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| Subject: | Consultation on Local Development Plan for Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council – Revised Timetable |
| Date: | 16 April 2024 |
| Reporting Officer: | Kate Bentley, Director of Planning and Building Control |
| Contact Officer: | Dermot O’Kane, Acting Planning Manager (Plans and Policy) Conor Campfield, Acting Principal Planning Officer |

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| Restricted Reports | |
| Is this report restricted? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted? | |
| After Committee Decision | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| After Council Decision | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Some time in the future | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Never | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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|---------------------------------------|---|
| Call-in | |
| Is the decision eligible for Call-in? | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |

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| 1.0 | Purpose of Report |
| 1.1 | The purpose of this report is to advise members that Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council (LCCC) under Regulation 5 of the Planning (Local Development Plan) Regulations (Northern Ireland) consulted Belfast City Council regarding its revised Local Development Plan timetable (Appendix 1). |
| 2.0 | Recommendations |
| | The committee is requested to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Note the update which sets out LCCC revised LDP timetable. |
| 3.0 | Main Report |
| | Background |
| 3.1 | In accordance with Regulation 5 of the Planning (Local Development Plan) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015, LCCC has consulted Belfast City Council on its revised Timetable for their Local Development Plan. |
| 3.2 | As you may be aware LCCC’s Plan Strategy was adopted on 26 September 2023. The revised Timetable indicates that preparatory work on their LPP (second stage in the two-part LDP process) will commence between Quarter 4 2024 and Quarter 5 2025 with a draft LPP ready to be published for consultation between Quarter 3 2025 and Quarter 6 |

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| <p>3.3</p> <p>3.4</p> <p>3.5</p> <p>3.6</p> | <p>2026. The revised LDP Timetable further anticipates that their LPP will be adopted between Quarter 3-4 2028.</p> <p>Belfast City Council is currently progressing with the development of its LPP. This will involve liaising closely with adjoining councils including LCCC to review sites and environmental designations at the periphery of our council boundary in line with statutory obligations under Section 9 of the Planning Act (NI) 2011.</p> <p><u>Finance and Resource Implications</u> There are no resource implications associated with this report.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u> None noted.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u> There are no relevant equality or good relations implications attached to this report.</p> |
| <p>4.0</p> | <p>Appendices</p> |
| | <p>Appendix 1 – Letter and revised LDP Timetable</p> |

Appendix 1



Date: 15th March 2024

By email

Our Ref: Our Ref COR/LDP/Timetable Revision 3

Dear Sir/Madam

**Re: Local Development Plan for Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council – Revised
Timetable**

In accordance with Regulation 5 of the Planning (Local Development Plan) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015, Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council wish to consult with you on its revised Timetable for the Local Development Plan.

I would be grateful if you have any comments to forward them to the Local Development Plan Team at the above address or email LDP@lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk within two weeks of the date of this letter.

Following approval by resolution of the Council, the Timetable will be submitted to the Department for Infrastructure for agreement prior to it being advertised and published on the Council's website.

Yours faithfully

pp Lois Jackson

Conor Hughes
Head of Planning and Capital Development

Local Development Plan

TIMETABLE

May 2024

Getting in Touch

Should you have a planning query, you can contact the Council's Planning Unit in the following ways:

By email to: planning@lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk

By post to:

Planning Unit,
Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council,
Civic Headquarters,
Lagan Valley Island,
Lisburn,
BT27 4RL.

By telephone on: 028 9250 9250

To ensure all consultation documents are accessible to everyone, Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council, on request, will take all reasonable steps to provide documents in alternative formats and in minority languages to meet the needs of those who are not fluent in English.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this Timetable is to set out the key stages and the indicative timeframe for the production of Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council's new **Local Development Plan 2032** (LDP).
- 1.2 The Timetable meets the legislative requirements of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 and the Planning (Local Development Plan) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015. In addition it has been approved by resolution of the Council and agreed with Central Government¹ in accordance with Regulation 7 of the Planning (Local Development Plan) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015.

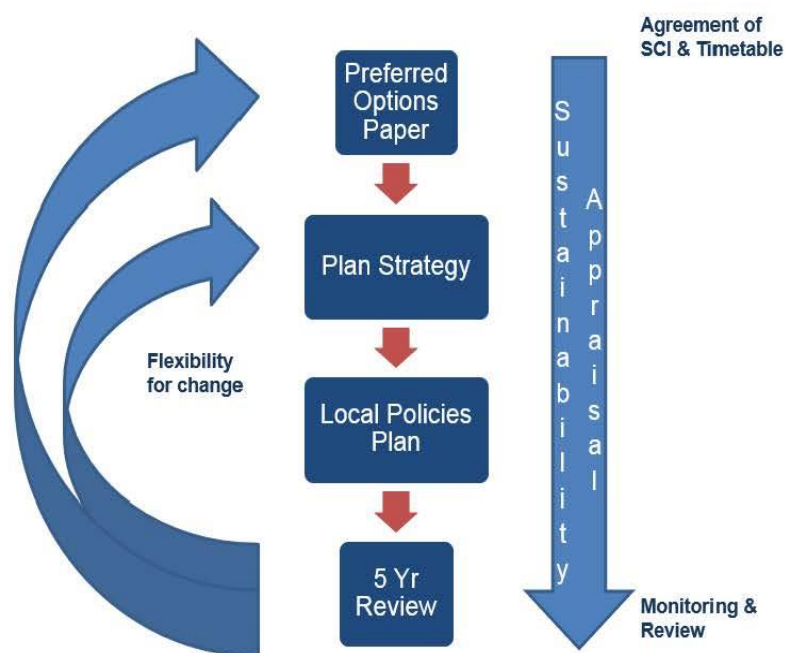
2.0 Purpose of the Local Development Plan

- 2.1 The purpose of the Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council LDP is to inform the public, statutory authorities, developers and other interested parties of the policy framework and land use proposals that will implement the strategic objectives of the Regional Development Strategy and guide development decisions within the Council area up to 2032.
- 2.2 The LDP will be prepared within the context of the Council's Corporate Plan and will take account of the Council's Community Plan to enable us to plan positively for the future of our Council area. It will ensure that lands are appropriately zoned and that our infrastructure is enhanced to develop the Council area for future generations.
- 2.3 The LDP must also take account of the regional policy context set by the Northern Ireland Executive and Central Government Departments. This includes, amongst others, the Sustainable Development Strategy, the Regional Development Strategy and the Strategic Planning Policy Statement.

¹ Department for Infrastructure

3.0 Status of the Local Development Plan

- 3.1 The new Local Development Plan for the Council will replace the range of current extant Development Plans for the Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council area.
- 3.2 Following publication of the Preferred Options Paper, the Plan is produced in two parts consisting firstly of a Plan Strategy followed by a Local Policies Plan. The Plan Strategy will set the aims, objectives, growth strategy and strategic policies applicable to the Plan Area. The Local Policies Plan will provide site specific policies and proposals, including settlement limits, land use zonings and environmental designations.



- 3.3 The Council will undertake an ongoing process of **Sustainability Appraisal** which will run parallel to the preparation of the Preferred Options Paper, Plan Strategy and Local Policies Plan. An integral part of the Sustainability Appraisal is the **Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)** which will examine the environmental effects of the LDP proposals. The Sustainability Appraisal process aims to ensure that the policies and proposals in the LDP

are socially, economically and environmentally sustainable. Relevant reports will be published at each of the key stages of the plan making process which will all be made available online.

4.0 The Timetable

4.1 The Timetable (Revision 3) provides indicative dates for a number of key stages in the production of the Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council Local Development Plan. These stages are set out in calendar year quarters and a brief summary is provided below. The full Timetable is set out on Pages 8-9.

STAGE 1

- **Statement of Community Involvement** – This sets out how the Council intends to engage with the local community during the preparation of our new LDP.
- **Preferred Options Paper** - The Preferred Options Paper (POP), published in March 2017 is a public consultation document which sets out the key plan issues for the Council area and the preferred options available to address them. A Public Consultation Report (published September 2017) containing an overview of the key issues raised during the public consultation period is available to view [here](#).

STAGE 2

- **Draft Plan Strategy** - The draft Plan Strategy was published for informal public consultation on 11 October 2019 followed by formal consultation on 8 November 2019 to 10 January 2020. This document provides an indication of the Council's strategic land use intentions in relation to the future development of the Council area and provides the overarching policy framework.
- **Independent Examination** - An Independent Examination of the draft Plan Strategy was held between March-May 2022 to determine the **soundness**² of the draft Planning Strategy, taking into account any representations or counter representations. Following the Independent Examination, an Advisory Report of its findings was issued to Central Government on 30 November 2022

² See Development Plan Practice Note 06 Soundness, DfI

- **Binding Report** – following consideration of the Advisory Report, Central Government issued a Binding Report to the Council on 28 June 2023. The Council incorporated the changes outlined in the Binding Report into the Plan Strategy.
- **Adoption of Plan Strategy**- Following the Independent Examination, and direction from the Central Government, the Plan Strategy was formally adopted by the Council on 26 September 2023.

STAGE 3

- **Local Policies Plan** - The Local Policies Plan is the final document comprising the LDP. The draft Local Policies Plan is a public consultation document and will contain the Council's detailed land use proposals in relation to the future development of the Council area.
- **Independent Examination** - An Independent Examination will be held to determine the **soundness** of the draft Local Policies Plan, taking into account any representations or counter representations. Following the Independent Examination, an Advisory Report of its findings will be issued to Central Government.
- **Binding Report** - following consideration of the Advisory Report, Central Government will issue a Binding Report to the Council. The Council must incorporate any changes outlined in the Binding Report into the Local Policies Plan.
- **Adoption of Local Policies Plan** - Following the Independent Examination and direction from Central Government, the Local Policies Plan will be formally adopted by the Council.

STAGE 4

- **Monitoring & Review of LDP** - The LDP will be reviewed every 5 years following adoption of the LPP.

4.2 In addition to undertaking a **Sustainability Appraisal** (incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)), the Council is also required to carry out a number of assessments to accompany preparation of the LDP including:

- **Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)** for the LDP to consider the potential impact of LDP policies and proposals on European nature conservation sites.
- **Equality Impact Assessment** for the LDP to consider if the LDP is likely to have an impact on different sections of the community and any mitigating measures required as a result.

5.0 Delivery of the Local Development Plan

5.1 Meeting the attached timetable is dependent upon Member involvement, adequate resourcing and careful risk management.

5.2 A **Steering Group** and **Project Management Team/Stakeholder Group** has been established, to oversee the development of the LDP, the former comprising of the relevant Council Committees, and the latter being Senior Council Officers and representatives from the key Statutory/non-statutory consultees.

5.3 The Council and Central Government will be informed as necessary on progress in meeting the Timetable.

5.4 Progress reports on the LDP will be submitted regularly to the relevant Council Committees.

6.0 Review

6.1 In the event that the Plan Timetable requires amendment, the Council has the power under the Planning Act 2011 to publish a revised Timetable. Any amendments will be publicised and made available on the Council's website at www.lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk following the agreement of Central Government.

| Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council Local Development Plan Timetable | | | |
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| Key Stages | Key Actions | Detail | Timescale |
| 1 Plan Preparation | Agree and publish Statement of Community Involvement | Informal Community Engagement carried out for 8 week period (last quarter 2015) | Q2 2016 |
| | Agree and publish Timetable for LDP | - Consult PAC and other consultation bodies; - Seek agreement with Dfl following Council approval of timetable (4 weeks) | Q3 2016 |
| | Utilise Evidence Base in consultation with statutory consultees and key stakeholders | Commission specific studies required; - Identification of key issues with relevant statutory consultees and key stakeholders; - Consult with Consultation Bodies on scope of Sustainability Appraisal (SA); - Initial EQIA and HRA Screening; - Consult with Council in advance of publication | Q4 2016 |
| | Publish Preferred Options Paper with Sustainability Appraisal Interim Report | Publish SA Scoping and Interim Reports; - Minimum 8 week statutory consultation period - Input representations on LDP database | Q1 2017 |
| | Consider responses to POP | Prepare Public Consultation Report | Q3 2017 |
| 2 Plan Strategy | Preparatory Work | Survey and analysis Procurement process for independent experts | Q4 2018 - Q2 2019 |
| | Publish Draft Plan Strategy with Sustainability Appraisal Report (incorporating SEA) | Publish Draft Plan Strategy & Associated documents for informal viewing – 4 weeks* - 8 week statutory consultation period for representations; - 8 week statutory period for counter representations; - Consideration of representations (including summary of main issues) - Consideration of any focussed or minor changes *Includes SA Report, draft Habitats Regulations Assessment, EQIA and Rural Proofing; | Q3 2019 - Q4 2020 |
| | Soundness Based Independent Examination | - Submit documents to Department for IE; - Advisory Report from PAC sent to Dfl; - Dfl issues Binding Report to Council; | Q1 2021 - Q2 2023 |
| | ADOPTION OF PLAN STRATEGY | - Council considers Binding Report - Changes made to finalise Plan Strategy | Q3 2023 - 26th Sept 2023 |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Publish Sustainability Appraisal Adoption Statement (incorporating SEA); - Publish Habitats Regulations Assessment, EQIA and Rural Proofing | |
| 3 Local Policies Plan | Preparatory Work | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Survey and analysis Procurement process for independent experts | Q4 2023 – Q2 2025 |
| | Publish Draft Local Policies Plan with Sustainability Appraisal Report (incorporating SEA) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publish Local Policies Plan & Associated documents for informal viewing – 4 weeks* - 8 week statutory consultation period for representations; - 8 week statutory period for counter representations; - Consideration of representations (including summary of main issues) - Consideration of any focussed or minor changes *Includes SA Report, draft Habitats Regulations Assessment, EQIA and Rural Proofing; | Q3 2025 – Q3 2026 |
| | Soundness Based Independent Examination | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Submit documents to Department for IE; - Advisory Report from PAC sent to Dfl; - Dfl issues Binding Report to Council; | Q4 2026 – Q2 2028 |
| | ADOPTION OF LOCAL POLICIES PLAN | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council considers Binding Report - Changes made to finalise Local Policies Plan - Publish Sustainability Appraisal Adoption Statement (incorporating SEA); - Publish Habitats Regulations Assessment, EQIA and Rural Proofing | Q3-Q4 2028 |
| 4 Monitoring and Review | Monitoring and Review of Local Development Plan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual Monitoring including Housing Monitor Reports and Employment Land; - 5 and 10 year review leading to commencement on a replacement LDP | Ongoing |