

CRAVEN SPATIAL PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE2nd March 2016

Present – The Chairman (Councillor Mulligan) and Councillors Barrett, Brockbank, Dawson, Staveley and Sutcliffe. Also in attendance Councillor Thompson

Officers – Strategic Manager for Planning and Regeneration, Spatial Planning Manager, Planning Policy Officer, Project Delivery Officer, Sports Development Officer and Committee Officer.

Start: 6.30pm

Finish: 8.05pm

The minutes of the Sub-Committee's meeting held on 28th January 2016 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

Minutes for Report

CSP.103

PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY, OPEN SPACE AND BUILT FACILITIES ASSESSMENT

The Strategic Manager for Planning and Regeneration submitted a report presenting a summary of the key findings of the Playing Pitch Strategy, Open Space and Built Facilities Assessments which would be used to determine what open space, sports and recreational provision were required within the Plan area, and underpin the policy approach to be developed for the provision of new facilities and the improvement / safeguarding of existing provision.

The Chairman welcomed Rachel Fowler of Strategic Leisure, the company commissioned to prepare the strategy and assessments, who had been invited to the meeting to present their key findings and action plans attached to each assessment. The During the course of her presentation Ms Fowler confirmed that the assessments had been carried out in accordance with current methodology, as required by the National Planning Policy Framework, and, together with officers, responded to Members' questions and comments.

It was pointed out that in addition to informing the preparation of draft local plan policies, and use in monitoring provision, the findings would also be used by officers, in partnership with landowners, clubs, facility owners etc to deliver recommendations and actions set out within the assessments. The assessments could also be used as evidence in negotiating with developers for planning gain for open space improvements.

Resolved – That the Playing Pitch Strategy, Open Space and Built Facilities Assessments are accepted, as now submitted, as part of the evidence base for the Local Plan to inform the emerging draft local plan policies.

CSP.104

CRAVEN RETAIL AND LEISURE STUDY 2016

The Strategic Manager for Planning and Regeneration submitted a report presenting the findings and seeking approval of the Craven Retail and Leisure Study 2016 as an evidence base report to inform retail and town centre policy in the new Local Plan for that part of the District (outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park). The study had been commissioned from Nathaniel Lichfield and Partners (NLP).

The retail and leisure study and associated research, together with six standalone town centre health checks (Bentham, Cross Hills, Grassington, Ingleton, Settle and Skipton) provided a robust evidence base to inform retail and town centre policies within the Local Plan. The six town centre health checks would also be used by the Economic Development Service to support the production and implementation of town and village centre action plans, supporting bids for funding and monitoring the future health of the District's centres. Although NLP had recommended changes to the town centre boundaries for Settle and Skipton, it would be a matter for the Council to determine.

In responding to a question regarding predictions on the amount of extra floor space required in the period to 2032, the Project Delivery Officer pointed out that NLP had advised that beyond 2020, although based on projected population increases, the predictions should be treated with caution; the Spatial Planning Manager also reminded Members of the expectation that local plans and the supporting evidence base would be reviewed every five years, presenting opportunities for reality checks at those review points.

Resolved – That the findings of the Craven Retail and Leisure Study 2016 as an evidence base report to inform the Craven Local Plan (outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park) are noted and accepted.

CSP.105 **DRAFT LOCAL PLAN PREPARATION – PROGRESS REPORT**

Further to Minute CSP.101/15-16, the Strategic Manager for Planning and Regeneration submitted a report informing Members of progress made on preparation of the draft local plan since the Sub-Committee's last meeting on 28th January 2016, including progress on site assessments for potential allocation sites.

Advice had been received from Counsel that to withstand challenge and avoid the risk of the Plan being found unsound at Examination, the Council had to clearly demonstrate that sustainability appraisal had proactively influenced the Plan's preparation, appraisal of the Local Plan's strategy, policies and sites should therefore be completed before the draft plan was released for informal consultation. In light of this advice the decision had been taken to delay presentation of the draft local plan. The draft Plan would now be presented to the Sub-Committee on 30th March 2016.

The proposed timetable for informal consultation, formal publication and submission of the Local Plan for examination was now as follows

Stage	Dates
Informal Consultation on Preferred Options (6 weeks)	31 st March 2016 -12 th May 2016
Formal Publication of Draft Local Plan (known as Pre-Submission Draft Local Plan- 6 week period for formal representations to be made)	September 2016
Draft Local Plan Submitted to Secretary of State (known as Submission Draft Local Plan)	December 2016

A list showing the draft 'pool' of potential site options emerging from the site assessment and interim sustainability appraisal process to date had been circulated with the Strategic Manager's report.

Resolved – (1) That the progress made in preparing the draft Local Plan for informal consultation is noted.

(2) That the proposed timetable, as re-produced above, for informal consultation on preferred options, formal publication and submission of the Local Plan is agreed, and that the Council's Local Development Scheme is updated accordingly.

Next Meeting : At 6.30pm on Wednesday, 30th March 2016.

Chairman.