

REPORT

To: PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE	Subject: ADOPTION OF THE NORTH LANARKSHIRE LOCAL PLAN AND THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN SCHEME 2013	
From: HEAD OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT		
Date: 12 December 2012	Ref: LPT/01/06/04/GL	

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To advise the Committee of the Adoption of the North Lanarkshire Local Plan (NLLP) and to advise that it is now free from legal challenge and to seek approval for the Council's Local Development Plan Scheme 2013.

2. Background

- 2.1 On 27 September 2012, The Scottish Government advised that the Scottish Ministers did not propose to "issue a Direction" and that the Council could proceed to adopt the North Lanarkshire Local Plan. The Plan was duly adopted on 28 September 2012, replacing all previous Local Plans. Following adoption, a six week period, during which aggrieved parties could lodge a challenge to the Court of Session on grounds of law or process. This six week period has now elapsed with no record of challenge being received by the Council. The NLLP now forms the basis for determining any applications for planning permission.
- 2.2 Under the provisions of the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006, the Council is responsible for the preparation and maintenance of a Local Development Plan (LDP) in place of Local Plans. As part of the arrangements, the Council is required to update its Development Plan Scheme (DPS) by 31 March 2013.
- 2.3 The DPS informs all potential stakeholders of the Council's intended programme of plan preparation, its stages and its approach to consultation.
- 2.4 The future development Plan structure for North Lanarkshire is based on the following:
- The Glasgow and Clyde Valley Joint Strategic Development Plan published on 13 July 2012. It replaced the Structure Plan and provides a locational strategy for new development for the first 12 years, with a broad indication of scale and direction of growth for around 20 years.
 - The North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan (NLLDP). Once adopted will replace the North Lanarkshire Local Plan (NLLP). It will contain a spatial strategy, proposals map, Area Action Plans and schedule of local authority's land interests affected by the Plan. It will focus on detailed land use proposals for the period up to year 10 from adoption. The LDP will be integrated with other Council and Partner statutory plans and strategies.

3. Proposal

- 3.1 DPS 2013, informs stakeholders of:
- the Council's present development plan framework
 - the provisions of the current planning system
 - the programme of work for the preparation of a LDP
 - the formal stages of the process, and
 - the participation and public involvement in it

- 3.2 As members will be aware, the NLLP was adopted on 28 September 2012 and, under the previous statutory provisions, the Council would be entering a monitoring and review period before preparing a replacement plan over a five year period. Under the provisions of the DPS and in recognition of the requirements of the new statutory framework, preparation of the LDP has commenced, following Adoption of the North Lanarkshire Local Plan.
- 3.3 Members will further be aware that this represents a delay in the process and that the principal reason for this was the length of the Local Plan Examination of the Finalised Draft North Lanarkshire Local Plan (FDNLLP) and The Local Government elections.
- 3.4 Although Members had agreed not to commence the LDP until the NLLP had been adopted, the previous DPS afforded a guide to the stages of the plan making process and the opportunity to assess current best practice in the preparation of LDPs. As a result, it has been identified that the introduction of a non-statutory Call for Sites (CfS) exercise in advance of the preparation of the Main Issues Report (MIR) is both common and good practice. There will require to be additional stakeholder engagement to inform the Call for Sites process and to seek views on the limits which may be attached to it
- 3.5 The delay in the adoption of the NLLP and the introduction of a Call for Sites will affect the timescale required to prepare the LDP, but should lead to a more transparent and robust process. The new stages in the process and the revised timescales for the production of the LDP are contained in the attached proposed Development Plan Scheme 2013. It should be borne in mind that although the Council will be unable to meet the Government expectation of having a LDP in place within 2 years of SDP adoption, the NLLP has been adopted comfortably within that period.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 Planning and Development Service revenue budget will cover printing, publishing and consultation costs.

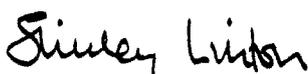
5. Corporate Considerations

- 5.1 The aim of the Local Development Plan is to promote regeneration and sustainable growth of communities. The LDP will be prepared in accordance with EU Directive 20001/42/EU and the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. The Plan is also subject to Health and Equalities Impact Assessment

6. Recommendation

- 6.1 It is recommended that Committee:

- 1 Notes the adoption of the North Lanarkshire Local Plan and its status as 2Free from Challenge”,
- 2 Approves the content of the statutory Development Plan Scheme 2013, and
- 3 Issue DPS 2013 to stakeholders and make it available on the Council's Web Site.



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HEAD OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Local Government Access to Information Act: For further information please contact Gordon Laing Assistant Business Manager (Development Plans) on 01236 632612 (12 December 2013)

Background Papers

Appendix 1

Development Plan Scheme 2013

**NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL
LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

DEVELOPMENT PLAN SCHEME

December 2012



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1 INTRODUCTION

Development Plans set out Councils policies and proposals for use and development of land and buildings and guide future development to the most appropriate locations. The Development Plan consists of the approved Strategic Development Plan and Adopted Local Plans and or Local Development Plans. They consider a wide range of land use matters including economic development and infrastructure, retail and town centres, housing and community facilities and the natural and built environment. Planning Application decisions must be in accordance with the Development Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

The Scottish Government considers that a properly functioning planning system is essential in achieving sustainable economic growth and development. It supports forward looking, visionary and ambitious Development Plans that provide certainty.

NORTH LANARKSHIRE'S CURRENT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Joint Strategic Development Plan 2012 gives a longer-term Spatial Vision and related Spatial Development Strategy for development of the wider Clyde Valley region.

The North Lanarkshire Local Plan sets out the Policies and Proposals to achieve North Lanarkshire's development needs over the next 5-10 years.

Supplementary Planning Guidance

Guidance is in preparation on a range of policy topics associated with the North Lanarkshire Local Plan.

2 NORTH LANARKSHIRE'S FUTURE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The North Lanarkshire Local Plan will be replaced by the North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan will set out more detailed policies and proposals. It will contain a spatial strategy, proposals map and schedule of the local authority's land interests affected by Plan policies or proposals. It will focus on specific proposals for the period up to Year 10 from Adoption.

The Local Development Plan will be integrated with Council and Partner statutory plans and strategies affecting the development of land. It will take account of the National Planning Framework and be consistent with its Strategic Develop Plan.

DEVELOPMENT PLAN SCHEME

The Development Plan Scheme 2013 replaces the 2012 Scheme following the length of the adoption process of North Lanarkshire Local Plan. It sets out the programme for preparing and reviewing the Local Development Plan and includes the following:

- A programme and timetable for preparing and reviewing the Local Development Plan
- Sets out what is involved at each stage
- Includes a Participation Statement setting out when, how and with whom consultation will take place with proposals for public participation

This update will be widely circulated to all relevant Community Councils, agencies, public and private developers and neighbouring Councils. It will be posted on the Council's Web pages and reviewed annually.

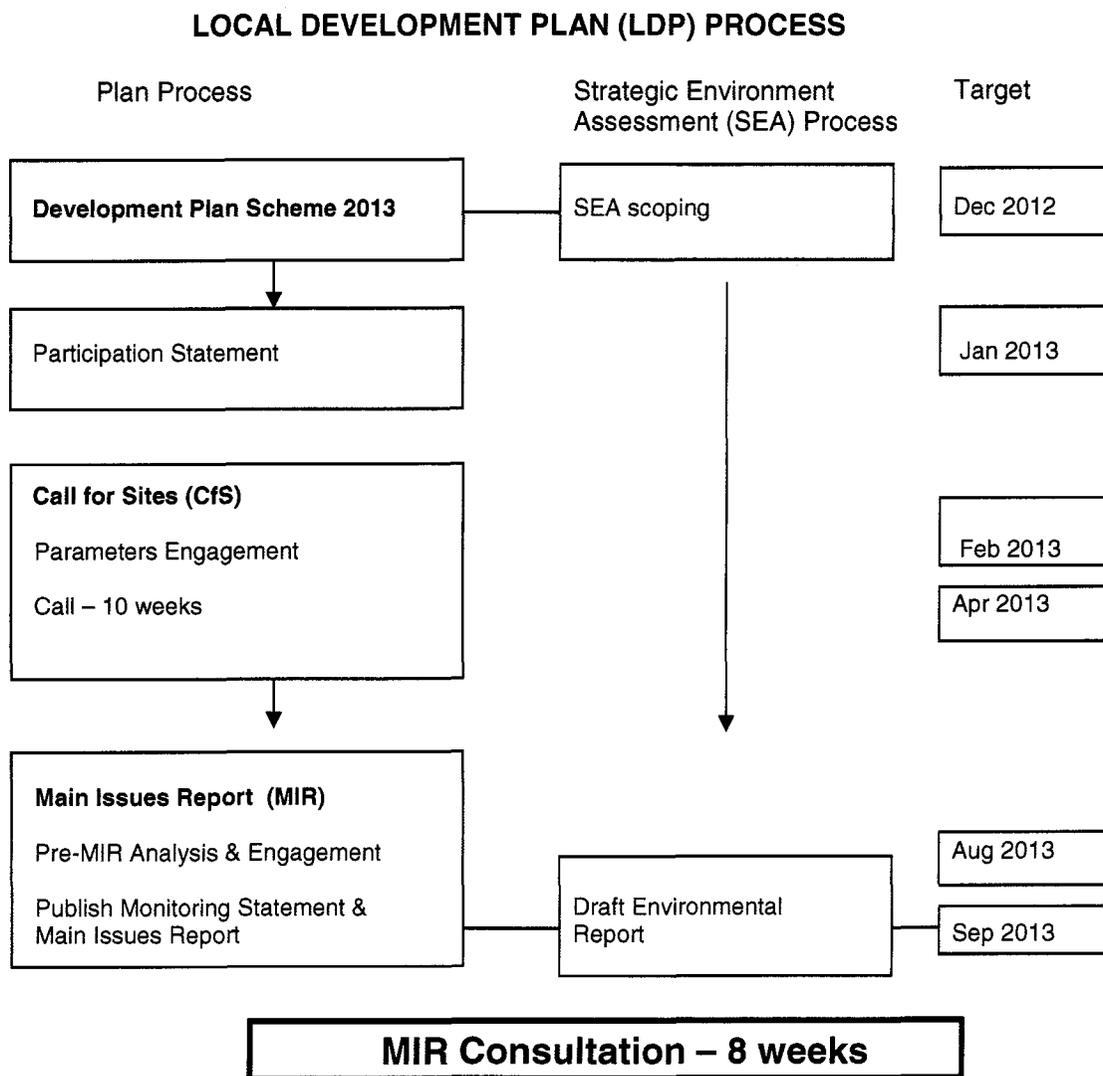
LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN ASSESSMENTS

The Local Development Plan is required to include the following:

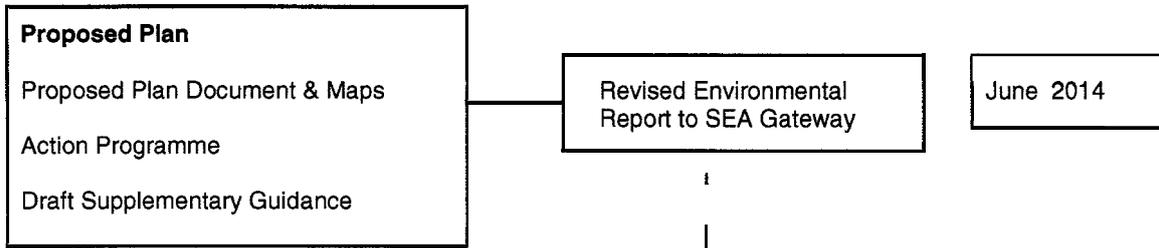
- A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) – a process of scoping potential environmental impacts resulting from future Local Development Plan development strategy, policy or proposals. This will be carried out in conjunction with SEPA, SNH and Historic Scotland.
- Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) – a process for ensuring that Local Development Plan strategy, policy or proposal addresses potential impacts on disadvantaged groups.
- Health Impact Assessment (HIA) – a process for assessing Local Development Plan strategy, policies and proposals against broader impacts on health and wellbeing.

3 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN TIMESCALES

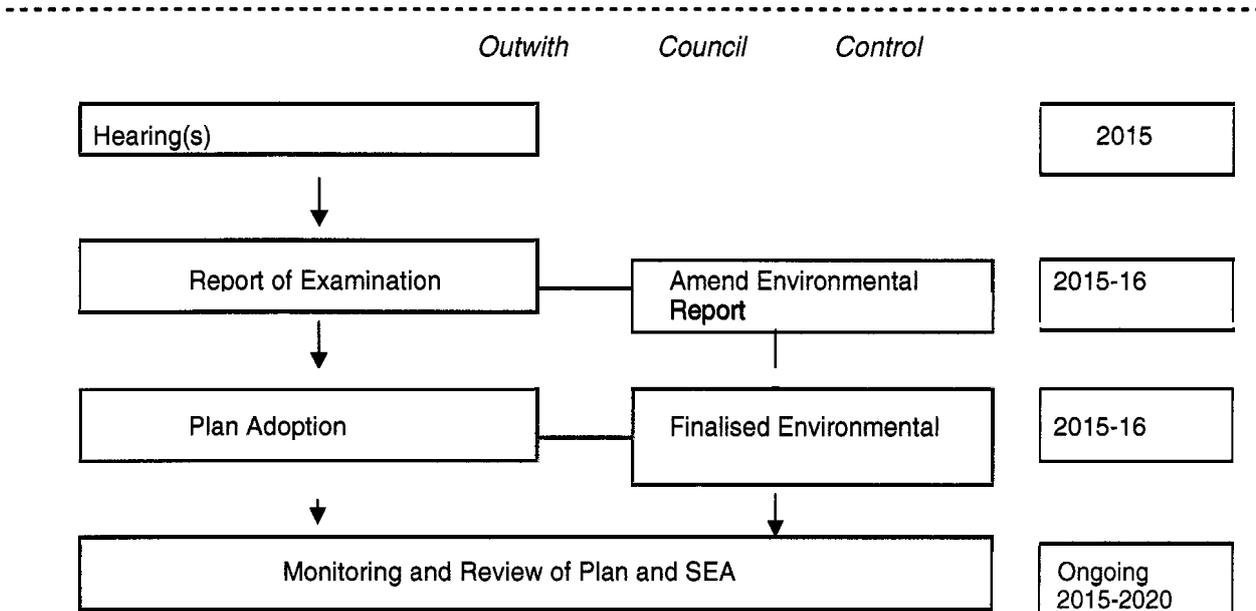
The intended timescales for preparing the LDP together with its accompanying SEA is set out in the following.



MIR Consultation – 8 weeks



Plan Consultation – 6 weeks



4 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN KEY ISSUES

Strategic Review

The LDP will reflect the strategic vision and priorities of the Council and its partners established in the SDP, Single Outcome Agreement and North Lanarkshire Community Plan, and other council strategies e.g. Local Transport Strategy, Local Housing Strategy and those of partner organisations, such as NHS Lanarkshire and Scottish Water.

The Single Outcome Agreement sets out joint commitments between Scottish Government and the Council to the delivery of agreed outcomes reflecting the following themes:

- vibrant economy, open for business
- a place with jobs and opportunities for all
- lifelong learning is valued and encouraged
- improved wellbeing adds years to life and life to years
- quality environment

A number of local indicators have been identified that will inform the development of the LDP. These include increasing business space, rate of house building, size of social rented housing stock, balancing population in rural communities and reducing carbon emissions

Planning Policy Review

To progress the key issues it will be necessary to gather a robust evidence base from which to assess the effectiveness of existing local plan policy. This will include:

- examination of SDP strategic policies
- assessment of Scottish Government planning policy and guidance updates
- Assessment of the conclusions of the North Lanarkshire Local Plan Examination, including
 - Housing land and relationship with the Local Housing Strategy
 - Employment land
 - Centres and Regeneration
 - Open space
 - Settlements. etc
- monitoring effectiveness of existing local plan policy at Appeal and in planning decisions

5 NEXT STEPS

After publication of the Development Plan Scheme the Council with its partners, stakeholders and Key Agencies will review the provisions of the North Lanarkshire Local Plan and the procedures and parameters of the Local Development Plan process. Best practice will require the Council to undertake a 10-week **Call for Sites** and the outcome of this exercise combined with the strategic and policy review outlined above a **Main Issues Report** will be prepared. This is not a draft plan, but will have sufficient detail to allow for public comment. It will focus on the key issue changes from North Lanarkshire Local Plan and will cover the following:

- North Lanarkshire's general proposals for development
- consideration of alternative development strategies

The 8-week public consultation on the Main Issues Report will be the principal opportunity for wider consideration of the Local Development Plan content.

A Monitoring Statement will be published to accompany the MIR. This will focus on areas of change, the extent to which key assumptions remain reasonable, whether land allocations remain effective and infrastructure investment has been realised. Monitoring will set the direction for the future review of the LDP.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN PROCESS

The Participation Statement sets out how and who will be involved in the plan process. Responses obtained to the Call for Sites will inform the proposals contained in the Main Issues Report which will be used to inform the **Proposed Plan**. Further consultation will be carried out as the plan progresses.

All development site owners / occupiers / neighbours will be notified as part of the Local Development Plan process and a register of proposals which are on land in Council ownership

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN CONTENT

It will include all relevant land-use strategies, policies, development proposals and maps. It will be published on the Council Web pages viewable on line with the ability for comments to be lodged through the website.

It will contain:

- A vision statement for North Lanarkshire setting out how development of the area could be undertaken and what it might look like.
- A spatial strategy incorporating a detailed statement of policies and development proposals for the area to achieve the vision.

A long-term sustainable settlement strategy will be included that will meet Council needs, priorities and aspirations with details of Infrastructure requirements related to planned growth. New development proposals will be considered in terms of physical and social impact with details of required mitigation specified.

SUPPLEMENTARY GUIDANCE

The Plan will focus on vision, spatial strategy, overarching and other key policies and proposals. The detail material associated with the development strategy will be contained in supplementary guidance.

ACTION PROGRAMMES

A Local Development Plan Action Programme will be prepared as a means of delivering the Plan's objectives. It will include:

- list of actions required to deliver each of the Plan's policies and proposals
- names of responsible parties for each action
- timescale for implementation

The Action Programme will be published with the Proposed Plan. Once approved it will be confirmed within 3 months of Plan Adoption reviewed and updated every 2 years.

EXAMINATION & ADOPTION

The Proposed Plan and its associated documents will be subject to a statutory 6-week period of consultation to which the Council will make a formal response. Maintained Objections to the Proposed Plan will then be sent, along with the Plan, for Examination by Scottish Government Reporters. Adoption should follow in accordance with regulations.

6 PARTICIPATION STATEMENT

The Council is required to promote, facilitate and regulate development. The LDP provides the context within which new development can happen and provide the opportunity for public involvement.

It is important that everyone who wants to input into the preparation of the LDP can do so. All reasonable efforts will be made to facilitate and assist as wide an involvement as possible amongst all communities of interest. Effective engagement will ensure that people are made aware of the proposals as early as possible, have the information to allow meaningful contributions, have the opportunity to make views known and receive explanations of how and why decisions are made.

The methods of engagement will be tailored to meet specific circumstances highlighted in the Main Issues Report.

The following key principles for Community Engagement have been developed from the Council's Local Plan Charter 2007.

INVOLVEMENT	Identify and involve the people and organisations who have an interest in the LDP process
SUPPORT	Identify and overcome any barriers to involvement amongst all communities of interest
PLANNING	Gather evidence of needs, available resources and agree purpose, scope and timescale of the engagement and actions to be taken
METHODS	Agree and use methods of engagement that are fit for purpose
WORKING TOGETHER	Use clear procedures that enable the participants to work effectively and efficiently with all interest groups
SHARING INFORMATION	Ensure that all necessary information is communicated between participants with all LDP comments publically available electronically
WORKING WITH OTHERS	Work effectively with all communities of interest in the LDP process
IMPROVEMENT	Develop actively the skills, knowledge and confidence of all participants through training
FEEDBACK	Report results of engagement to the wider community and agencies affected
MONITORING AND EVALUATION	Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of engagement through a regular monitoring statement

7 LDP PARTICIPATION MATRIX

		LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN STAGES						
		Development Plan Scheme	Main Issues Report	Proposed Plan	Examination	Modified Plan	Adopted Plan	Monitoring & Evaluation
KEY PARTICIPANTS	Scottish Government	■					■	
	Other Local Authorities	■	■	■		■	■	
	Agencies	■	■	■		■	■	
	Local Area Partnerships	■	■			■	■	
	Community Councils	■	■	■		■	■	
	Interest Groups	■	■	■		■	■	
	Development Interests	■	■	■		■	■	
	General Public	■	■	■		■	■	
	Remaining Objections				■			
	NLC Plan and process Review							■
METHODS OF ENGAGEMENT	Consultation Strategy	■	■	■				■
	Online Information	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
	Planning Newsletter	■	■	■				■
	Planning Aid Training	■	■					
	Customer Feedback		■	■		■	■	
	Public Notice		■	■	■	■	■	
	Press Release	■	■	■		■	■	
	Stakeholder Workshops		■					■
	Consultation Events		■	■				■
	Report to Council		■	■		■	■	■
	Statutory Consultation			■				
	Notify Proposed Development Site Neighbours			■		■	■	
	Public Examination				■			
	Council Adoption						■	