



Darlington Local Plan 2016-36

Stage 2: Local Plan Submission- Evidence Base- Policy - Delivery

Highlight Report (13)

Progress	Comments / Actions
<p>Master plan Areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master Plan Meetings ongoing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Skerningham Masterplan – Work is underway on the evidence base needed to support the masterplan framework with environmental/landscape surveys being undertaken. Other work to establish the key constraints and opportunities on the site underway. Traffic modelling brief agreed. Meeting of landowners held being organised. (a similar letter is to be sent to two Faverdale landowners shortly). First consultations on Master Plan Framework likely to be August after the A1/A66 Link consultations. ○ Faverdale Masterplan – Land use concepts developed. Evidence gathering in progress. POD Newcastle Consultants now appointed to lead on Master Plan Framework. Highway brief being developed. Consultations likely September. ○ Note report to Cabinet in July re participation in Master Plan process and equalisation agreement for Council land with the MPF. • Members visit to be arranged for Faverdale area following General Election. This is now hand. • Meeting held with key stakeholders at Middleton St George on 15th June to discuss draft high level development objectives. Comments received and noted. Further meeting to be held mid July. Parish Council are undertaking some work on their priorities for the village to bring to the next meeting whilst the Council are preparing options for potential future growth. • First workshop held with key stakeholders at Heighington Village. Feedback will be used to form some draft high level development objectives for the village. A second meeting to be held late July / early August. <p>Theme Groups</p> <p>Housing</p>	<p><i>Consultations window slipping due to delay in A1/A66 consultation process.</i></p> <p><i>Consultation process and timetable to be developed by POD.</i></p> <p><i>Report to July Cabinet.</i></p> <p><i>Members visit to be organised.</i></p> <p><i>Village meetings to be progressed.</i></p> <p><i>Data base to be developed and shared with HELAA</i></p>

- First iteration of 'Land Register' which will become central to effective monitoring and promotion of land in the Borough has been produced. Taking the form of a database and an interactive map, the register will seek to maintain a comprehensive repository of sites to be included in our analysis of potential development sites and those that have been considered in the past. It is intended that this repository will either replace or create links between the several separate but similar datasets which currently exist within the Planning Policy Team, reducing abortive work and the potential for errors and double counting. The Land Register will be used to supply consistent data for numerous statistical returns and requests for information including (amongst others) education projections, the new brownfield register, funding bids and infrastructure planning. It will also be used to inform the TVCA Housing Delivery Plan currently in development.
- Consultation on OAN methodologies has still not been produced by DCLG. Proposal is to run the scenarios to give an idea of how this would impact numbers although a final methodology may not be agreed by government until Autumn 17.
- ONS data sets to be reviewed. This task cannot be finalised until OAN methodology is known and is a risk to the timetable.
- Gypsy and Traveller needs assessment to be commissioned using new definitions of Gypsy and Travellers. Appropriate consultants being reviewed. Quotes for the work are being considered.

Transport

Key milestones:

- A66 North of Darlington - Strategic Outline Business Case (SOBC) for DfT to be completed May and taken through TVCA Transport Committee.
- Public Information Event on Strategic Road – July 2017 – This will be A66 from A1(M) to Teesport and A19 Tees Crossing (delayed due to Purdah) A Darlington event is being planned at Dolphin Centre. (There will be other events across Tees Valley) –Skerningham MPF consultations now likely to follow this rather than concurrent.
- Outline Business Case Development (OBC) by Nov 2017. This builds more detail onto the SOBC –

Group

Delay to plan due to OAN methodology.

July Consultation events.

e.g. modelling, environmental, economic etc

Education

Next steps for the group:

- Planning policy attended head teacher meeting.
- When consulting and meeting with others (e.g. head teacher meetings, regional and Tees Valley groups) discussions to be documented where they feed into the work for the Local Plan.
- Education to progress baseline information and proposed allocations can be fed into the process. Date to be confirmed.
- Review of funding mechanisms being conducted by Capital/Asset Management Group

Green Infrastructure

Main themes emerging for next consideration are based around up to date data to provide robust evidence base, consisting of:

- Open space needs assessment update
- Phase 1 mapping up to date and digitized
- Up to date cross reference with other evidence bases and policies; climate change, Energy, Sustainable travel, SuDs, Allotments, which are also in development or revision.
- Report to Local Plan Steering Group.

Next steps:

- The above is expected to be commissioned externally, such as ERIC undertaking digitisation of Phase 1 and possible sub contract to specialist mapping group for updating under guidance.
- Wider group to be consulted, this has included greater community representation and smaller interest groups.
- Need for further breakdown of description of GI designations and what they mean in policy terms, National, local, etc. Along with mapping of green designations at local level, such as Green Wedges, Community Forestry, Local Wildlife Sites (LWS), etc. and how to specifically protect and enhance

Review of school funding
might unlock viability issues.

these and the connection between them.

Town Centre/Retail

- Work ongoing to process information received at Town Centre Conference. White Young Green brief prepared in draft for commission to update retail study.
- Consideration will be needed on the potential to accommodate additional out of town retail space without having a detrimental impact upon the existing town centre offer.
- Town Centre work shop to be held 21st June. Likely direction is a simplified Town Centre policy. i.e. defining Town Centre Boundary largely as is, town centre first principles and then flexibility within the town centre for town centre uses.

Climate Change

- Topic Paper produced for LPSG..

Heritage

- Rail Heritage audit complete.
- Conservation Area Character Appraisals to be commissioned for larger villages where none exist.

Communications

- Microsite now overhauled to include designated pages for topic areas and site specific areas. Content to be built upon with direction from theme leads.
- Online 'Newsletter' to be generated to send out to people who have registered their details on the website

Staffing and resources

- Appointment of Place Strategy Manager has been made and David Hand started 30 May 2017. Development of GIS and consultation management software under consideration.

Programme Management

- At this time the timetable is beginning to show some evidence of slippage due to Master Planning

Retail study commission.

Town Centre Workshop

Conservation Appraisals.

<p>Consultations, new issues raised through Sustainability Assessment work and uncertainty re OAN and S106/CIL regulations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July report re White paper prepared for July Cabinet on Local Plan is deferred due to amount of business on July Cabinet. 	
<p>Governance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Plan Steering Group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Meeting 21st June. Papers dispatched 14th June, 	
<p>Other Key Tasks</p>	<p>Comments / Actions</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An update of the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report published in 2016 is being prepared containing revised Sustainability Appraisal objectives ensuring that the full scope of social, economic and environmental issues is covered sufficiently. These objectives are to be developed in consultation with the three statutory consultee bodies (Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England). The update will also include updated baseline information for the district and will be published towards the end of the summer. This is likely to require a further report to Cabinet to adjust terms of SA. 	
<p>Key Milestones</p>	<p>Comments / Actions</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication and engagement plan to be developed following clarification on strategic highway timetable. 	<p><i>ALL LEADS</i></p>
<p>Risks</p>	<p>Comments / Actions</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Potential slippages to SA programme and need to re profile. 	