
EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 2 DECEMBER 2004

IOS.151/04 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

The Local Plans and Conservation Manager presented report P.58/04 setting out the first Local Development Scheme (LDS) for the Carlisle District.

Mr Hardman explained the background to the production of the draft LDS. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 stated that each District Council “**must** prepare a scheme within 6 months of the commencement of Part 2 of the Act”. Additional guidance had been produced by the ODPM to assist in the preparation of documents under the new system.

At the request of the Government Office for the North West, an initial draft of a scheme was compiled and submitted for consideration before the end of March 2004. That initial draft was to ensure that Officers generally understood the new system and would assist in preparation of the final version. At the time of submission the Act was scheduled to come into force late Spring 2004, however, commencement of Part 2 of the Act came into force at the end of September and guidance had only recently been prepared.

Despite the lateness of the enactment and lack of guidance comments from GONW stated that the Council had a “well developed ‘early’ draft which can now be expanded in the light of the final guidance”.

The LDS included documents that may be produced jointly. It was intended to produce County-wide guidance on Renewable Energy and Environmental Capacity. That had arisen from discussions at the Structure Plan Examination in Public in September 2004. In addition, the partnerships for the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty were looking for additional planning guidance which could be produced jointly. All of those documents were under early discussion and it had not been possible to finalise the timescale of production for this report.

Mr Hardman added that due to the number of documents to be produced and the lack of information on joint documents it had not been practical to confirm the timetable for each document. Priority had been given to Local Plan production which was already well advanced. Some documents would be wholly produced within the three year scheme, others would be started and would continue as the scheme was rolled forward.

In response to Members’ questions Mr Hardman advised –

- Burgh by Sands Parish Design Statement had been put up for a national award and had met with stiff competition. Unfortunately it had been unsuccessful.

- The Parish Plan for Denton Holme was still evolving. Consultation was taking place and a meeting would be held on 14 December 2004 to take the matter forward.
- He was working with colleagues in Property Services and Economic Development on whether other issues required to be included.

A Member particularly welcomed the terminology contained within the report and congratulated Mr Harman on work undertaken to date.

RESOLVED – (1) That the Committee recognised progress made as regards the Local Development Scheme which took account of guidance produced by the ODPM.

(2) The Committee congratulated Burgh by Sands for their Parish Design Statement which could be seen as best practice.