

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK FOR THE CRAVEN DISTRICT (OUTSIDE THE YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK)

CORE STRATEGY PREFERRED OPTION CONSULTATION

28th September to 16th November 2007

As part of the preparation of the new Local Development Framework, Craven District Council is currently consulting on its Core Strategy Preferred Option Development Plan Document.

The Core Strategy will set out land use policies for the Craven District outside the National Park and will contain a vision of what we hope to achieve for the district by 2021. The ideas presented in the Core Strategy Preferred Option have been developed through previous consultation with the local community. The feedback received in response to this consultation will be used to further develop these policies and ideas.

The Core Strategy is an important document that will affect the District in a big way; decisions on future planning applications will be based on the principles and policies it contains. This is your chance to influence what will go into the final document, so we urge you to get involved and

HAVE YOUR SAY!

The Core Strategy Preferred Option Document is split into chapters covering a number of different topics which are summarised in brief within this leaflet.

THE VISION FOR THE DISTRICT

The vision for the District sets out the aspirations of the communities of Craven, showing what people would like to see achieved over the plan period.

A Spatial Vision for the LDF has been proposed, which reflects the priorities and concerns addressed through the consultation process to-date, as follows:

The Vision for Craven in 2021 is to rekindle the 'community spirit' of its friendly rural settlements and thriving market towns by encouraging self sufficient, vibrant and prosperous communities with a mix of people and a range of local shops and services, social facilities, open spaces and employment opportunities. The people of Craven will be proud of the distinctive character and environmental assets of their area and will seek to protect them, whilst providing for the social and economic needs of present and future generations. Craven will be recognised as a friendly and attractive choice for work, home and leisure and visitors will continue to be welcomed. Connectivity between all aspects of life in the plan area will have been enhanced by means of an accessible, regular, integrated and affordable transport system.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The concept of sustainable development has become increasingly important over recent years and will be the key theme running through the LDF.

The Core Strategy Preferred option sets out 15 **Sustainable Spatial Objectives** to help maintain and improve the sustainability of Craven, and seeks to provide the basic facilities, services and installations needed for the functioning of the community in a way that is consistent with the principles of sustainable development.

The key actions for Sustainable Development:

- Promote development which meets the needs of our communities without compromising the environment for future generations.
- Reduce the need to travel by locating new developments close to jobs and services. Encourage walking, cycling and the use of public transport, and make the use of sustainable transport more economically viable in the business world.
- Seek to improve transport infrastructure by:
 - i) Safeguarding land for a road bridge over **Kildwick Level Crossing** and to provide a railway station at Crosshills
 - ii) Safeguarding the **Skipton to Colne Railway Line** and promote it's use for alternative sustainable transport in the short term.
- Support economic development which is compatible with sustainable development and will increase prosperity for the whole community. Encourage residents to use local services to achieve balanced and vibrant communities.
- Protect and enhance our natural and built environment and respond to the implications of climate change. Favour the development of previously developed land.
- Make maximum use of renewable and recycled resources in new development, and minimise energy consumption and waste production.
- Help achieve Craven's renewable energy generation target of 17.6MW per year by 2010 by:
 - i) Encouraging micro-generation schemes;
 - ii) Requiring 10% of the energy to be used in all major new developments to be produced from on-site renewable sources;
 - iii) Allowing some small and medium scale renewable energy schemes, including wind energy.

SETTLEMENT STRATEGY

A Settlement Hierarchy has been devised to set out how and where new development should be located across the District. Growth will be focussed in the settlements at the top of the Hierarchy, which have the best services and facilities and are better able to accommodate new development. The proposed Settlement Hierarchy is:

1) The **Principal Service Centre** of **Skipton** should accommodate a substantial amount of the District's development

2) The **Local Service Centres** should play a lead role in the future development and provision of services in the plan area. These are:

- Settle (with Giggleswick)
- Glusburn/Crosshills with Sutton in Craven
- High Bentham

3) Limited development should be supported in the **Smaller Local Services Centres** of:

- Gargrave
- Ingleton







4) In **Villages with Facilities** development will be small scale to meet local needs. These are:

- Burton-in-Lonsdale
- Carleton
- Clapham
- Cononley
- Cowling
- Embsay
- Hellifield
- Kildwick (with Farnhill)
- Low Bentham
- Bradley

5) Elsewhere, in the **Small Villages and Open Countryside** development will be very restricted. Included in this category are:

- Coniston Cold
- Draughton
- East and West Marton
- Eastby
- Ickornshaw
- Halton East
- Lothersdale
- Newby
- Rathmell
- Stirton
- Thornton-in-Craven
- Wigglesworth

HOUSING

-  Provision must be made for **3,300 net additional dwellings** in Craven between 2006 and 2021, according to targets set by the Regional Assembly for Yorkshire and the Humber.
-  The Core Strategy Preferred Option proposes to phase this development in 3 stages:
 - 1000 dwellings between 2006 and 2011
 - 1250 dwellings between 2011 and 2016
 - 1050 dwellings between 2016 and 2021.
-  Housing development will be distributed according to the Settlement Hierarchy, and the identified need for housing in each settlement.
-  55% of all new housing development in the District should be provided on Previously Developed Land.
-  Proposals for new housing should provide a suitable mix of dwelling types and sizes to meet the needs of all sectors of the community.
-  Housing development should be provided at a density of 30 to 50 dwellings per hectare.

Affordable Housing

At least 60% of housing on all residential and mixed use development sites of 5 dwellings or more, or 0.1 hectare or more, should be affordable.

This should be split into:

- 70% Social Rented Housing
- 30% Intermediate Tenure Housing

Small scale developments for 100% affordable housing as 'Rural Exception Sites' will be allowed in villages at the bottom of the Settlement Hierarchy, providing there is a proven need.

THE ECONOMY










Provision should be made for up to **37.5 hectares** of employment land throughout the district on a range of sites by 2021. This should be phased in 2 stages and distributed according to the proposed Settlement Hierarchy as follows:

	2006 to 2016 (ha)	2016 to 2021 (ha)	Total (ha)
Skipton	11.25	5.6	16.89
South Craven (Glusburn/ Crosshills/Sutton)	7.5	3.75	11.25
Settle with Giggles- wick	2.5	1.25	3.75
High Bentham	1.25	0.63	1.87
Ingleton and Gar- grave (together)	1.25	0.63	1.87
Villages with Facili- ties (together)	1.25	0.63	1.87
Total	25	12.5	37.5

- £ Measures will be put in place to safeguard employment land, especially where it contributes to the vitality of a neighbourhood.
- £ If a site is no longer suitable for employment use, mixed use development should be considered as an alternative.
- £ The Core Strategy will support rural diversification to promote a strong and thriving rural economy and the regeneration of the countryside.
- £ The importance of tourism for the local economy is recognised and sustainable tourism and leisure initiatives that revitalise and sustain rural settlements will be supported.
- £ The vitality and viability of the town and village centres in the District will be maintained. New retail development will be encouraged in Skipton and a limited amount in the Local Service Centres to meet people's day to day needs.

ENVIRONMENT AND DESIGN

The rural landscape is one of the Districts most important assets, and its protection will be a key priority for the Core Strategy. The Core Strategy will also seek to enhance the Districts built environment. Policies will be written which aim to:

-  Give priority to the enhancement of landscape character, natural processes, geological features, biodiversity value and other environmental assets in the open countryside.
-  Conserve and enhance the Forest of Bowland Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, with any development within the area conforming to the Bowland Management Plan.
-  Consider the potential impacts of climate change by requiring new developments to include sustainable drainage, water conservation and recycling systems in their design.
-  Avoid development in areas at risk from flooding.
-  Encourage developers to realise the opportunities that present themselves in Craven's built heritage.
-  Allow the restoration and reuse of listed buildings and buildings within conservation areas provided the long term future of the heritage asset is secured.
-  Improve the quality of design of all new developments in the District.
-  Encourage development proposals that enhance existing recreation and open space facilities, or provide additional facilities.
-  Require developers to take account of the need to reduce opportunities for crime and promote safe living environments.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT?

The comments received during the public consultation exercise will be used to modify the Core Strategy into a further draft which will be submitted to the Secretary of State for approval. It is expected that the final version of the Core Strategy will be adopted for use in Autumn 2009.

HOW TO COMMENT ON THIS DOCUMENT

Copies of the full length Core Strategy Preferred Option and accompanying consultation documents are available to view:

- at the Council Offices at Granville Street
- at Skipton and Settle Town Halls
- at Public Libraries throughout the District
- on the Council's website at www.cravenc.gov.uk/Craven/Residents/PlanningServices/PlanningPolicy/LDF

Response forms are also available at the above locations or by request to the Planning Policy Team via the contact details shown below. Completed Response forms should be returned by **5pm on 16th November 2007**, to:

**Planning Policy
The Council Offices
Granville Street
Skipton
North Yorkshire
BD23 1PS**

**Tel: 01756 706472
Email: ldf@cravenc.gov.uk**

Response forms can also be completed and returned online, on the website given above.

If you require a translation or large print version of this leaflet we will seek to provide it on request.