Carlisle are for agriculture and for forestry, open land and water.

Although it accounts for only a small proportion of both local jobs and economic output, agriculture is an important feature of rural Carlisle’s local landscapes and identity. Very little of its land is suited for crops and cereals so most of the farming in the district is livestock-related. It contributes almost two per cent of England’s cattle despite accounting for less than one per cent of total farmed area.

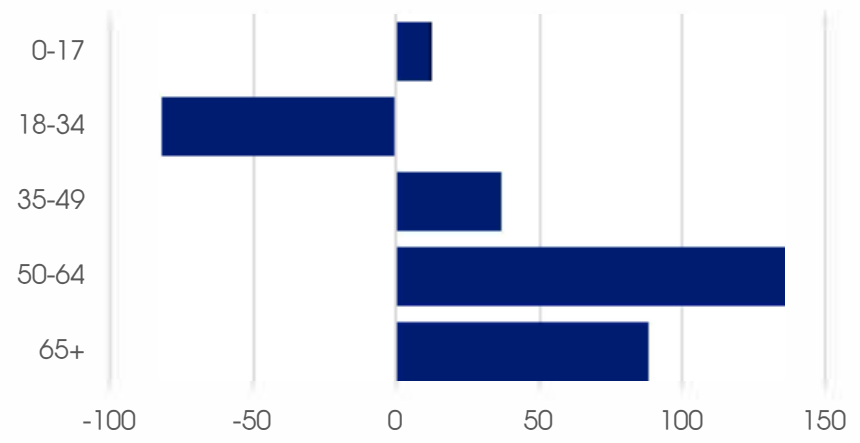
This presents both an opportunity to attract investment to the district, but also means that protecting the environment must remain a priority now and in the future. With natural disasters such as floods likely to continue rising, measures to prevent against environmental degradation are needed.

Younger people and older people tend to leave Carlisle, while the middle-aged move in.

Many people leave the district upon finishing secondary school, and inward migration is dominated by those aged 50 and older. This migration pattern is not entirely bad for Carlisle – older people are likely to have greater professional experience and savings, and older workers remain productive.

However, sectors that tend to rely on entry-level and other junior staff to fill customer service roles, often face recruitment challenges. This migration pattern limits Carlisle’s ability to coordinate early-career training in priority skills areas and ‘brain drain’ remains a risk as some students seek education and professional opportunities in larger cities. The importance of ensuring the availability and accessibility of quality education leading to local jobs must not be overlooked.

Net number of people migrating in by age group
Carlisle, 2020



Objectives related to fifth aim of rural strategy
Carlisle, 2023



Promoting and enhancing Carlisle’s strengths will help to attract and retain economically active residents.

People choose to migrate for diverse reasons, and it is not the aim of this strategy to reduce this in an absolute sense. However, by promoting the opportunities offered to workers, and particularly to young people—such as its strong transport links elsewhere in the United Kingdom, University of Cumbria campuses, proximity to beautiful outdoor spaces, culture and engaged communities—rural Carlisle may be able to capitalise on changing work and lifestyle preferences post-pandemic. This could help to create a larger and more balanced workforce.

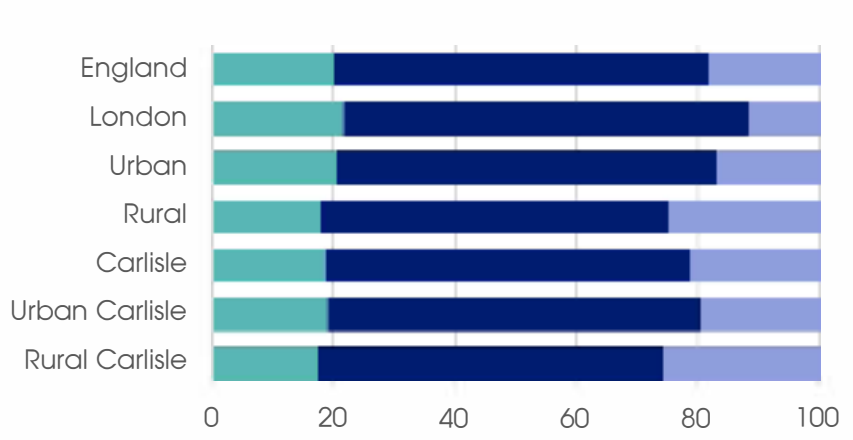
Skills gaps will be closed by signposting employers and employees to training, and by bringing service providers, students and employers together in rural hubs to make sure that there is a pipeline of talent that is relevant to the roles available.

Over a quarter of the population of rural Carlisle is over the age of 65, making it ‘super-aged’.

With such a large proportion of older people in the population, more spending is required on services such as social work, healthcare and public transport, while making it more difficult for local businesses to fill vacancies.

Official population projections suggest that this trend is only likely to increase over time, as both young and working-aged people look set to decline relative to older people. However, these projections were developed before the pandemic, and are based on historical trends continuing. With the rise of remote working, and the potential to live away from key metropolitan areas without losing out on earnings potential the demographics of rural Carlisle could look very different.

Proportion of usual resident population in three age groups
 Lower super output areas, 2020, per cent



Objectives related to sixth aim of rural strategy
 Carlisle, 2023



Decisions can be tailored to local needs by continuing to engage with the Borderlands Place Plan community-led regeneration frameworks.

Rural Carlisle has a strong community of volunteers. By providing structured volunteering opportunities, communities are not only better able to address issues important to them, but it also helps to combat poor mental health among the individual volunteers by increasing social and purpose-driven activities.

There is scope within this strategy to support the social economy to provide needs in local communities and foster pride in place. As far as possible parish councils and community groups will be encouraged to play a role in its delivery. While much of this strategy has focussed on coordinating the development of rural hubs, empowering local groups will help to accommodate a hyperlocal response to specific needs outside the market towns.

Pragmatix Advisory Limited

enquiries@pragmatixadvisory.com
020 3850 8640
pragmatixadvisory.com

Registered in England number 12403422
Registered address: 145 New London Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 6AW
VAT Registration Number: 340 8912 04



Carlisle City Council Report to Executive

Item
A.6

Report details

Meeting Date:	23 March 2023
Portfolio:	Economy, Enterprise and Housing
Key Decision:	No
Policy and Budget Framework	No
Public / Private	Public
Title:	Carlisle Enterprise Fund
Report of:	The Corporate Director of Economic Development
Report Number:	ED.10/23

Purpose / Summary:

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the Carlisle Enterprise Fund that was approved in principle by the Executive [ED.26/22 EX.133/22] as part of the Year 1 programme for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. The Enterprise Fund forms part of the interventions identified by the Council to deliver against the supporting local business investment priority.

The report sets out the policy framework and the application and eligibility criteria for the Enterprise Fund and seeks delegation for the authorisation of payment of the grants to the Corporate Director of Economic Development, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder of Economy, Enterprise and Housing.

Recommendations:

Executive is asked to approve:

1. The application and eligibility criteria for the Carlisle Enterprise Fund (Appendices A and B).
2. Delegated authority for the authorisation of payment of the grants to the Director / Assistant Director with responsibility for the delivery of the UKSPF programme, following consultation with the Portfolio Holder, and the S151 Officer

3. Delegated authority for the Director / Assistant Director with responsibility for the delivery of the UKSPF programme, following consultation with the Portfolio Holder, and the S151 Officer to agree any future amendments to the policy.

Tracking

Executive:	23 March 2023
Scrutiny:	
Council:	

1. Background

- 1.1 The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (“UKSPF”) has allocated £4.1 million for the Carlisle area over a three-year period 2022-2025. To access the investment the Council has developed an Investment Plan (“the Plan”) which has been approved by the Department for Levelling Up, Homes and Communities, which sets out the programme for the UKSPF funding, how it will be used and the interventions / projects that will be delivered.
- 1.2 The Year 1 programme, to be delivered by Carlisle City Council, has already been approved by the Executive [ED.26/22 EX.133/22] and has allocation of £498,138. The Carlisle Enterprise Fund (“the Fund”) formed part of that programme was approved in principle and forms part of the interventions to deliver against the supporting local business investment priority.
- 1.3 The objective of the Fund is to support local businesses across the district to grow and innovate by providing grants to local businesses to help with capital investments, growth, productivity improvements or efficiency gains. Through ongoing business support activity being delivered by the Council, a number of businesses have indicated / requested the types of support that would be available from the Fund.
- 1.4 The next step is to approve the policy framework and the application and eligibility criteria for the Fund, so that grants can be awarded.

2. Fund Policy Framework

- 2.1 The detailed criterion for the Fund is set out in appendix A. However broadly, grants would be open to SMEs seeking investment to boost growth and productivity of their businesses that would either create or safeguard jobs.
- 2.2 In order to qualify for the Fund, businesses must fall into either of the following categories:
 - A new start-up within the administrative area of Carlisle City Council
 - An existing SME currently trading within the administrative area of Carlisle City Council and demonstrating growth / expanding to a larger premise.
- 2.3 The Fund would provide grants for local business that are growing and expanding and would support the following types of activity:
 - Moves to new premises
 - Improvements to existing premises
 - Installation of new infrastructure
 - Purchase of significant capital items

- Marketing
- Development of new products or services
- Consultancy support,

2.4 The grant application process will be administered internally by the Regeneration team. Businesses would need to apply for the grant via the application form attached (Appendix B). It is proposed that authority to grant payment be delegated to the Corporate Director of Economic Development, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder of Economy, Enterprise and Housing.

3. Risks

3.1. The following risks (in grey) have been identified, with mitigation/management actions below (in white):

<i>Risk 1: Businesses fail to open or close after receiving funding</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As part of the business grant application process, a review of the applicants' project / business plan to have confidence of the viability of the project. - A monitoring and evaluation strategy will be established, involving a 6 /12 month follow up with businesses. The Council also withholds the right to reclaim any funding where a project / business fails to achieve the stated outputs / outcomes.
<i>Risk 2: Businesses do not use the fund as outlined in their application/funding is used to fund ineligible costs.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quotes / costed specifications of works will be obtained and assessed before funding is released. - A monitoring and evaluation strategy will be established, involving a 6 /12 month follow up with businesses. The Council also withholds the right to reclaim any funding in the event that any funding that has been used incorrectly.
<i>Risk 3: The outputs/comes of the project are not realised</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Businesses are asked to identify the outputs/comes of their project, including job created / safeguarded and floorspace developed. - A monitoring and evaluation strategy will be established, involving a 6 /12 month follow up with businesses. The Council also withholds the right to reclaim any funding where a project / business fails to achieve the stated outputs / outcomes

4. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

4.1 One of the key strategic priorities of the Carlisle Economic Strategy 2021-2016 is to drive the economic recovery from Covid-19, and a key objective is support local businesses across the district to grow and innovate.

4.2 Therefore, and building on the success of the previous business grants schemes, the Fund has been developed in order to provide funding for local businesses to help with

capital investments, growth, productivity improvements or efficiency gains. The Fund formed part of the Year 1 UKSPF programme was approved in principle by the Executive and forms part of the interventions to deliver against the supporting local business investment priority.

4.3 The Executive is asked to approve:

- The application and eligibility criteria for the Carlisle Enterprise Fund (Appendices A and B).
- Delegated authority for the authorisation of payment of the grants to the Director / Assistant Director with responsibility for the delivery of the UKSPF programme, following consultation with the Portfolio Holder, and the S151 Officer
- Delegated authority for the Director / Assistant Director with responsibility for the delivery of the UKSPF programme, following consultation with the Portfolio Holder, and the S151 Officer to agree any future amendments to the policy.

5. Contribution to the Carlisle Plan Priorities

5.1. The Scheme will support the delivery of the vision set out in the Carlisle Plan, which is to enable Carlisle to grow and prosper as the capital of the Borderlands region. It also contributes directly to the priority of delivering inclusive and sustainable economic growth, by making Carlisle a more attractive place for investment, improving skills and drive key sector development.

Contact details:

Contact Officer: Steven Robinson Ext: 7535

Appendices attached to report:

- Appendix A - Carlisle Enterprise Fund Policy
- Appendix B - Carlisle Enterprise Fund Application Form
- Appendix C - Equality Impact Assessment

Note: in compliance with section 100d of the Local Government Act 1972 the report has been prepared in part from the following papers:

- UK Shared Prosperity Fund - Year One Delivery of Investment Plan ED.26/22

Corporate Implications:

Legal – The policy is subject to Executive’s approval to accept the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, which is subject of a separate report ED 26.22, therefore implementation should be subject to this decision.

The Equality Act 2010 replaced the previous discrimination legislation in Great Britain relating to sex, race, discrimination, sexual orientation, religion or belief and age. It affects the Council in a number of ways, particularly in respect of our role as an employer and a service provider. Public bodies are subject to the Public Sector Equality Duty in all their decision-making and should ensure that they meet these obligations when taking decisions on UKSPF, including this grant. The Grant policy should include a statement within the policy on how this duty will be discharged when making decisions on how to allocate the grant.

The Grant Policy includes a statement on how the Council is to comply with the subsidy control regime and how the applicants will need to assist the council in this compliance on application.

Property Services – No property implications

Finance – There is funding totalling £37,893 allocated within Year 1 of the Shared Prosperity Funds for the Carlisle Enterprise Fund; £10,000 and £27,893 for capital and revenue spend, respectively. These funds are allocated in the 2022/23 budget and should be spent in accordance with the attached policy. The correct accounting distinction between revenue and capital must be applied.

Equality - Recommend an Equality Impact Assessment accompanies the report to assess the overall impact of the grant scheme on the public sector equality duty.

Information Governance- None



Carlisle City Council

Carlisle Enterprise Support Fund - Policy

Introduction

- 1.1 Carlisle is a crucial service centre for the Borderlands area, with a retail catchment of over 500,000. Following the COVID-19 pandemic, and ongoing cost of living pressures for both business and communities, business are facing clear challenges across the country, and we recognise that in order to support Carlisle and its city centre in this challenging economic context, businesses and organisations need the confidence to invest.
- 1.2 In order to support investment, Carlisle City Council is offering small High Street Growth Grants to businesses looking to occupy vacant space in High Street Areas. This fund supports our High Streets by reducing vacancy rates and encouraging investment and growth. Carlisle City Council also recognises the need to support existing and non-high street businesses in the face of additional economic challenges, and is therefore creating a new **Enterprise Support Fund**, to offer targeted financial support to businesses across the District.
- 1.3 This grant funded will be delivered using the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF). Carlisle City Council has identified Supporting Local Businesses with financial support as a key intervention through Carlisle's UKSPF Investment Plan.
- 1.4 This is a scheme for the year 2022/2023, there is a fixed budget for this fund for the financial year 2022/2023, once this funding has been allocated the grant programme will end and we will not be able to approve further grants under this scheme.

Eligibility

- 2.1 The Carlisle Enterprise Support Fund is a grant for businesses occupying commercial units in Carlisle, this is a District-wide support fund, complementing the High Street Growth Grants.
- 2.2 The award of the grant is subject to an appraisal process. This is a discretionary grant, and the decision to award a grant is entirely at the Council's discretion. The following outlines the criteria which will inform how the Council will make its decision.
- 2.3 Businesses must demonstrate the business is viable and contributes to the local economy by, for example:

- Bringing innovative products/services to market
 - Providing an offer that is unique or bespoke to the area
 - Providing products and services with a clear social/community value
- 2.4 Any financial arrears to Carlisle City Council will be taken into account, as will any previous financial assistance provided by the Council to the business or linked businesses.
- 2.5 **Criteria for businesses** - in order to qualify for this grant, businesses must fall into **one** of the following categories:
- A new start-up within the administrative area of Carlisle City Council
 - An existing SME currently trading within the administrative area of Carlisle City Council and demonstrating growth / expanding to a larger premises.
- 2.6 **Criteria for the premises-** In order to qualify for this grant, businesses must demonstrate that the property they are looking to trade from meets **all** of the following criteria:
- Must be held by the applicant for a minimum of a 2-year lease.
 - The premises (or part thereof) from which the business trades is for their sole business use and is liable for business rates.
- 2.7 **Examples of eligible capital expenditure include:**
- Physical improvements to the premises for example: improvements to the internal layout, fittings or frontage of the building and signage - subject to the relevant consents / planning permission being secured.
 - The installation of infrastructure, subject to the relevant consents / planning permission being secured.
 - The provision/purchase of equipment essential for the operation of the business.
- 2.8 **Examples of eligible revenue expenditure include:**
- Marketing and promotion
 - Employee training and development
 - Market research and growing customer bases
 - Contribution towards the costs of delivering an identified service or activity which is deemed to demonstrate or contribute towards driving innovation, or provides social / community value
- 2.9 Businesses will be asked to demonstrate the clear strategic fit with UKSPF Investment Plan priorities, and clear benefits of the projects to the wider area, this may be through for example providing high skilled employment opportunities or developing or improving a product/service with clear social/community value. The applicant must clearly demonstrate how the project they are requesting funding for meets these objectives. It will be the final

decision of the Council to determine whether projects submitted to businesses are eligible for the fund.

- 2.10 We require the use of the funds to be fully transparent and traceable in order to award a grant. Therefore, all works funded by the grant must be undertaken by a professional company, with quotes of works provided alongside the application to evidence the use of the fund. As this is being funded by public sector funding, we have a duty to ensure best practice. We therefore require the applicant to follow the Council's procurement processes, which may include providing at least 3 costs of works with their application, to ensure value for money. Exceptions to this requirement can be made on a case by case basis, depending on the nature of the project / investment and the types of supplier appropriate.
- 2.11 An assessment of the financial viability of the business will be made. If the Council deems the business or project to be unviable, a grant will not be awarded. To do this, we ask that applicants provide us with an overview of the business proposal and evidence that the business will be sustainable, for example by submitting a business plan and 12-month cashflow forecast.
- 2.12 The type of business, and how they contribute to the local economy and communities will be taken into account when making our assessments. We will not award grants to businesses under A5 use class (takeaways) or certain other uses, including betting shops and adult shops.
- 2.13 The scale of the project will determine the level of grant awarded. Large scale projects will receive a higher level of grant than smaller scale projects.
- 2.14 This grant is an in-kind contribution to investment and not a full subsidy for businesses. Businesses will be expected to contribute to the project funded by the grant themselves..
- 2.15 Carlisle City Council may seek to reclaim some or all of the grant within 3 years of the award, should the business close, relocate out of the city or be sold/sell the assets funded by this grant. This includes equipment that is purchased with the use of the grant.
- 2.16 Where the business is taking on a new premises with help from the fund, Businesses are asked to identify when they expect to start trading from the premises. The Council will follow up with businesses that experience delays with opening. Reclamation action may be taken where a business does not open in the premises that grant funding has been awarded for.

Application process

- 3.1 A printable Expression of Interest form will be made available on the Carlisle City Council's Website. Please ensure your form is returned answered fully with **all the relevant documents attached (Please see APPENDIX 1)**. Please return your application to regeneration@carlisle.gov.uk or by post to City Centre Business Growth Grant Team, Carlisle City Council, Civic Centre, Carlisle, CA3 8QG.
- 3.2 Following submission of a complete Application form, with **all the relevant documents attached**, we will get in contact with eligible businesses with a full application form to complete. We aim to review and process, with the aim to notify you of a decision within 7 working days of submission of the full application. For more complicated applications this may take longer, and we may require further information in order to award a grant with confidence. In such circumstances prompt and fully co-operative responses from applicants will help the process move as quickly as possible.
- 3.3 This is a limited fund allocated on a first come first served basis. Once the allocated budget has been committed, no further grants will be awarded. There may be some circumstances where applicants have a strong project, with clear tangible benefits for the district that the Council wishes to support but may not be able to commit to at the first instance. For example, the project requiring funding may be at too early stage for us to confidently support. In such circumstances the City Council may be able to reserve some funding aside for such an application, to award a grant at a later stage. This is by no means guaranteed and it remains the Council's discretion on how it awards the grants-guided in principle by awarding grants on a first come first served basis.
- 3.4 It will be important that you provide all the information accurately and truthfully and provide **all** the supporting documents that are requested. We will be unable to consider incomplete applications; this includes applications where the full supporting documents required are not submitted.
- 3.5 You must answer all of the questions honestly when completing your application, if the Council suspects any business is trying to fraudulently claim the grant, it will investigate accordingly.

Appeals Process

- 4.1 There is no right to appeal, and the decision of the Council is final, however the Council will work with businesses who believe the wrong decision has been made due to missing information.
- 4.2 The Council's interpretation of this document is at its own discretion and it will be the final arbiter of the definitions contained within this policy.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- 5.1 It is vitally important that we undertake monitoring and evaluation of this use of public funds the council will use the evaluation when determining whether to launch the fund in future years or consider alternative/revised interventions.
- 5.2 By making an application, organisations consent to take part in an evaluation process. This will include at least one follow-up with the businesses which received a grant under this fund, to verify how the fund was used and the benefits that the fund helped the business realise.
- 5.3 Businesses will be asked to identify outputs and outcomes of their projects when submitting an application, these will be monitored through the evaluation process, to identify how outputs have been achieved, particularly in relation to UK Shared Prosperity Fund Interventions and Outputs/comes.

Definitions

- 6.1 SME/Microbusiness- a business with less than 250 employees, and a turnover of less than £50 million.

Tax

- 7.1 Grant income received by a business is taxable therefore funding paid under the High Street Business Grants Fund will be subject to tax. Only businesses which make an overall profit once grant income is included will be subject to tax.

Subsidy control

- 8.1 The EU State aid rules no longer apply to subsidies granted in the UK following the end of the transition period, which ended on 31 December 2020. This does not impact the limited circumstances in which State aid rules still apply under the Withdrawal Agreement, specifically Article 10 of the Northern Ireland Protocol.
- 8.2 The United Kingdom remains bound by its international commitments, including subsidy obligations set out in the Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA) with the EU.
- 8.3 Grants may be paid in accordance with Article 3.2(4) of the TCA, which enables an applicant to receive up to a maximum level of subsidy without engaging Chapter 3 of the TCA. This allowance is £315,000.
- 8.4 By accepting the grant, organisations confirm that they are within subsidy allowance threshold for this Period, it is advised that organisations confirm in writing that they have not exceeded their threshold to enable the Council and organisation to record and demonstrate they are within the minimal financial exemption.

- 8.6 The Council will require each business to confirm that by accepting the grant payment, the business confirms that they are eligible for the grant scheme, including that any payments accepted will be in compliance with subsidy control requirements.
- 8.7 If the grant exceeds the threshold or the organisation has received subsidies in excess of the threshold over a three year period then the Council will need to undertake a Subsidy Control assessment and the organisation may need to provide information to the Council in order to assist the Council with that assessment before any grant can be awarded.

Data protection

- 9.1 We will use your information to assess your application for financial support. We will confirm information about you and your account from credit referencing agencies to confirm account validity and your identity. If you provide false or inaccurate information, we will record this. All personal information will be processed in accordance with the terms of the General Data Protection Regulation. For full information on how any personal information we gather will be processed, please visit our privacy statement at <https://www.carlisle.gov.uk/Privacy-Statement/regeneration-services-privacy-statement>

Right to update our policy

- 10.1 The council reserves the right to update or change this policy without notification or prior warning in the event that the government updates or changes its guidance to us or in the event of an error or omission.

Appendix 1- evidence needed to support an application

Information	Evidence Required	Comment
Payment details	Copy of bank statement clearly showing name, address, sort code and account number	This must match the name of the business or individual listed on the business rates bill or lease/mortgage agreement
Evidence of your right to occupy the premises you are applying from	You will need to provide a copy of your current lease agreement or title deeds / mortgage statement if you own the property / land	This must be dated and signed by both landlord and lessee.
Evidence you are an SME or micro business	This will be done on self-declaration	
Evidence that your business/project is viable	Please submit a 12 month cashflow forecast and business plan, if available.	We recognise that businesses may not have all the required information, however we do require some evidence that shows your business/project is viable before we can release public funds. If you do not have the relevant documents, please return a similar document that is relevant.
Evidence of how you will use the money	Please submit quotes of works from a professional company at a minimum for work that will be undertaken with support from the grant fund. We normally require a minimum of 3 quotes per project [exceptions can be applied depending on the nature of the project / proposal]	We need clear evidence that the fund will be used properly and in line with the guidance provided above. If there is any doubt around how the fund will be used, a grant will not be awarded.
Evidence of eligibility under	This will be done by way of self-declaration on the application form	If you are unsure whether subsidy control rules apply to

subsidy control rules		your business, you need to seek independent legal advice
--------------------------	--	-------------------------------------------------------------



Enterprise Fund

Application Form

This form is used to assess whether businesses are eligible for the Enterprise Fund. Please check the eligibility criteria before applying. We aim to make decisions as promptly as possible, however this is dependent on all the necessary information is submitted. Please take time to ensure the form is filled in correctly, in full, with all additional requested documents attached. Once complete, please return in full to regeneration@carlisle.gov.uk.

For information on how we will process any personal information you provide to us, please visit our privacy statement at <https://www.carlisle.gov.uk/Privacy-Statement/Economic-Development-Functions-Privacy-Statement>

Contact Name	
Contact Number	
Contact Email Address	
Business Name	
Business Address	

Grant details

Please explain the purpose of the grant application

[Empty text box for grant application details]

Grant details

Please explain how the grant will support UKSPF objectives

[Empty response box]

Project Costs

Please indicate the total project cost	£
Please indicate the amount of grant being applied for	£

Please indicate how many jobs to create / safeguard jobs within your business, from the project and the investment:

Full time:	
Part time:	

Please detail your business projected turnover and net profit for the next 2 financial years of trading. If you are an existing business, please include current turnover as well.

2023-2024	
<i>Projected expenditure</i>	<i>Projected income</i>
2024-2025	
<i>Projected expenditure</i>	<i>Projected income</i>

IMPORTANT: Evidence required for a complete application

In order to fully assess your application, we need the following supporting documents. Please submit these with your completed application form.

Information	Evidence Required	Comment
Payment details	Copy of bank statement clearly showing name, address, sort code and account number	This must match the name of the business or individual listed on the business rates bill or lease/mortgage agreement
Evidence of your right to occupy the premise you are applying from	You will need to provide a copy of your current lease agreement or title deeds/mortgage statement if you own the property.	
Evidence that your business/project is viable	Please submit a 12-month cashflow forecast and business plan, if available.	We recognise that businesses may not have all the required information, however we do require some evidence that shows your business/project is viable before we can realise public funds. If you do not have the relevant documents, please return a similar document that is relevant.
Evidence of how you will use the money	Please submit quotes of works from a professional company at a minimum for work that will be undertaken with support from the grant fund. We normally require a minimum of 3 quotes, although exceptions can be made in certain circumstances.	We need clear evidence that the fund will be used properly and in line with the guidance provided above. If there is any doubt around how the fund will be used, a grant will not be awarded.

Name of project:	Carlisle Enterprise Fund
Project objectives: (describe the project's aim as it relates to protected characteristics)	N/A - no protected characteristics are directly targeted by this project

Consideration	Protected Characteristics (Part 1)				
	Age	Disability	Gender reassignment	Marriage and civil partnerships	Pregnancy and maternity
Baseline situation <i>(describe only where different to the national average, or where otherwise relevant)</i>					
Assessment text <i>(summary of how the proposed project affects the protected characteristic)</i>	There is no clear evidence that this protected characteristic group could be disproportionately affected	There is no clear evidence that this protected characteristic group could be disproportionately affected	There is no clear evidence that this protected characteristic group could be disproportionately affected	There is no clear evidence that this protected characteristic group could be disproportionately affected	There is no clear evidence that this protected characteristic group could be disproportionately affected
Is the effect positive/negative/mixed? <i>(add an explanation)</i>	+VE / M / -VE N/A	+VE / M / -VE N/A	+VE / M / -VE N/A	+VE / M / -VE N/A	+VE / M / -VE N/A
If the effect is negative or mixed:					
Is the effect significant? <i>(add an explanation)</i>	N/A N/A	N/A N/A	N/A N/A	N/A N/A	N/A N/A
What embedded mitigation does the project contain?	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
What residual significant effects remain?	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Is there an in-combination effect across multiple protected characteristics (across both Part 1 and Part 2 of the assessment table)? <i>(e.g. the proposed project has minor effects across several protected characteristics which, when considered together, have a more significant impact)</i>	There are no clear combination effects				
What action is required? Who will be accountable for it? <i>(this could include further mitigation measures or re-prioritisation of projects)</i>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Consideration	Protected Characteristics (Part 2)				
	Race	Religion or belief	Sex	Sexual orientation	'Family Test' (if used)
Baseline situation <i>(describe only where different to the national average, or where otherwise relevant)</i>					

Consideration	Protected Characteristics (Part 2)				
	Race	Religion or belief	Sex	Sexual orientation	'Family Test' (if used)
Assessment text <i>(summary of how the proposed project affects the protected characteristic)</i>	There is no clear evidence that this protected characteristic group could be disproportionately affected	There is no clear evidence that this protected characteristic group could be disproportionately affected	There is no clear evidence that this protected characteristic group could be disproportionately affected	There is no clear evidence that this protected characteristic group could be disproportionately affected	
Is the effect positive/negative/mixed? <i>(add an explanation)</i>	+VE / M / -VE N/A	+VE / M / -VE N/A	+VE / M / -VE N/A	+VE / M / -VE N/A	+VE / M / -VE
If the effect is negative or mixed:					
Is the effect significant? <i>(add an explanation)</i>	N/A N/A	N/A N/A	N/A N/A	N/A N/A	Y / N
What embedded mitigation does the project contain?	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
What residual significant effects remain?	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Is there an in-combination effect across multiple protected characteristics (across both Part 1 and Part 2 of the assessment table)? <i>(e.g. the proposed project has minor effects across several protected characteristics which, when considered together, have a more significant impact)</i>	There are no clear combination effects				
What action is required? Who will be accountable for it? <i>(this could include further mitigation measures or re-prioritisation of projects)</i>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	