

## Joint Advisory Committee for Strategic Planning

Meeting to be held on 24 September 2014

Electoral Division affected: All
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### Joint Lancashire Minerals and Waste Local Plan Review – Scoping Consultation

(Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:

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#### Executive Summary

The principle of the review of the Joint Lancashire Minerals and Waste Core Strategy, and Site Allocation and Development Management Policies Local Plan, was previously considered by the Joint Advisory Committee for Strategic Planning and subsequently approved by the Executive Member of each of the three authorities. This report presents information on the next step in the Local Plan review process; the scoping consultation.

It describes the purpose of the scoping consultation, and how this scoping consultation will be carried out.

#### Recommendation

That the Joint Advisory Committee for Strategic Planning recommends to the Executive Members of the three authorities to approve the consultation on the scope of the Local Plan review set out at Appendix 'A'.

#### Background and Advice

##### Purpose

To report the progress on the local plan review evidence preparation, and to seek approval to consult on the scope of the review.

##### Background

The Joint Advisory Committee for Strategic Planning met on 1 May 2014 to discuss the review of the Joint Lancashire Minerals and Waste Core Strategy, and Site Allocation and Development Management Policies Local Plan. The Executive Members subsequently agreed to progress the Local Plan Review. Following the adoption of the Minerals and Waste Development Scheme 2014-2018 (presented in

a separate report) the next step in this review will be to consult on the scope of the review.

## Rationale

The need for the review was considered by the Joint Advisory Committee for Strategic Planning at its meeting on the 1 May 2014. Local Plans are subject to statutory preparation procedures under Part 6 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. The format of the consultation is in accordance with these regulations and the Statements of Community Involvement.

## Key Issues

### *Scoping Consultation Document*

The purpose of the scoping consultation is to consult with stakeholders on the scope of the Local Plan Review, to invite comments on what the review of the local plans should contain, and identify the issues from the evidence presented. It seeks to ensure that any issues which may influence the content of the revised Local Plan are identified at the beginning of the drafting process.

Key to the National Planning Policy Framework is the concept of objectively assessed need. Core Strategy assumptions on this use data from up to 10 years ago. The Local Aggregate Assessment and Local Waste Assessment update these assumptions, by presenting information on aggregate and waste arisings and projections for the revised plan period, and presenting information on the current permitted facilities capable of meeting that projected demand. It can be seen from these that it is likely that the extension to the plan period will result in a need to allocate more sites for some mineral types to meet projected demand, and there may be a need for limited new allocations for waste facilities in certain parts of the plan area.

The adopted Core Strategy and Site Allocation and Development Management Policies Local Plan have a plan period to 2021. The review is intended to extend this plan period to 2032, 15 years from the proposed adoption date of the reviewed Minerals and Waste Local Plan. Consequently the evidence must be tested to determine whether the current vision, objectives and policies will still be valid over the extended plan period. The consultation will seek stakeholder views on the following:

- whether existing policies are fit for purpose to be taken forward to 2032
- issues with the implementation of existing policy that could be rectified through the Local Plan review
- any need for new policies to be added to the Local Plan through the review
- issues with the evidence presented
- whether new facilities are needed in response to the evidence presented, with an opportunity to submit suggested sites
- comments on the Sustainability Appraisal scoping report
- comments on a draft Local Plan combining both the Core Strategy, and Site Allocation and Development Management Policies Local Plan, into one

document, with track changes to illustrate text that has been removed to avoid duplication.

### *Scoping Consultation Notification*

Consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the three authorities adopted Statements of Community Involvement for a period of 6 weeks. The following approaches are suggested:

- Advanced notification to councillors by email and on the CFirst webpage, and an opportunity for a bite size briefing for councillors
- Issue press release
- Send letters/emails to stakeholders<sup>1</sup> (members of the consultation database, operators, and statutory consultees) informing them of the consultation
- Advertised on the three authorities websites, with online consultation at the Lancashire County Council 'Have your say' consultation portal, and the Joint Lancashire Minerals and Waste Objective Online consultation portal
- Place hard copies for inspection at deposit points (libraries, county hall, district town halls, county information centres)
- Electronic versions of documents available to view on the Joint Lancashire Minerals and Waste homepage, and the consultation portals
- A possible forum for the industry and other relevant groups to help identify their issues

At the second consultation during the review process, in summer 2015, the notification process will be the same, but will also include notifying residents close to any new allocated sites that are proposed.

This is in addition to the on-going dialogue with specific consultees (including through attending forums such as the North West Aggregate Working Party and the North West Waste Network) that the three authorities carry out to ensure cooperation in maximising the effectiveness of the preparation of the local plan, as required by section 33A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (the duty to cooperate).

### Policy Implications

The policies in the adopted Joint Lancashire Minerals and Waste Core Strategy, and Site Allocation and Development Management Policies Local Plan, will be replaced upon the adoption of the Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2017-2032. At this stage there are no immediate policy implications, but as the review progresses to submission the materiality of the emerging policies for planning decisions will increase.

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<sup>1</sup> It is recommended that all statutory consultees are notified of the consultation; these include parish and town councils, district councils, neighbouring councils, Natural England, and the Environment Agency. In addition all individuals and groups held on the consultation database will be notified.

## Recommendation

That the Joint Advisory Committee for Strategic Planning recommends to the executive members of each of the three authorities to approve the consultation on the scope of the Local Plan review.

## **Consultations**

N/A

## **Implications:**

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

## **Risk management**

Failure to consult in accordance with the adopted Statements of Community Involvement, and the adopted Minerals and Waste Development Scheme, could result in the Local Plan being found unsound by the Planning Inspector during its examination in public. Failure to consult the appropriate individuals or organisations could result in policy issues coming to light too late in the review process, affecting the delivery of the Local Plan review to schedule.

## Finance

The costs of the scoping consultation can be contained within the agreed existing budgetary provisions, following the decision to review the Local Plan.

## **List of Background Papers**

Paper	Date	Contact/Directorate/Tel
Joint Lancashire Minerals and Waste Local Plan: Local Plan Review	1 May 2014	Richard Sharples, Environment Directorate, (01772) 534294

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A