



Lancashire

Minerals & Waste

Local Plan

Joint Lancashire Minerals and Waste Development Scheme 2014-2020

September 2014

Updated 2018

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1. Introduction

This Minerals and Waste Development Scheme has been prepared by the Joint Authorities of Lancashire County Council, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council and Blackpool Council in respect of the Joint Lancashire Minerals and Waste Local Plan. It is produced in accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and is intended to replace the Local Development Scheme 2012-2016, which was previously published by the authorities in September 2012.

It describes the minerals and waste local plan that is to be produced or revised between 2014 and 2019, within the administrative areas of Lancashire, Blackburn with Darwen, and Blackpool, and the timetable for their production and consultation.

This represents a new development scheme, rather than a revision to a previous scheme, in the sense that the previous schemes were concerned with the production and delivery of the Joint Lancashire Minerals and Waste Local Development Framework. This suite of documents has now been completed, with the adoption of the Site Allocation and Development Management Policies Local Plan in September 2013. This new development scheme concerns the preparation of a single minerals and waste local plan, containing the policies of the Local Development Framework, updated where necessary to reflect current evidence.

2. Minerals and Waste Local Plan Review

2.1 Timetable

A review of the Minerals and Waste Core Strategy and the Minerals and Waste Site Allocation and Development Management Policies Local Plan is under way. This does not and should not be considered to cast doubt on the up to date nature of the policies in the adopted plan which are due to run until 2021, but rather to demonstrate commitment by the Joint Authorities to operating a strong plan led system beyond the 2021 deadline.

Table 1: Schedule of Proposed Joint Lancashire Minerals and Waste Local Plan Review (publication, submission, adoption)

Document Title	Brief Description	Consultation (Regulation 18)	Publication of the DPD (Regulation 19)	Submission to Secretary of State	Date of Adoption
Joint Lancashire Minerals and Waste Local Plan	Review of the Site Allocations and Development Management Policies Local Plan and Core Strategy	Nov-Dec 2014	Summer 2018 Autumn 2018	Summer 2019	Spring 2020

2.2 Subject Matter of the Review

- Review of the evidence base for the development plan, and review of the policies and vision where necessary to determine whether they remain up to date, together with combining the two development plan documents into one local plan.
- Where necessary site allocations suitable for minerals and waste developments, and policies for the development of those sites in light of the above.

- Development management policies to cover matters not covered in national policy, or where special local circumstances prevail, arising since the adoption of the Core Strategy and Local Plan.
- Updating the policies map to show any additional site specific policies (e.g. mineral consultation areas, designated sites or areas, or site allocations).

2.3 Geographical Area

- Covers the area of Lancashire County Council and Blackburn with Darwen and Blackpool Borough Councils.

2.4 Arrangements for Production

- Staff resources from within the County Council's Planning Group, cost sharing between the Joint Authorities where appropriate.
- Political management through the Joint Advisory Committee and the appropriate Executive Member, Cabinet/Executive Board or Full Council/Council forum of each of the Joint Authorities.
- Planning Inspector will be requested under section 20(7C) to provide Main Modifications.
- Involve stakeholders and the community in accordance with the Council's Statement of Community Involvement and the duty to cooperate as set out in the legislation.

3. Changes from Previous Schemes

Delays to the previously adopted schedule occurred due to two of the risks identified in the risk assessment, mainly the issue of staff turnover due to significant restructure and budget reductions at the Council. Furthermore, the 14th round of onshore oil and gas licences commenced, and the Infrastructure Act 2015 was issued, resulting in a degree of uncertainty around national level controls and requirements.

4. Resources

The preparation of the Local Plan is a joint process between Lancashire County Council, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council and Blackpool Council. In practice, the work will fall largely upon the Planning Policy Group of the County Council, with the County Council being financially reimbursed by the two Unitary Authorities as appropriate; as described in the service level agreement.

5. Political Management

The document will be guided, scrutinised and approved by elected members and official committees and councils of the three authorities, at each stage of production.

Recommendations on the preparation and publication of the local plan will be taken by the Joint Advisory Committee; principal decisions will be taken by the three authorities, either by their executive members or by Full Council, depending on the significance of the decisions being made. Committee and Council decisions are open to the public.

6. Risk Assessment

Every effort will be made to ensure that the programme set out in this Development Scheme will be fulfilled, but clearly there are various risks to different aspects of it. The following table identifies these possible risks, the problems that could ensue, the inherent risk (before any mitigation is place), and the mitigation measures that might be taken to alleviate them and the residual risk (after mitigation measures are taken).

Likelihood of Occurrence	High	4	7	9
	Medium	2	5	8
	Low	1	3	6
		Low – minor delay and impact on staff allocation	Medium – delay, with associated minor budget impact	High – significant delay, with associated budget impact
Impact on Business				

RISK	PROBLEM	INHERENT RISK	MITIGATION MEASURE	RESIDUAL RISK
Staff turnover or required for other work items.	Under resourced to take forward the Local Plan preparation resulting in delays.	7	Experienced staff in post. Resources may be drawn from other areas within the wider Strategy and Planning Policy Group in order to ensure continuity	5
Administrative delays	Programme is too tight with insufficient time for document preparation resulting in delays	5	Some leeway has been built into the post consultation and committee stages.	5
Capacity of the Planning Inspectorate (PINS)	Inability of PINS to meet deadlines for examination/decisions will result in delays to Local Plan process and adoption.	5	Leeway has been built into the post submission stages.	3
Plan found to not be legally compliant	At the prehearing meeting or the examination the plans preparation found to not accord to the duty to cooperate	8	Continued attendance at regional and sub-regional minerals and waste meetings. Early engagement with relevant authorities to identify strategic issues. Leeway built into post consultation stages to allow time for duty to cooperate meetings to discuss and resolve any issues of soundness identified through the consultation.	6
Emerging/	Changes to national	8	Long range forecasts of	6

RISK	PROBLEM	INHERENT RISK	MITIGATION MEASURE	RESIDUAL RISK
changing policy or issue	policy affect the Local Plan process resulting in changes to process or changes to emerging policy, or reassessment of evidence. In particular the publication of the Governments Resources and Waste Strategy is expected during the programme.		need are less sensitive to changes in policy, as are locally specific policies. Budget must contain contingency funds to allow for any associated reconsultation or redrafting necessary.	
High levels of objection to site allocation	High levels of objections could result in additional time needed to process and assess comments, and may affect political will to proceed, resulting in the need to redraft, or consult on alternatives.	7	Leeway has been built into the post consultation and committee stages. Front loading the consultation will ensure the significant issues are identified early in the process, and can inform policy development. Reserve sites will receive the same treatment as the preferred sites to ensure the availability of credible alternatives in the event of having to reject the preferred site later in the process, without the need to reconsult.	5
Judicial review	Administrative failure results in legal challenge post adoption	6	Experienced staff in post, thorough project plan, and sufficient time after and leading up to key stages	6
Joint Authority discord	Disagreements between the three authorities, causing delays to the adoption of the Local Plan documents	3	Joint authority members and officers involvement throughout the process.	3

