

**North Yorkshire****Local Access Forum****23 November 2016****Hambleton Draft Local Plan Consultation – Preferred Options****Report of the Secretary****1.0 Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 To advise members of the current consultation on the Hambleton Draft Local Plan and to invite the Forum to consider its response to the consultation.

**2.0 Background**

- 2.1 Hambleton District Council is currently consulting on its draft Local Plan for the District, which will cover the period up to 2035. The current consultation on Preferred Options sets out the Council's preferred spatial approach and preferred policy approach for the emerging Local Plan.

- 2.2 The response to the consultation will help to shape the final version of the Local Plan which will be submitted for independent examination in late 2017.

- 2.3 Hambleton District Council has invited the North Yorkshire Local Access Forum to participate in the consultation. The consultation can be viewed here:

[Preferred Options Consultation Part 1](#) sets out the Council's Preferred Policy approach which will help to shape policies for determining planning applications in the new Local Plan.

Part 2 sets out the Preferred Options for new development, including preferred sites for new housing and employment and leisure and greenspace designations across the District up to 2035. Due to the size of the document it has been split into five Sub Areas of [Northallerton](#), [Thirsk](#), [Bedale](#), [Easingwold](#) and [Stokesley](#).

The full assessment of the first tranche of proposals submitted for Local Green Space can be viewed [here](#).

- 2.4 Jennine Nunns, Planning Policy Officer, Hambleton District Council, will attend the meeting to give a brief presentation on the Draft Local Plan and to respond to Forum members' questions. It is hoped that this will be useful in helping the Forum to consider the contents of any formal response it wishes to submit as part of the consultation process.

- 2.6 Members will recall that the Forum responded to an earlier stage of consultation, the Local Plan Issues and Options stage, in February 2016 (copy attached). Feedback on the contribution from the Forum has been requested as part of the input at the meeting.

**3.0 Responding to the consultation**

- 3.1 The closing date for the consultation is 5.00pm on Monday 12 December 2016.

- 3.2 As the District Council liaison representative is not currently available, it is suggested that the Secretary co-ordinates a draft summary of the Forum's views based on the discussion at the meeting, incorporating the initial observations already provided by the representative and adding any additional issues raised by Forum members arising from consideration of the consultation documents. The draft response will then be circulated by email for members' comments prior to formal submission on behalf of the Forum by the given deadline.

#### **4.0 Recommendations**

- 4.1 That the Local Access Forum considers the content of any response it wishes to submit to the Hambleton Draft Local Plan consultation.
- 4.2 That the Secretary co-ordinates a draft formal response to the consultation, and circulates it by email for members' comments prior to submission on behalf of the Forum.

BARRY KHAN  
Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)  
County Hall  
NORTHALLERTON

Report author: Kate Arscott, Secretary to North Yorkshire Local Access Forum

**Background Documents:** 2016-02-19 LAF Submitted comments on HDC Issues and Options Consultation

---

# NORTH YORKSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

---

These comments constitute formal advice from the North Yorkshire Local Access Forum. Hambleton District Council is required, in accordance with section 94(5) of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, to have regard to relevant advice from this forum in carrying out its functions.

## **Hambleton District Council Local Plan Issues and Options Consultation**

### **Comments of the North Yorkshire Local Access Forum**

#### Introduction

North Yorkshire Local Access Forum considered the Issues and Options consultation on the Hambleton District Council Local Plan at its meeting on 4 February 2016. The following response has been agreed by Forum members following the meeting.

#### **Supporting Economic Growth** (page 4)

Q1. Are there any other issues regarding economic growth which you think should be included?

A: The LAF commends the recognition of the opportunities and need for encouraging growth of the Tourism industry and the diversification of agriculture and stresses the value of rights of way and safer travel modes to support these ambitions. Applications for fracking should have due regard to impacts on public rights of way and the enjoyment of the countryside.

#### **Supporting Housing Growth** (page 5)

Q2. Are there any other issues regarding housing growth which you think should be included?

A: The LAF acknowledges the strategy that Hambleton has outlined, but would emphasise that wherever and whatever development is favoured, there should be an ambition to ensure there is sustainable connectivity so that new development is not isolated, with all the negatives that derive from this.

#### **Managing our Environment** (page 6)

Q3. Are there any other issues regarding managing our environment which you think should be included?

A: The LAF suggests adding 'applications for fracking and wind turbines should have regard to potentially adverse effects on users of rights of way.'

#### **Improving Transport** (page 7)

Q4. Are there any other issues regarding improving transport which you think should be included?

A: The LAF commends the text, but would prefer the last bullet point to be amended to read 'more provision needed to support journeys by the non-motorised and community transport'

### **Creating Better Places** (page 8)

Q5. Are there any other issues regarding creating better places which you think should be included?

A: The LAF feels the application of the strategy for Health and Wellbeing in North Yorkshire is very significant given the importance of healthy lifestyle to economy and place. The Plan should highlight recreational 'space', rather than 'activities' because space can either be for organised or for informal use.

The list of issues, challenges and opportunities arising from the initial engagement exercise includes the statement 'the environments of our towns are key assets'. The LAF believes that it is important to recognise that the countryside environment is also a key asset of the District.

Q6. Do we agree with the main topics covered by questions 1-5?

A: Yes. However, the LAF would like to see a stronger reference to outdoor recreation and walking, including recognition of the contribution of such activity to tourism.

Q7. Are there any other topics you think should be included within the Plan?

A. No

Q8. Are there are other issues regarding cross-boundary matters which you think should be included?

A: What about the River Tees Rediscovered project, or matters of cross-border tourism?

### **Section 3 Hambleton's Growth** (page 10)

### **Section 4 Number of Homes and Jobs** (page 13)

### **Section 5 Where should Development go?** (page15)

### Conclusion

We hope you will find our suggestions constructive which are offered under the LAF's remit to advise section 94(4) bodies. We should also like to engage further on any particular issues arising from this consultation, and look forward to your feedback.

### Feedback

The Forum requests feedback on the above advice. Please provide this to the Secretary to the Local Access Forum – [kate.arscott@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:kate.arscott@northyorks.gov.uk)

19 February 2016