LDNPA Local Development Scheme

1 Summary

This report recommends updating the Local Development Scheme to reflect the future activities planned.

Recommendation that you:	***a.***	***Endorse the revised Local Development Scheme (Annex 1) to reflect planned activity.***

2 Background

Previous committee	Main points discussed	Changes made
PSV 8th June 2021	Approval of Local Development Scheme 2021	Updated to reflect new timeline for the delivery of planning documents.
PSV 7th June 2022	Approval of Local Development Scheme 2022	Updated to reflect new timeline for the delivery of planning documents.
PSV 12th September 2023	Approval of Local Development Scheme 2023	Updated to reflect new timeline for the delivery of planning documents.

2.1 The Local Development Scheme is designed to help the local community and all our partners interested in development and the use of land and buildings in the Lake District to understand what plans the Authority intend to produce. We review the Local Development Scheme regularly to ensure that the timeline for producing Local Plan and associated documents is up to date.

2.2 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, Section 15, requires that Local Planning Authorities must prepare and maintain a document to be known as their Local Development Scheme. We are still awaiting secondary legislation to bring into force the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023 (Schedule 7, 15B), which was enacted in 2023, and this will update the requirement to prepare and maintain a “local plan timetable”. This legislation is expected to reform to the plan making system and will likely mean further changes to this timetable. Notwithstanding this, the Deputy Prime Minister has requested that all Local Planning Authorities submit an updated Local Development Scheme within 12 weeks (i.e. by 6th March 2025) of the publication of the revised National Planning Policy Framework.

2.3 As a result, our timeline for the local plan review reflects the previously published timeline. It is hoped that further guidelines and secondary legislation will be published over the next 12 months before the Lake District Local Plan Review commences.

2.4 In addition to the Local Plan Review timetable, the Local Development Scheme also outlines the timeline for other associated local development documents that the Authority intends to prepare.

3 Policy Context

3.1 The Authority's new Local Plan sets out the strategy for development in the Park over the next 15 years and aims to help deliver the vision for the Lake District.

3.2 Business Plan Key Action 12: Deliver the Local Development Scheme identifies the tasks required to deliver the Local Development Scheme.

4 Options

4.1 a) You agree with the recommendation to update the Local Development Scheme to update the timescales for delivery of the planned activity of the Local Development Scheme.

b) You suggest an alternative approach.

5. Proposals

5.1 Option a) is recommended. The Authority is required to submit an updated Local Development Scheme to MHCLG by the 6 March 2025. This new Local Development Scheme outlines a timetable for reviewing the Local Plan to ensure that it remains up to date and enables us to meet this deadline.

6 Demonstrating Best Value

6.1 The Best Value implications are:

a) Challenge. An up-to-date Local Development Scheme enables us to challenge our Local Plan and its associated documents timetable and helps us to match our resources accordingly.
b) Compare. As part of the Local Development Scheme review we have compared the format with previous editions to ensure we are adopting the most appropriate approach.
c) Consult. Not relevant
d) Compete. Not relevant.

7 Finance Considerations

7.1 No additional resource implications.

8 Risk

8.1 The Local Development Scheme is a key document for the production of any local development documents.

Risk	Mitigation/Comments	Likelihood	Impact
Staff resources	Staff resource is essential to the quality and timely delivery of activity identified in the Local Development Scheme. We currently have a full complement of staff but will keep resourcing under review against the emerging scope of the Local Plan Review.	Low/Medium	High

9 Legal Considerations

9.1 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, Section 15 requires the Authority to produce and maintain a Local Development Scheme.

10 Human Resources

10.1 There are no direct Human Resources implications as a result of this report. Our Service Plans account for the staffing resources required.

11 Diversity Implications

11.1 The Local Plan itself, through a process of engagement and consultation, ensures that all sectors of the local and wider community have an opportunity to input into the planning process. The Local Development Scheme enables individuals and organisations to plan ahead.

12 Sustainability

12.1 The Local Development Scheme is part of a planning process that aims to encourage sustainable development.

Background Papers	
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Responsible Director	Stephen Ratcliffe, Director of Sustainable Development
Date Written	09/01/2025

Annex 1 – Local Development Scheme

Local Development Scheme
Local Plan Timetable

February 2025

Introduction

1. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, Section 15, requires that Local Planning Authorities must prepare and maintain a document to be known as their Local Development Scheme. We are still awaiting secondary legislation to bring into force the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023 (Schedule 7, 15B), which was enacted in 2023, and this will update the requirement to prepare and maintain a "local plan timetable". This Local Development Scheme provides information on the Development Plan Documents that the Authority intends to produce and sets out the timetable for their production.

2. The Local Development Scheme (LDS) is designed to help the local community and all our partners interested in development and the use of land and buildings in the Lake District to understand what plans the Authority intend to produce.

What new Development Plan Documents are to be prepared?

Context

3. The plans and timetables addressed in this version of the LDS are based on the current plan-making system. The Levelling Up and Regeneration Act was given Royal Assent in November 2023, which proposes changes to the plan-making system. On 12th December 2024, Government confirmed a new National Planning Policy Framework, and also confirmed a transitional date for plans under the current plan-making system to be submitted of December 2026.

The Development Plan

Lake District National Park Local Plan 2020-2035: Living Lakes, Your Local Plan

4. Geographical coverage – Lake District National Park Authority boundary. Adoption – 19 May 2021.

5. The Local Plan 2020-2035 contains the strategic policies for the Lake District National Park, including for waste and minerals, and a number of local policies to manage development. It also includes land allocations to meet development needs for housing and employment. An interactive polices map supports the Local Plan.

6. Local Planning Authorities should review policies in their Local Plan to assess whether they need updating at least once every five years, and should then be updated as necessary. The review of the Local Plan is timetabled to commence in 2026.

Local Plan Review timeline (based on stages in current regulation)

Stage	**Anticipated Timeline**
Review of Local Plan policies to determine extent of the update to the Local Plan required	January 2026 – April 2026

Regulation 18 - Invitation to comment on subject matter	May 2026 – July 2026
Policy & Plan preparation (including engagement on emerging policies)	July 2026 – April 2027
Regulation 19 - Publication of Local Plan consultation	May 2027 – June 2027
Regulation 22 - Submission to Secretary of State	November 2027
Regulation 24 & 25 – Independent examination (by Planning Inspector)	December 2027 – June 2028
Regulation 26 - Adoption of Local Plan	August 2028

Neighbourhood Plans

7. The 2011 Localism Act gave powers to local communities to produce their own, locally distinctive plans to guide development decisions in their localities. These are called Neighbourhood Plans. Neighbourhood Plans are produced and owned by the community, but they must be broadly consistent with the strategic policies within our Local Plan. Once Neighbourhood Plans are adopted they become part of the Development Plan for that area. This means that when we are making decisions over development proposals, the decision would be guided by the Local Plan and the relevant adopted Neighbourhood Plan.

8. There are a number of Neighbourhood Plans which have been adopted or are being prepared either wholly or partly within the Lake District National Park.

Adopted Neighbourhood Plans

- Coniston Neighbourhood Plan
- Matterdale Neighbourhood Plan

Neighbourhood Plans with designated area status

- Barton Parish
- Bootle Parish
- Burneside Parish
- Crosthwaite and Lyth Parish
- Millom-Without Parish
- Torver Parish
- Keswick Parish

Other local development documents

9. A range of **Supplementary Planning Documents** help to provide further detail on how the Local Plan's policies are implemented and applied in practice. They cover the geographical area of the Lake District National Park unless specified. Supplementary Planning Documents will be reviewed and added to the Local Development Scheme when they are identified as being required.

Existing Supplementary Planning Documents

- Cumbria Wind Energy (July 2007)
- Housing Provision (September 2023)
- Biodiversity (December 2024)
- Landscape Character (May 2021)
- Windermere Gateway Transport Infrastructure Delivery (December 2021)
- Design Code (September 2023)

Emerging Supplementary Planning Documents

Design Code

10. The Lake District Design Code Supplementary Planning Document was adopted in September 2023. Its geographical coverage is the entire Lake District National Park. A design code sets out a number of design specifications for new developments in a simple, concise and illustrated way that is specific to an area. Members agreed to review a small number of sections of the Design Code in November 2024. The amendments have been subject to public consultation and Members will consider its adoption in March 2026.

Stage	**Anticipated Timeline**
Review of Design Code	October – November 2024
Consultation of Design Code	November – December 2024
Review of consultation responses	January 2025
Adoption of Design Code	March 2025

Reuse of existing buildings (avoiding demolition)

11. It is our intention to prepare a new Supplementary Planning Document to help implement Local Plan Policy 06 (Design and Development) and resist the demolition of buildings which could be considered as non-designation heritage assets or components of an attribute of Outstanding Universal Value. Its geographical coverage will be the entire Lake District National Park.

Stage	**Anticipated Timeline**

Preparation of Reuse of existing buildings (avoiding demolition) Supplementary Planning Document	April – October 2025
Consultation of Reuse of existing buildings (avoiding demolition) Supplementary Planning Document	November – December 2025
Review of consultation responses	January 2026
Adoption of Reuse of existing buildings (avoiding demolition) Supplementary Planning Document	March 2026

Supporting documents

12. Preparation of local development documents are supported and guided by process documents, which are produced by us:

- An **Annual Monitoring Report** is produced each year to monitor the effectiveness of policies in the Local Plan.

- The **Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)** identifies key principles which we abide by when consulting and engaging communities during the preparation and review of the components of the Local Plan, other development plan documents and supporting documents. We adopted the Statement of Community Involvement in October 2022.

Stage	**Anticipated Timeline**
Review of Statement of Community Involvement and updating	January 2026 – February 2026
Consultation of Statement of Community Involvement	February 2026 – March 2026
Approval of Statement of Community Involvement	April 2026

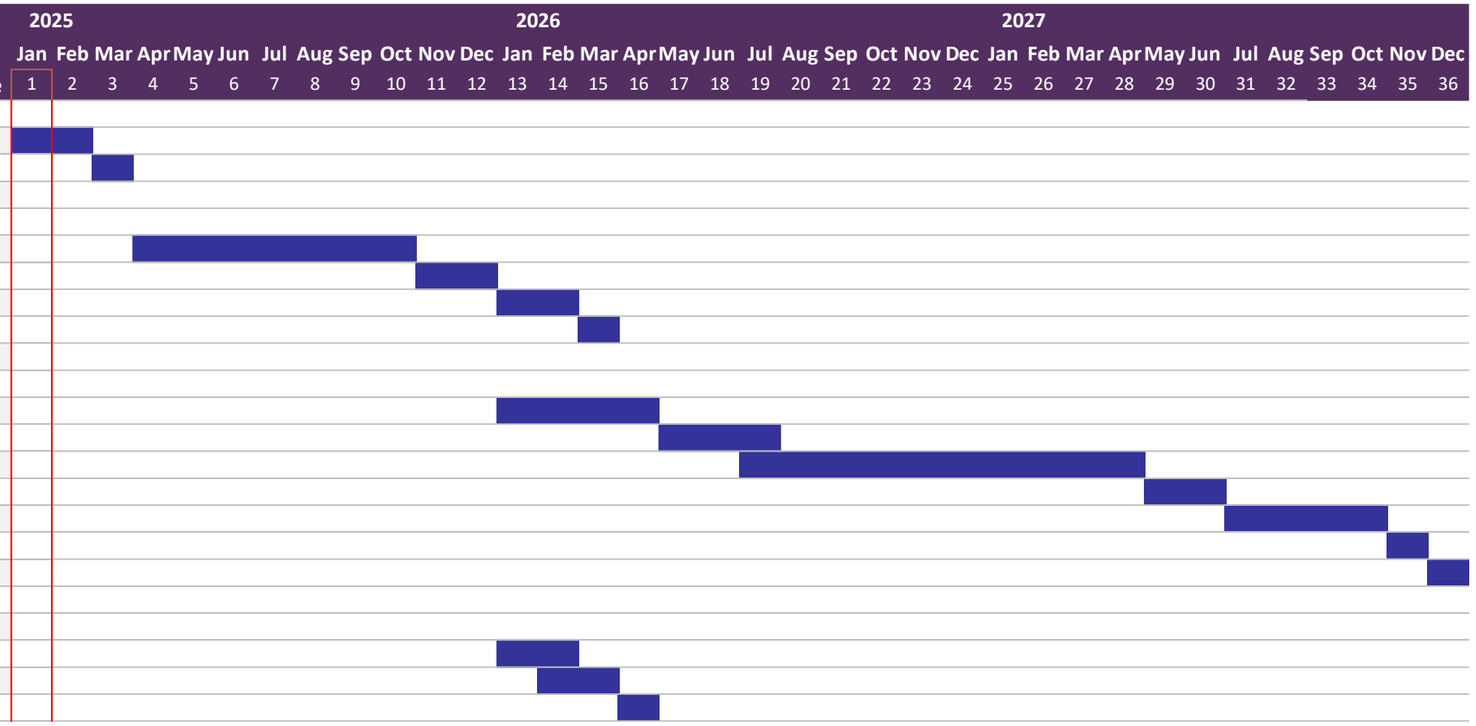
- The **Local Development Scheme** (this guide) establishes the scope of the Local Plan and the timescales for its production and review. Reviews are informed by regular monitoring of development and planning decisions, to assess the impacts of policies. We report on our key monitoring activity annually.

National Park Management Plan

13. Geographical coverage – Lake District National Park Authority boundary. Adoption – 20 October 2021.

14. The Lake District National Park Authority is required to produce a new Management Plan every five years. This Plan establishes the Vision for the Lake District. The

Management Plan is being reviewed in 2025 with its adoption anticipated by October 2026.

Local Plan Timeline

#	List of Activties	Start	Dur	Done
1	**Design Code SPD**			0%
2	Review of consultation responses	1	2	0%
3	Adoption of Design Code	3	1	0%
4				0%
5	**Reuse of existing buildings (avoiding demolition) SPD**			0%
6	Preparation of Reuse of existing buildings	4	7	0%
7	Consultation of Reuse of existing building	11	2	0%
8	Review of consultation responses	13	2	0%
9	Adoption of Reuse of existing buildings SF	15	1	0%
10				0%
11	**Lake District Local Plan**			0%
12	Review of Local Plan policies	13	4	0%
13	Regulation 18 - Invitation to comment on	17	3	0%
14	Policy & Plan preparation	19	10	0%
15	Regulation 19 - Publication of Local Plan c	29	2	0%
16	Plan amendments	31	4	0%
17	Regulation 22 - Submission to Secretary o	35	1	0%
18	Regulation 24 & 25 – Independent examir	36	1	0%
19				0%
20	**Statement of Community Involvement**			0%
21	Review of Statement of Community Invol	13	2	0%
22	Consultation of Statement of Community	14	2	0%
23	Approval of Statement of Community Inv	16	1	0%