



Shaping Places and Spaces

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

Craven District Council

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

19th June – 31st July 2006

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1. SETTING THE SCENE: LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK; AN INTRODUCTION

The Council is currently at work producing the new type of local plan, the Local Development Framework for Craven outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park (LDF). Together with the Regional Spatial Strategy for Yorkshire and the Humber, the Local Development Framework will be the development plan for the area of the district that lies outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park (the plan area) for the period up to 2021.

At a national level the Government publishes Planning Policy Statements which set out national planning policies. The LDF has to broadly conform with both the Regional Spatial Strategy and national planning policy, but not reiterate it. A key feature of the new planning system is the integration between the LDF and The Craven District Community Strategy. More detailed information relating to the Regional Spatial Strategy, the national planning context and The Craven District Community Strategy is contained at appendix 1 of this document.

Local Development Scheme

The Council has prepared a Local Development Scheme, which is essentially a three year project plan for producing a series of Local Development Framework documents. The Council's Local Development Scheme can be viewed either via the Council's website at www.cravenc.gov.uk or at Skipton and Settle Council offices. The Council's Local Development Scheme sets out the following documents to be prepared in the period up to 2007 together with the procedures that must be followed when preparing LDF documents.

- Statement of Community Involvement – sets out how the Council will engage with communities and all other interested parties in preparing LDF documents and when considering development proposals through the development control process.
- Core Strategy (Development Plan Document) – Sets out the vision and overall land use strategy for the plan area for the period up to 2021.
- Allocations Document (Development Plan Document) – sets out land designations including some development allocations for the period up to 2021.
- Proposals Map – shows geographically the policies and proposals in LDF documents.
- Securing Affordable Housing (Supplementary Planning Document) – will review and update the mechanisms available to the Council in respect of securing affordable housing as part of larger development proposals.
- Planning Obligations (Supplementary Planning Document) – will review and update the mechanisms available to the Council in respect of agreeing planning obligations as part of larger development proposals.

It should be noted that the Council is currently reviewing the timetable for LDF document production set out within the Local Development Scheme. It is envisaged that a revised Local Development Scheme will be presented to Members of the Council during summer 2006 prior to submitting the

document to the Government Office for Yorkshire and the Humber for agreement.

SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL

Various key documents within the LDF are subject to a Sustainability Appraisal, which will appraise the social, environmental and economic effects of the strategies and policies, in order to ensure future development within the plan area is sustainable. As part of this process a Scoping Report has been produced, which sets out the context, objectives and establishes a baseline for each LDF document. The consultation of the Scoping Report took place during August – September 2005. This document is however available to view at www.cravendc.gov.uk and Council Offices. This Scoping Report will be reviewed and updated as LDF documents are prepared.

Results of the sustainability appraisal will be published for consultation along side preparation milestones for each LDF document. The Core Strategy Issues and Options will be subject to a sustainability appraisal. The result of this appraisal will be published for a period of public consultation, along side the Core Strategy Issues and Options Papers between June and July 2006.

CONSULTATION

Community participation in preparing the LDF is essential in planning for the future of the plan area. As such the Council will be undertaking consultation at the various stages throughout the preparation of the documents set out within the Council's Local Development Scheme, which will make up the LDF for the area up to 2021. This document sets out the background and context to subsequent issues and options consultation papers and should be read in conjunction with them.

Shaping Places & Spaces Conference

The Council seeks to ensure that it involves as much of the community as possible in the production of the LDF. In order to start this process of community involvement Craven District Council organised a conference in June 2005 where a wide range of key interests, such as Town and Parish Councils, Statutory Consultees and Developers attended. The conference was entitled "Shaping Places and Spaces" and its aim was to identify and explore the key issues affecting the area based around the following four themes for which the LDF could provide a response:

- LDF Vision & Settlement Strategy
- Housing
- Employment
- Environment & Design

Linkages to the Community Strategy were also identified. In addition workshops based around these themes were held, which provided delegates with an opportunity to discuss and establish the issues which they feel are important.

2. CORE STRATEGY

The Council is currently preparing the Core Strategy. This initial document will set out the key elements of the planning framework for the area. In particular the Core Strategy seeks to shape places and spaces by setting out:

- An overall development vision and strategic objectives for the area;
- A settlement strategy that would seek to achieve the vision;
- Relationships with other key documents that will inform and influence the overall strategy and vision;
- Strategic housing and employment requirements up to 2021.
- A Key Diagram showing broad locations for strategic development, major transport issues, main patterns of movement and constraints etc.

Core Strategy Issues & Options Papers

The first stage in preparing a Core Strategy is to identify the issues that exist, to which the Core Strategy could provide a response, in addition to setting out the various options for that strategy.

Many issues that exist within the plan area were identified during the Council's Shaping Places and Spaces conference held in June 2005. The issues identified during this conference have informed the issues and options for the Core Strategy. As a result a series of Issues and options papers relating to the Core Strategy have been produced for consultation. There are five Core Strategy Issues and Options Consultation Papers:

1. The LDF Vision, Strategic Objectives and Strategy
2. Housing Strategy and Distribution
3. Economic Strategy and Distribution
4. Environment & Design
5. Transport

Whilst a specific workshop relating to transport was not organised during the "Shaping Places and Spaces" conference, transport was identified as a relevant issue, which cuts across all the four workshop themes. As such a separate Issues and Options Paper has been prepared relating to transport.

These five Core Strategy Issues and Options Consultation Papers seek **your** views on the issues and options presented.

3. HOW TO PARTICIPATE

The Core Strategy Issues and Options Consultation Papers are key documents for anyone who has an interest in the development and use of land in the area of Craven District which falls outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park, or for those who are simply interested in how this area may change in the future. Whether you are a resident, employer, employee, service provider, developer or land owner for example, this document seeks to set out both the issues that exist within the area and the possible options for how the LDF could provide a response.

In reading these documents it might be useful to consider the following questions:

- How could the plan area change in the future?
- How could the area:

- accommodate new growth,
 - seek to address known issues, and
 - protect what is important and conserve resources?
- How could we strike the balance to achieve environmental, economic and community sustainability?
- How should we shape places and spaces within Craven District outside the National Park area to 2021?

These documents provide an opportunity to participate in the process of preparing a Core Strategy for Craven District outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

Opportunities for participation are fundamental to preparing a sound and robust LDF that is fit for purpose. The five Core Strategy Issues and Options Consultation Papers provide you with an opportunity to participate in the process.

Once you have read the Core Strategy Issues and Options Consultation Papers the Council would encourage you to consider the questions set out within the Council's response form to each paper. Please then send your comments and responses to the questions by **31st July 2006** via the following methods:

- In writing via the pre paid envelope enclosed to:
Planning Policy
Craven District Council
Council Offices
Granville Street
Skipton
North Yorkshire
BD23 1PS
- Alternately the response form can be completed online via the Via the Council's website www.cravendc.gov.uk
- Whilst the use of the response forms is encouraged the Council will also accept comments sent by Email to ldf@cravendc.gov.uk.

All responses will be recorded and then considered by the Council in moving to the preferred options stage of preparing the Core Strategy Document.

4. CONTACT US

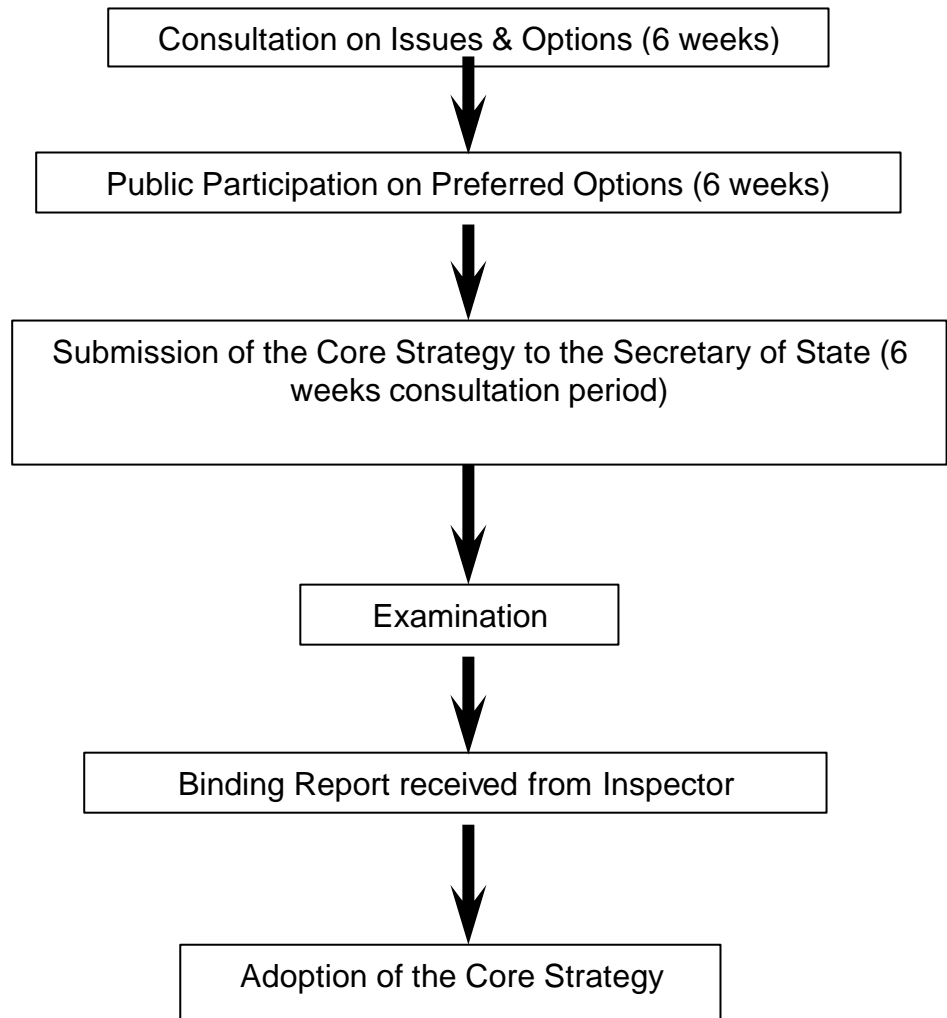
If you require any further information about this Issues and Options Paper or would like to discuss any aspect of the Local Development Framework for Craven Outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park please contact the Planning Policy Team via the contact details set out above or alternatively by telephoning 01756 706470.

Core Strategy: Next Steps

It is very important that the Core Strategy for the plan area is one that takes account of the views of communities and key interests. Ideas and comments made at this, the issues and options stage will be taken into account as the Council moves to the preferred options stage in the preparation of the Core Strategy. Following the preferred options stage the

Core Strategy will be submitted to the Secretary of State for examination and then adopted. The diagram below sets out the key preparation stages associated with the Core Strategy.

How the Core Strategy is Prepared



Appendix 1: KEY INFLUENCES

New Regional Spatial Strategy

A new Regional Spatial Strategy for the period up to 2021 (to replace the Regional Spatial Strategy that was issued in December 2004) has been prepared by the Yorkshire and Humber Assembly and submitted to the Secretary of State for examination. Submission draft Regional Spatial Strategy was subject to a period of public consultation between January and April 2006. Draft Regional Spatial Strategy sets a clear context within which the Local Development Framework Core Strategy should be based. As Regional Spatial Strategy is part of the statutory development plan, the Local Development Framework for Craven District outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park should broadly accord with it even though it is still in a draft form. Regional Spatial Strategy therefore will clearly influence the shaping of strategy and policy within the Local Development Framework and the Core Strategy in particular. The extent of the influence is set out in each topic paper.

Further information on Regional Spatial Strategy can be found at the Regional Assembly's website; www.yhassembly.gov.uk

B. Craven District Community Strategy 2003 – 2013

The Community Strategy sets out the long term vision for the District, and is an overarching strategy, linking the many individual strategies and plans that already exist. The Community Strategy has been prepared through partnership between the Council and the Craven Local Strategic Partnership: a group of approximately 22 public and private sector organisations and community groups.

The vision of The Community Strategy is:

“ To enhance the quality of life for Craven residents through co-ordinated activity by partner agencies to improve the economic, social and environmental well being of the District and contribute to sustainable development.”

The following aims have been identified to help achieve this vision:

- **A prosperous economy** – To create a prosperous, sustainable economy, which delivers a wide range of employment opportunities within Craven, to satisfy the needs of local people, whilst raising earnings levels towards the national average.
- **Education & skills for all** – To maintain high educational standards and raise skills levels, promote lifelong learning for all, create a skilled and adaptable workforce, ensure equality of opportunity and improved access to training and employment.
- **Sustainable communities** – To develop and support sustainable and vibrant local communities through community based services, improved access for isolated communities and an increased capacity for community self help and participation within all sections of the community.
- **Good health & social well being** – To enhance to general well being of the community, through the achievement of improved health, social care and affordable housing, a reduction in crime, and support for quality of life initiatives through culture, leisure and sport.

- **A quality environment** – To conserve and enhance Craven’s environment for present and future residents and visitors to enjoy, to find effective solutions to waste and pollution and develop sustainable transport.

The LDF and the Community Strategy are closely connected. The LDF will be the spatial expression of the land use related elements of The Community Strategy. The overall vision for the LDF and key policies for meeting that vision should, therefore be a development of the community’s vision for The Community Strategy in terms of land use planning. This round of consultation on the LDF, will inform the review of the Community Strategy and thus help to achieve greater integration between the two documents.

C. National Planning Context

Each Core Strategy Issues and Options Consultation Document provides details of national planning guidance specific to each consultation document.