

A Local Plan for

Lancaster District

2020 – 2031

Plan period 2011 - 2031



Duty to Co-operate Statement of Common Ground

Publication Stage January 2022

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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Duty to Cooperate process was introduced through the Localism Act 2011. It places a legal duty on local planning authorities to engage constructively, actively and on an on-going basis to maximise the effectiveness of local plan preparation relating to strategic cross-boundary matters.
- 1.2 Guidance on how this is to be implemented is contained in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2021). The relevant paragraphs are set out below:

‘Local planning authorities and county councils (in two-tier areas) are under a duty-to-cooperate with each other, and with other prescribed bodies, on strategic matters that cross administrative boundaries’. (Paragraph 24)

‘Strategic policy-making authorities should collaborate to identify the relevant strategic matter which they need to address in their plans. They should also engage with their local communities and relevant bodies including Local Enterprise Partnerships, Local Nature Partnerships, the Marine Management Organisation, county councils, infrastructure providers, elected Mayors and combined authorities (in cases where Mayors or combined authorities do not have plan-making powers).’ (Paragraph 25)

‘Effective and on-going joint working between strategic policy-making authorities and relevant bodies is integral to the production of a positively prepared and justified strategy. In particular, joint working should help determine where additional infrastructure is necessary, and whether development needs that cannot be met wholly within a particular plan area could be met elsewhere.’ (Paragraph 26)

‘In order to demonstrate effective and on-going joint working, strategic policy making authorities should prepare and maintain one or more statement of common ground, documenting cross boundary matters being addressed and progress in cooperating to address these. These should be produced using the approach set out in national planning practice guidance and be made publicly available throughout the plan-making process to provide transparency.’ (Paragraph 27)

- 1.3 This Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) is a written record of the progress made by Lancaster City Council during the process of planning for strategic cross-boundary matters, particularly in the context of the Partial Review of the Plan in regard of the Council’s 2019 Climate Emergency Declaration. It documents where effective cooperation has taken place throughout the plan-making process and the legal requirements of duty to cooperate has been complied with. It will help to demonstrate at examination that the Local Plan is deliverable over the plan period in terms of reflecting effective joint working across the local authority boundaries. The document is an iterative one and will be updated regularly through the plan-making process as the Partial Review evolves.
- 1.4 The purpose of the document is not to reflect every occasion that Lancaster has met with or consulted other local authorities / prescribed bodies under the duty to cooperate. The statement is a means of detailing key information, providing clear signposting or, for example, links to relevant evidence.

Content and Purpose of the Statement of Common Ground

- 1.5 National Planning Practice Guidance states that a statement of common ground is expected to contain the following elements:
- a. A short-written description and a map which shows the location and administrative areas covered by the statement;
 - b. The key strategic matters being addressed by the statement, for example addressing climate change, transport interactions, housing requirements etc;
 - c. The plan-making authorities responsible for joint working detailed in the statement, an list of any additional signatories (including cross-referencing the matters which each is a signatory);
 - d. Governance arrangements for the cooperation process, including how the statement will be maintained and kept up-to-date;
 - e. If applicable, the housing requirements in any adopted and (if known) emerging strategic policies relevant to housing within the area covered by the statement;
 - f. Distribution needs in the area as agreed through the plan-making process, or the process for agreeing the distribution of need (including unmet need) across the area;
 - g. A record of where agreements have (or have not) been reached on key strategic matters, including the process for reaching agreement on these; and
 - h. Any additional strategic matters to be addressed by the statement which have not already been addressed, including a brief description how the statement relates to any other statement of common ground covering all or part of the same area.
- 1.6 The purpose of the statement is to capture the actions taken when addressing strategic cross-boundary matters through the duty to cooperate process. The National Planning Practice Guidance indicates that these will include (but are not limited to):
- Working together at the outset of the plan-making process to identify cross-boundary matters which will need addressing;
 - Producing or commissioning joint research and evidence to address cross-boundary matters;
 - Assessing the impacts of emerging policies; and
 - Preparing joint, or agreeing, strategic policies affecting more than one authority area to ensure development coordinated (such as the distribution of unmet needs).
- 1.7 Effective cooperation enables strategic policy-making authorities and infrastructure providers to establish whether additional strategic cross-boundary infrastructure is required. The statement is evidence that the strategic policy-making authorities have sought agreement with the relevant bodies.

Defining Strategic Matters

- 1.8 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) defines ‘strategic matters’ for the purposes of the duty to cooperate process as:

‘Sustainable development or use of land that has or would have a significant impact on at least two planning areas, including (in particular) sustainable development or use of land for or in connection with infrastructure that is strategic and has or would have a significant impact on at least two planning areas.’

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- 1.9 The NPPF sets out the strategic policy areas which are expected to be included in local Plans, the Framework states:

‘Strategic policies should set out an overall strategy for the pattern, scale and design quality of places, and make sufficient provision for:

- a. Housing (including affordable housing), employment, retail, leisure and other commercial development;*
- b. Infrastructure for transport, telecommunications, security, waste management, water supply, wastewater, flood risk and coastal change management, and the provision of minerals and energy (including heat);*
- c. Community facilities (such as health, education and cultural infrastructure); and*
- d. Conservation and enhancement of the natural, built and historic environment, including landscapes and green infrastructure, and planning measures to address climate change mitigation and adaptation.*

Strategic Issues for the Lancaster Local Plan Review

- 1.10 It is important at this stage to consider the scope of the Local Plan Review which is being undertaken by Lancaster City Council.
- 1.11 Lancaster City Council adopted a new Local Plan in July 2020 which included a Part A: Strategic Policies & Land Allocations DPD and a Part B: Development Management DPD. The adoption of this Plan provides a robust and up-to-date strategic basis for planning within the district. The Local Plan addresses all the strategic issues required from the plan-making process, including the provision for points (a) to (c) set out in paragraph 1.9. Addressing these strategic issues was subject to its own duty to cooperate process which was found sound at examination.
- 1.12 The Council declared a Climate Emergency in January 2019 setting out a range of ambitions and actions around Climate Change and lowering carbon emissions. The declaration of the emergency came too late to influence the plan-making process (the Local Plan was submitted to Government in May 2018) and so the adoption of the Local Plan in July 2020 was predicated on the basis that the Council would enter into an immediate review specifically in relation to Climate Change.
- 1.13 Therefore the parameters of this review are extremely limited, addressing only matters relating to the adaptation to (and mitigation of) Climate Change (as set out in the provisions of point (d) in paragraph 1.9). Therefore the primary purpose of the discussions in this duty to cooperate process have been focused on how Local Plan policy is seeking to evolve (in the context of climate change). Notwithstanding this, the duty to cooperate process has also been an opportunity to reflect on adopted policy positions to consider whether through the implementation of the plan unintended cross-boundary issues have occurred.

Parties involved in the Duty to Cooperate Process

- 1.14 The Lancaster duty to cooperate process categorises the bodies which are involved as:
- Local authorities: these are the neighbouring local planning authorities and, where appropriate, Lancashire County Council.
 - Prescribed Bodies: These are bodies prescribed in the regulations (Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 plus the Local Enterprise Partnership and Local

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Nature Partnerships which are not subject to the requirements of the duty, by local planning authorities in England, and other prescribed bodies must cooperate with.

- **Additional Bodies:** Other organisations involved in strategic issues and engaged with through duty to cooperate. These bodies may only be involved in specific issues and may change over the course of the plan-making process and depending on the nature of the strategic issues identified.

Local Authorities	Prescribed Bodies	Additional Bodies
South Lakeland District Council	Natural England	Canal and River Trust
Barrow Borough Council	Historic England	Lancaster Civic Society
Wyre Borough Council	Environment Agency	Lancaster Green Spaces
Craven District Council		Arnside & Silverdale AONB
Yorkshire Dales National Park		Forest of Bowland AONB
Ribble Valley Borough Council		CPRE
Blackpool Borough Council		National Trust
Fylde Council		Lancashire Wildlife Trust
Lancashire County Council		Lancashire LNP
		Green Lancaster
		Lune River Trust
		Marine Management Organisation
		United Utilities
		Sth Lancaster Flood Action Group
		The Fairfield Association
		Claver Hill Food Growing Project
		Nth Lancashire Food Futures
		Ramblers Association
		Lancaster University

Table 1.1: Table to show the list of parties involved in the Partial Review of the Lancaster District Local Plan (in the context of the Climate Emergency)

- 1.15 With regard to ongoing engagement with neighbouring authorities, the Council has a well-established role with both the Lancashire and Cumbria Development Plan Officer Groups (DPOG) which provides a forum for cross boundary matters to be discussed. More recently the Council have lead on establishing a sub-group from DPOG which seeks to discuss the cross-boundary approaches to tackling climate change, particularly in terms of shared evidence and consistency in policy making. The dates of meetings with neighbouring authorities are set out in the table below with the minutes of meetings available on request.

NAME OF AUTHORITY	DATE OF MEETING(S)		
South Lakeland District Council	7 th July 2021		
Barrow Borough Council	2 nd June 2021		
Wyre Borough Council	5 th May 2021	9 th September 2021	
Craven District Council	24 th May 2021		
Yorkshire Dales National Park	25 th May 2021		
Ribble Valley Borough Council	11 th May 2021		
Blackpool Borough Council	1 st July 2021		
Fylde Council	7 th May 2021		

Table 1.2: Table to show the dates of Duty to Cooperate Meetings with neighbouring authorities

Strategic Geography

- 1.16 The geography of the North Lancashire / South Cumbria region within which Lancaster district sits is shown in Figure 1.1 of this statement. This is the strategic area defined for the purposes of duty to cooperate.

1.17 It is well established that in terms of both housing market and functional economic footprint that Lancaster District is relatively self-contained. This is demonstrated through relatively low travel to work patterns and through robust housing market evidence. This was most recently re-affirmed through the 2019 Public Examination process. The Council have no reason to consider these circumstances have changed since 2019.

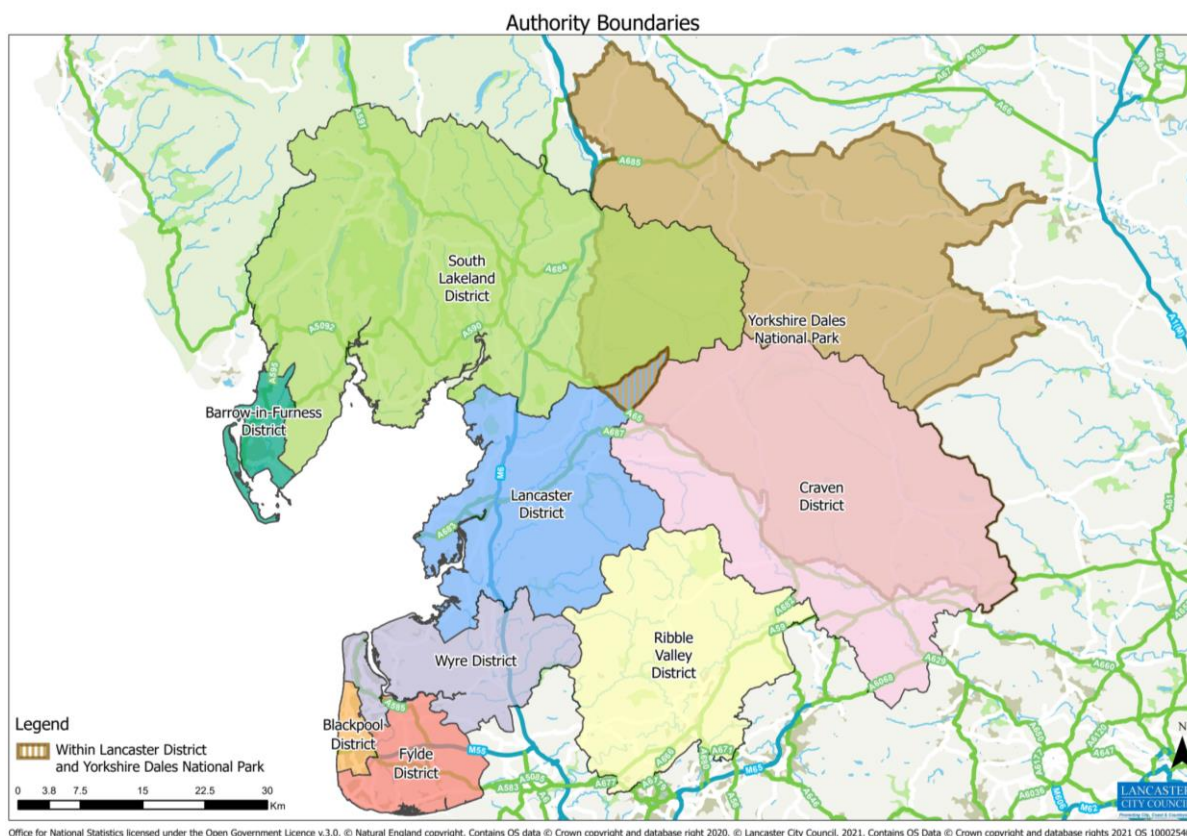


Figure 1.1: A map highlighting Lancaster City Council’s relationship with surrounding authorities within South Cumbria, North Lancashire and the Morecambe Bay Environs.

Development Plan Timescales

1.18 The current development plan timetables with respect to the plan-making process are summarised as follows. These timescales will be kept under review and updated during each iteration of the statement of common ground.

Local Planning Authority	Proposed Start of New Plan / Review	Reg 18 Consultation	Reg 19 Consultation	Target Submission Date	Adoption Date / Target Adoption Date
Barrow Borough Council	-	-	-	-	June 2019
South Lakeland District Council	February 2021	Summer 2021 & Summer 2022	Spring 2023	Autumn 2023	2024
Craven District Council	-	-	-	-	Nov 2019

Yorkshire Dales National Park	2019	Spring 2021	Winter 2021	Spring 2022	2023
Ribble Valley Borough Council	2021	Spring 2022	July 2022	Dec 2022	2023
Wyre Borough Council	2020	Feb 2020	Nov 2021	April 2022	Late 2022
Blackpool Borough Council*	2017	2017	March 2021	June 2021	Summer 2022
Fylde Council	-	Spring 2019	Summer 2020	October 2020	December 2021

Table 1.3: Table to show the stages of plan-making of neighbouring authorities (as of July 2021).

*Blackpool BC have commenced a Review of their Core Strategy in 2021.

- 1.19 The table above demonstrates that many of Lancaster District’s neighbouring authorities are on similar paths in terms of local plan preparation (or review). This level of alignment will assist with the co-ordination for the duty to cooperate process for all parties.

Governance Arrangements

- 1.20 The preparation and upkeep of this SoCG will be the responsibility of Lancaster City Council as part of the Plan Review process. The content of the SoCG seeks to supplement the CELPR and demonstrate the legal requirements of the duty have been fulfilled. On that basis it is in Lancaster City Council’s interest to ensure that engagement occurs at the correct stages of the plan-making process and that discussion considers all relevant cross-boundary issues relevant to the Review.

- 1.21 The duty to cooperate process will be iterative and will be reported to elected Members on the appropriate occasions. A finalised version of this SoCG will be prepared and submitted to Government (as part of the wider submission process) to support the Public Examination process and the Government Appointed Inspector in determining whether the Reviewed Plan is sound and fit for planning purposes.

2 CLIMATE EMERGENCY REVIEW OF LANCASTER DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN (CELPR)

- 2.1 Along with adopting the Local Plan in July 2020, Lancaster City Council also approved an updated Local Development Scheme (LDS) which set out the Council’s intention to proceed with an immediate review of the just-adopted Local Plan in the context of Climate Emergency Declaration, as made by the Council in January 2019.

Scoping Consultation (Winter 2020)

- 2.2 Consultation was held in late 2020 to help establish the scope and remit of the Review. This consultation process was held between 25th September and 20th November 2021 and, due to the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, was undertaken on a virtual basis. However, in the absence of in-person meetings or drop-in events the consultation included an introductory video presentation, the release of five information videos on a series of key themes including: heritage and climate change, energy efficiency, blue/green infrastructure, sustainable transport and water management.
- 2.3 The scoping consultation, albeit high-level in nature, was well received with a number of responses from the local community, key stakeholders and duty to cooperate partners. The responses provided

gave a firm basis for officers of the Planning and Place Service to move forward to the refining of policies.

- 2.4 Importantly, the Scoping stage sought to clarify and confirm that the CELPR is a Partial Review of the Local Plan, with the express objective of seeking better development outcomes for Climate Change mitigation and adaption in recognition of the Council’s Climate Emergency Declaration.
- 2.5 Specifically it was clarified that the CELPR does not revisit the amount of development required to meet the needs of the community or economy, nor does it revisit specific land allocations made within the adopted Local Plan.

Draft CELPR (Summer 2021)

- 2.6 Following the scoping stage, Council Officers focused on 32 Local Plan policies which offered the potential to improve development outcomes. These policies were grouped together into six topics (summarised in a series of six topic papers). The topic papers describe the outcomes of the scoping consultation, the exploration of alternative approaches to reviewing policies, an explanation of how policy changes could achieve better climate change outcomes and provide the proposed revisions to policy.
- 2.7 The Council commenced consultation on the series of draft policies in July 2021 for an eight-week period, running until mid-September 2021. This consultation formed the final stage of the Council’s Regulation 18 process into the CELPR.

Content of the CELPR

- 2.8 The proposed changes as part of the CELPR can be summarised into a series of themes which are set out below:

Water Management: Proposed amendments within the CELPR seek to ensure that surface water drainage systems are adequately designed to make the best use of above ground techniques and mitigate flooding, support biodiversity enhancements and provide urban cooling and pollution control. The review amends existing policy to ensure it remains adequate in ensuring such systems are maintained in the long term. The CELPR is informed by updated evidence in this regard.

Green / Blue Infrastructure: As part of the CELPR, officers of the Planning and Housing Strategic Team have produced a Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy as one of the key pieces of evidence to support the review. This has been a predominantly map-based (GIS) exercise which identifies the existing network of green and blue infrastructure, acknowledging the multi-functional nature of many of those features. The purpose of the strategy is to identify opportunities where the network could be improved and enhanced to increase connectivity and functionality of the network, providing greater benefits for both nature and residents. The strategy has sought to inform the CELPR, providing greater emphasis on the importance of connectivity across networks and the identification of corridors and chains across the district, reducing fragmentation.

Strategic Transport: The focus of the proposed amendments in the CELPR relate to further promotion of modal shift and the need to alleviate our current reliance on private cars, provide more realistic and approach alternatives, such as cycling, walking and public transport. The CELPR also looks to increase the emphasis on active travel and introduces higher standards and requirements for new cycling infrastructure. The Plan also focuses on air quality management and the promotion of ultra-low emission vehicles and the increased deployment of electric vehicle charging points.

Heritage: The CELPR recognises the importance of striking the correct balance between providing gains on climate change performance and the sensitive management of built heritage. Therefore, the Review provides two new policies in relation to the retro-fitting of buildings of traditional construction and another relation to micro-renewables in the setting / curtilage of heritage assets.

Sustainable Design, Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy: This has been the most significant area of change within the CELPR. The Review will propose an ambitious approach to addressing the climate emergency, going beyond the Government’s Future Home Standard consultation outputs and setting the Council’s own energy efficiency targets via a stepped approach. The revised policies on energy efficiency proposes a 31% reduction in CO2 in 2022, a 75% reduction in CO2 emissions in 2025, and a requirement for all new built development to be zero carbon by 2028. This goes beyond simply beyond the regulated energy use, which is the Government approach, by specifying a Fabric First approach.

The reviewed CELPR also significantly pushes the use of renewables further and outlines a variety of renewable energy technologies such as solar and biomass, which can also help in reaching the net zero target. The CELPR also proposes to require developments to provide space for food growing and composting and that all major development should connect into existing heating / cooling networks or contribute to providing them. Amended policies also require modern construction methods to be used where possible and low carbon technologies or other sustainability measures to be offered at the point of sale. Water efficiency measures must also be included within the construction of new buildings and the use and management of materials and waste must also be considered.

Other Amendments Proposed: Other amendments have been proposed to the CELPR to highlight the importance of promoting green industry and economic sectors, providing greater support to a green economy recovery, particularly in the context of the COVID Pandemic.

- 2.9 Moving forward it is the expectation of Lancaster City Council to process towards the Publication and Submission of the CELPR in early 2022 with an adoption of the Reviewed Plan by late 2022 / early 2023.

3 STRATEGIC MATTERS

Summary of Strategic Matters

- 3.1 The assessment of strategic matters has been very much defined by the scope of the partial review which is being undertaken by Lancaster City Council. The partial review is specifically focused on the actions and ambitions of the Council’s 2019 Climate Emergency declaration.
- 3.2 There is no expectation from the Council to comprehensively review the plan or revisit other strategic matters in relation to housing supply, land allocation or wider development growth. The Council believe these elements of the Plan remain valid and consistent with national planning policy requirements.
- 3.3 The Council will continue to monitor the need for a wider review in the context of changing national and local circumstances however has concluded at this time that no circumstances existing to merit such a review.

Addressing the Climate Emergency Declaration (Strengthening the Climate Change Agenda)

- 3.4 The 2019 Climate Emergency declaration has led to the City Council seeking to strengthen the Plan's approach to Climate Change mitigation / adaptation through a number of policy areas, as described in Section 2 of this SoCG.
- 3.5 The Council believe that Climate Change is, in itself, a strategic matter with its implications not respecting either local authority administrative boundaries or different geographies. Addressing the impacts of Climate Change will not be addressed in isolation and, in planning terms, will require a concerted and where possible consistent approach from all local planning authorities in terms of addressing the mitigation of, and adaptation to, Climate Change.
- 3.6 Through Duty to Cooperate discussions with neighbouring authorities the City Council have made clear their position over the importance of working together to achieve shared outcomes and consistency within the plan-making process. This includes promoting consistency in terms of requirements of new development and working together on shared environmental assets, for example our Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and environmental assets – such as Morecambe Bay.

New Policy Requirements arising from the CELPR

- 3.7 Through the CELPR, the City Council have proposed a range of new or amended policies which seeks to strengthen their position in terms of the Climate Change agenda. It is agreed with our Duty-to-Cooperate partners that these amended policies do not in themselves represent a strategic matter. However, as set out in paragraphs 3.5 and 3.6 it would be highly beneficial if the ambitions of the CELPR can be shared with neighbouring authorities to achieve a stronger, more consistent approach across the sub-region on this issue.
- 3.8 All partners would agree that consistency should not mean replication or duplication. Each authority quite rightly should have their own approaches to tackling the Climate Emergency issue which fits correctly to their own local circumstances and own aspirations or ambitions. However, through the duty to cooperate discussions it is clear that where authorities can share ambitions, information, evidence and support in stepping up to the challenges of Climate Change then they should do so.

Maintaining consistency with the Arnsdale & Silverdale AONB DPD

- 3.9 Both Lancaster City Council and South Lakeland District Council worked successfully in the preparation of a joint Development Plan Document for the Arnsdale & Silverdale AONB which was formally adopted in 2019. The AONB DPD supplements the respective authorities' Local Plan providing an additional layer of local planning policy in relation to the nationally important designation of the AONB.
- 3.10 The AONB DPD was prepared in the context of the adopted / emerging planning policy of the time and ensures a consistency between the layers of district-wide Local Plans and more localised policy frameworks.
- 3.11 As review(s) into these local plans progress, it will be critical that consistency is maintained where possible between newly emerging policy and the adopted policies in the AONB DPD to ensure that policies in both DPDs can be applied correctly in the Arnsdale & Silverdale AONB DPD.

Lancaster South Area Action Plan DPD

- 3.12 Through the adoption of the Lancaster District Local Plan in July 2020, a significant area of growth was identified to the South of Lancaster. Policy SG1 of the Strategic Policies & Land Allocations DPD identified a Broad Location of Growth in the South Lancaster area and a series of key growth principles to shape the delivery of new development, including the delivery of Bailrigg Garden Village. Policy SG1 set a series of high-level approaches to growth in South Lancaster but made clear that these would be addressed in more detail through a separate document – the Lancaster South Area Action Plan DPD.
- 3.13 The Area Action Plan DPD is in its early stages of preparation. Masterplanning has taken place through the course of 2021 however it has yet to be formalised into planning policy as part of the plan-making process. It is anticipated that this work will advance through the course of 2021 and 2022.
- 3.14 Given the geographical position of this area of growth, its strategic cross boundary implications will be restricted to Wyre, who share a close boundary to Lancaster and the area identified in Policy SG1.
- 3.15 As the AAP process seeks to gather momentum over 2021 and into 2022 it will be important to maintain proactive communication with Wyre Borough Council to ensure that any cross-boundary matters which arise are addressed positively. This engagement process will be subject to a separate Statement of Common Ground which will be directly linked to the AAP DPD.

Local Government Re-Organisation

- 3.16 In July 2020 the Secretary of State announced his intention to replace the six Cumbria Districts with two unitary authorities, one which will comprise the area of South Lakeland and Eden Districts and Barrow Borough Council. He also announced his intention to create a new unitary North Yorkshire Authority which will include Craven District. We will continue to co-operative and actively collaborate on strategic planning issues with the existing local authorities and County Council's and the new authorities as the re-organisation is implemented.

4 ADDRESSING THE STRATEGIC MATTERS

- 4.1 In addressing the strategic matters described in Section 3 of this SoCG, Lancaster City Council have put forward a series of actions which will seek to ensure that moving forward these cross-boundary matters are addressed in a positive, proactive manner which seeks to harness shared working where possible and commits to ongoing dialogue to ensure that where strategic issues arise, they are discussed and, where possible, resolved.

Addressing the Climate Emergency Declaration and implications of the CELPR

- 4.2 All authorities involved in these Duty to Cooperate discussions accept the significance of addressing the challenges of Climate Change and the role which the plan-making process can have in tackling its impacts. It is recognised that this can range from careful management of our natural environments, making buildings and places more resilient and adaptable and the promotion of emerging technologies.
- 4.3 All authorities recognise that their approach to climate change through the plan-making process will be unique, seeking to address their own ambitions and aspirations and tailoring their approaches to local circumstances, this may include (amongst others) the declaration of Climate Emergency or the

preparation of authority-wide net zero targets. Notwithstanding this, there was a recognition that there are many common areas of ambition in relation to the Climate Change agenda exist and, where they do exist, authorities should seek to support each other where possible and practical to do so.

- 4.4 With regard to this issue, this Statement of Common Ground suggests the following actions:

Action A: To work with neighbouring and other local planning authorities to address common issues around Climate Change through their respective plan-making processes, recognising that at any one time different authorities may be proceeding with different plans with different aims and objectives not necessarily related to climate change and taking into account the relative stage of plan-making that each local authority is currently at. The application of planning policies around the issue of Climate Change will be tailored to local ambitions and local circumstances.

Action B: That where there is shared ground and aligned plan making ambitions in relation to the preparation of planning policies, local planning authorities will seek to work in a collaborative and proactive manner, whether this be through shared-working or shared-evidence, to achieve effective use of resources and, where possible, a consistent approach to issues.

Maintaining consistency with the Arnsdale & Silverdale AONB DPD

- 4.5 The key partnership on this issue is between Lancaster City Council and South Lakeland District Council, who together jointly prepared the AONB DPD. Through duty to cooperate discussions both parties recognise the importance in maintaining consistency in terms of policy application through their respective review processes.
- 4.6 Given the partial nature of the CELPR its implications are anticipated to be relatively minor. However, in order to highlight any specific issues which may arise the City Council have undertaken a proofing exercise which compares the newly emerging policies out of the CELPR and their consistency against policies in the AONB DPD. This proofing work is appended to this SoCG for reference (Appendix A).
- 4.7 Through the duty to cooperate discussion with South Lakeland, it was agreed that a similar proofing exercise would be undertaken in light of their wider Local Plan Review. This exercise would take place at the appropriate point in their review process, likely to be following the detailed drafting of policies.

Action C: Following the completion of a proofing exercise and considering the consistency between emerging policies in the CELPR and policies in the AONB DPD, Lancaster City Council will continue to monitor any future refinements to policy to ensure consistency and parity is maintained between the two documents.

Action D: At the appropriate point in the plan-making process, South Lakeland District Council will undertake a proofing exercise between their emerging policies and those in the AONB DPD to ensure consistency and parity is maintained between the two processes.

Action E: With regard to implementation of the AONB DPD, both Lancaster City Council and South Lakeland District Council will continue to work proactively to ensure that the DPD is appropriately monitored and the policies implemented in an effective manner.

Lancaster South Area Action Plan DPD

- 4.8 As highlighted in Section 3 of this SoCG, the preparation of the Lancaster South Area Action Plan DPD is at an early stage. Notwithstanding this, Lancaster City Council recognise that the scale of growth proposed may have cross-boundary issues which are of interest to our neighbours in Wyre.
- 4.9 The City Council will therefore continue to proactively engage with Wyre Borough Council through the preparation of the AAP DPD to ensure that where any cross-boundary issues arise they are well understood and, where possible, resolved to the satisfaction of both parties. This dialogue will form part of a separate SoCG which will supplement work on the Lancaster South AAP DPD.

Action F: That Lancaster City Council continue to proactively liaise with Wyre Borough Council in regard of plan-making in South Lancaster (i.e. the preparation of the Lancaster South Area Action Plan). This dialogue will form part of a separate duty to cooperate process and will be subject to a separate statement of common ground which will be prepared to support the Area Action Plan DPD.

5 NEXT STEPS

- 5.1 The purpose of this statement is to demonstrate the duty to cooperate discussions which have taken place and that the necessary legal requirements have been achieved. As previously acknowledged, this SoCG is an iterative document which will be updated as the CELPR moves through the plan-making process. This represents the first edition which has been prepared in alignment with the Regulation 18 consultation taking place through the summer of 2021.
- 5.2 To highlight the support for the actions which are set out in Section 4 of this SoCG we have requested the relevant authorities to become signatories to these actions. It is recognised that for some of the actions identified that not all authorities should be signatories. The actions (and the respective signatories to those actions) are highlighted in Table 5.1 below.

	Lancaster City Council	Barrow Borough Council	South Lakeland District Council	Craven District Council	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority	Ribble Valley Borough Council	Wyre Borough Council	Fylde Council	Blackpool Borough Council
Action A: Recognition of Climate Emergency and role of plan-making in addressing its implications.	X	X	X	X	X	X*	X	X	X
Action B: Seek shared working on Climate Change matters where possible.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Action C: To undertake a proofing exercise in relation to the CELPR and the Arnside & Silverdale AONB DPD.	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Action D: To undertake a proofing exercise in relation to the South Lakes Local Plan Review and the Arnside & Silverdale AONB DPD.	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-
Action E: To maintain effective and proactive joint working in relation	X	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-

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to the implementation of the Arnsdale & Silverdale AONB DPD.									
Action F: To continue to effectively an proactively engage with Wyre BC in relation to the emerging AAP DPD for South Lancaster. This engagement will be described in a separate SoCG on the matter.	X	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-








Table 5.1: A table to show the signatories to the individual actions set out in this SoCG.

**For the purpose of clarity, Ribble Valley Borough Council recognises the need for mitigation and adaptation measures to address Climate Change issues but as yet has not declared a Climate Emergency.*

- 5.3 As the plan-making process progresses, these actions will be kept under review. Where new cross boundary issues arise (for instance should the scope of the Review be expanded in some way) this will be reflected in the content of this SoCG and the actions it contains.

6 SIGNATORIES

- 6.1 With regard to the actions set out within Table 5.1 of this Statement of Common Ground, the below highlights the support to act collaboratively and positively in addressing the issues raised.

Authority	Name / Position	Signature	Date
Barrow Borough Council	Helen Houston – Head of Regeneration and Planning Policy		24/01/22
South Lakeland District Council	Dan Hudson – Strategy Lead Specialist		14/12/21
Craven District Council	David Smurthwaite – Strategic Manager, Planning & Regeneration		13/12/21
Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority	Peter Stockton – Head of Sustainable Development		25/01/21
Ribble Valley Borough Council	Colin Hirst – Head of Regeneration and Housing		24/01/22
Fylde Council	Mark Evans – Head of Planning		10/01/22
Blackpool Borough Council			
Wyre Borough Council	David Thow – Head of Planning Services		16/12/21

APPENDIX A: MEETINGS & WORKSHOPS WITH OTHER KEY & STATUTORY STAKEHOLDERS AS PART OF THE CELPR PROCESS

ORGANISATION	DATES OF MEETING(S)		
Environment Agency	11/12/20	25/02/21	
United Utilities	11/12/20	25/02/21	15/09/21
Lancashire County Council (as LLFA)	11/12/20	25/02/21	
Natural England	09/03/21		
AONV Arnsdale and Silverdale AONB,	24/02/21		
CPRE	24/02/21		
Forest of Bowland AONB,	24/02/21		
Forestry Commission,	24/02/21		
LUC, Lancaster Civic Society	24/02/21		
National Trust	24/02/21		
Claver Hill Community Food Growing Project	25/02/21		
Green Lancaster,	25/02/21		
Lancashire County Council,	25/02/21		
Lancashire LNP,	25/02/21		
Lancashire Wildlife Trust,	25/02/21		
Lancaster University,	25/02/21		
Lune Rivers Trust	25/02/21		
South Lancaster Flood Action Group,	25/02/21		
Marine Management Organisation	25/02/21		
North Lancashire Food Futures	25/02/21		
Imagination Lancaster,	25/02/21		
Natural England, Ramblers Association,	25/02/21		
The Fairfield Association,	25/02/21		
Woodland Trust	25/02/21		
Lancashire County Council (Highways)	03/03/21		
Highways England	03/03/21		
Representatives from the Canal and Rivers Trust	08/04/21		

APPENDIX B: ARNSIDE & SILVERDALE AONB DPD – PROOFING EXERCISE FOR THE CELPR

PART A: STRATEGIC POLICIES & LAND ALLOCATIONS DPD

POLICY NUMBER	POLICY TITLE	PURPOSE OF POLICY	PROPOSED CHANGE TO POLICY	APPLICABLE AONB DPD POLICIES	IMPLICATIONS FOR AONB DPD
SP4	Priorities for Sustainable Economic Growth	The policy sets out a series of priorities for economic growth in the district.	Further reference provided in the policy towards support for a green economic recovery and the promotion of training and skills in relation to the construction of energy efficient homes.	AS09 Economic Development and Community Facilities	Policy AS09 sets out a range of economic activity that would be supported within the AONB including the use of live/work development. Traffic generating businesses are discouraged. AS09 is compatible with the CELPR.
SP8	Protecting the Natural Environment	The policy sets the strategic approach to protecting the natural environment and provides some specific references to the impacts of Climate Change on the natural environment, particularly in relation to flood risk matters.	Reference to the green and blue infrastructure (GBI) network is now included, and the importance of protecting, maintaining, enhancing, and extending the green and blue spaces, corridors and chains that make up this wider strategic network, highlighting their multifunctionality. The policy also now refers to sea level rise, as a consequence of climate change that can affect our District.	AS04 Natural Environment	Policy AS04 supports the development of green corridors and ecological networks and is in line with GBI and the revised SP8. Reference to sea level rise is relevant to the AONB and will need to be considered in development proposals.
SP9	Maintaining Strong and Vibrant Communities	The policy explores the role of spatial planning in achieving greater social inclusion, health and well-being and the promotion of neighbourhood planning.	Promotes the importance of climate resilience in terms of place-making and within communities. Amendments seek to promote the delivery of low carbon development and the delivery of modal shift towards more sustainable forms of transport.	AS09 Economic Development and Community Facilities AS10 Infrastructure for New Development AS13 Energy and Communications	AS10 recognises the importance of sustainable transport and AS13 promotes the use of low carbon, energy efficient development. The CELPR (SP9) will support and strengthen policies AS10 and AS13.

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POLICY NUMBER	POLICY TITLE	PURPOSE OF POLICY	PROPOSED CHANGE TO POLICY	APPLICABLE AONB DPD POLICIES	IMPLICATIONS FOR AONB DPD
SP10	Improving Transport Connectivity	This policy acknowledges the Highways and Transport Masterplan for Lancaster District prepared by Lancashire County Council in its role as highways and transport authority. The policy supports the infrastructure improvements required to address both current issues and future growth aspirations.	The policy encourages modal shift and a focus on reducing carbon emissions.	N/A	No implication (SP10 has urban focus)
SG4	Lancaster City Centre	The policy describes the role of the Town Centre Strategy and the role of car parking in Lancaster city centre. The policy sets a strategic approach to regeneration across Lancaster City Centre and states that development proposals in Lancaster City Centre will be expected to support and contribute to the effective delivery of the Movement Strategy.	Amendments seek to promote the strengthening of Green / Blue infrastructure networks in the City Centre and promote sustainable forms of travel to access the City Centre.	N/A	No implication
SG12	Port of Heysham and Future Expansion Opportunities	This policy applies to the Port of Heysham and its operations with port-operating land. The policy supports the Port as a key economic driver within the district.	Clarity has been added to make clear that future proposals will need to have fully considered the Council's commitment to addressing climate change.	N/A	No implication
SG13	Heysham Gateway, South Heysham	This policy describes the Council's intention to deliver a much-improved employment area on land that includes the site of former petrochemical and fertiliser manufacturing facilities. The Council intends to prepare a further document to describe a vision for this area in greater detail.	Policy amendment seeks to promote the delivery of low-carbon and green energy sectors in the Heysham Gateway area.	N/A	No implication

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POLICY NUMBER	POLICY TITLE	PURPOSE OF POLICY	PROPOSED CHANGE TO POLICY	APPLICABLE AONB DPD POLICIES	IMPLICATIONS FOR AONB DPD
EN9	Air Quality Management Areas	This policy applies to the designated Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) in Lancaster City Centre, Carnforth Town Centre and Galgate.	The adopted 'sound' Local Plan policy remains unchanged.	N/A	No implications
SC4	Green Space Networks	This policy identifies greenspace networks including Morecambe and Heysham Promenades, Lancaster city Centre, the River Lune Corridor, and Lancaster Canal. The policy aims to protect these valued ecological and recreational networks from development which would cause damage their integrity.	<p>The GBI Strategy identifies a District-wide network and so it's more appropriate to refer to those key/strategic GBI assets identified in this policy as 'corridors' and 'chains', which help to make up the wider network.</p> <p>The GBI Strategy also highlighted the importance of incorporating blue infrastructure, as well as green, so key/strategic blue corridors and chains have now been included. The policy now also emphasises the multifunctional value of these assets and the contribution they can make towards climate change mitigation/adaptation.</p> <p>Policy SC4 is now called 'Green and Blue Corridors and Chains'.</p>	AS04 Natural Environment AS05 Public Open Space and Recreation	<p>AS04 sets out to conserve and enhance the AONBs biodiversity and geodiversity. It also promotes green corridors and networks and recognises the importance of wider public benefits and delivering ecosystem services.</p> <p>The GBI Strategy is district wide, with the AONBs playing an important part in the multi-functional benefits of green and blue infrastructure. The CELPR supports AS04 and adds weight to the importance of GBI assets from a climate change point of view.</p>
SC5	Recreation Opportunity Areas	This policy states that through future development proposals the Council will investigate the potential to provide significant new or improved open space in areas where there is a deficiency in open spaces.	The policy has been amended so that the requirement is not to solely focus on recreation but to consider multi-functional benefits of GBI. Policy now has direct link to requirements of policy DM43.	AS05 Public Open Space and Recreation	<p>AS05 identifies and protects areas of open space used for recreation, amenity and allotments. Provision of open space in new developments follows the district wide standards set out in the Dev Mgt DPD.</p> <p>Under the CELPR proposals affecting Public Open Space sites will need to take into account the wider benefits of GBI as set out in Policy SC5 and DM43.</p>

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POLICY NUMBER	POLICY TITLE	PURPOSE OF POLICY	PROPOSED CHANGE TO POLICY	APPLICABLE AONB DPD POLICIES	IMPLICATIONS FOR AONB DPD
T1	Lancaster Park and Ride	This policy identifies two sites that will be protected for the purposes of Park and Ride; land at M6 junction 34 and land at M6 junction 33 that will be safeguarded for future investigation for the role as a Lancaster South Park and Ride - subject to demand for such a facility. The policy is consistent with the County Council's Highways and Transport Masterplan.	No amendments are proposed as this policy is already working well in that it promotes sustainable forms of transport.	N/A	No implication
T2	Cycling and Walking Network	This policy identifies and further promotes actions to enhance the district's cycling network. It identifies both existing cycle routes and aspirational cycling routes. The policy also links to the aspirations for greater levels of cycling in the Highways and Transport Masterplan prepared by the County Council.	Amendments to this policy appear minor but do strengthen the approach considerably. The policy no longer aims to 'encourage' or 'seek to support' cycling and walking but will now prioritise this. The shift in the policy title is also clear that Lancashire County Council aim to continue to develop this network. The additional updated mapping (since Local Plan adoption) is also a clear example that the shift to active travel is a dominant feature of the Local Plan.	AS10 Infrastructure for New Development	AS10 states that securing sustainable travel in new development is a high priority. Under the CELPR proposals will need to take account of the revised cycling/walking network identified in Policy T2.

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POLICY NUMBER	POLICY TITLE	PURPOSE OF POLICY	PROPOSED CHANGE TO POLICY	APPLICABLE AONB DPD POLICIES	IMPLICATIONS FOR AONB DPD
T4	Public Transport Corridors	This policy identifies several key public transport corridors where more frequent and regular public transport services will be promoted. The policy promotes enhanced public transport corridors that are consistent with the Lancaster District Highways and Transport Masterplan.	This policy now requires that developers ensure the provision of new services or enhance existing services and demands that public transport services should be within reasonable safe walking and cycling travel distance of all parts of the development, thus increasing the prominence and availability of public transport modes.	AS10 Infrastructure for New Development	AS10 states that securing sustainable travel in new development is a high priority. The CELPR supports/strengthens AS10 as proposals will need to take account of the minimum distance to public transport services.

PART B: DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT DPD

POLICY NUMBER	POLICY TITLE	POLICY DESCRIPTION	PROPOSED CHANGE TO POLICY	Applicable AONB DPD Policies	Implications for AONB DPD
DM2	Housing Standards	This policy looks at adaptability and indoor space standards and seeks a proportion of new development to achieve these standards, varying depending on the specific development proposed.	No changes are proposed to the content this policy but the title has been amended to 'Space and Accessibility Standards.' Minor changes to the supporting text reflect that the District does now need to be aware of water stress and water efficiency.	No corresponding policy	No implications

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POLICY NUMBER	POLICY TITLE	POLICY DESCRIPTION	PROPOSED CHANGE TO POLICY	Applicable AONB DPD Policies	Implications for AONB DPD
DM3	The Delivery of Affordable Housing	The policy sets out the affordable housing requirements for new development.	<p>The policy and supporting text have been amended to clarify that First Homes will form part of the affordable homes for sale provision. The revised provision will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25% First Homes; • 25% Shared Ownership; • 50% affordable rent / social rent. <p>The overall percentage of affordable homes required by the policy has not been changed.</p>	AS03 Housing Provision	AS03 relates to the level of provision of affordable housing in new development. The CELPR provides greater clarity on the type of provision but not the overall requirement.
DM27	Open Space, Sports and Recreational Facilities	The adopted Local Plan policy sets out the presumption towards the protection of public open spaces. The policy also links to the need for new open spaces within new residential development and the enhancement of existing spaces.	The GBI Strategy highlighted the multifunctional benefits that green spaces can provide, particularly in terms of their climate change mitigation and adaptation value. Appendix D has also been updated to reflect the findings of the KKP Open Space work that underpins the current adopted Local Plan.	AS05 Public Open Space and Recreation	<p>AS05 identifies and protects areas of open space used for recreation, amenity and allotments. Provision of open space in new developments follows the district wide standards set out in the Dev Mgt DPD (DM27).</p> <p>Under the CELPR proposals affecting Public Open Space sites will need to take into account the wider benefits of GBI as set out in Policy SC5 and DM43.</p>
DM29	Key Design Principles	The policy sets out a series of key design principles which new development proposals (of any scale and in any location) should consider. These are subsequently considered in making decisions on planning applications.	<p>There are multiple amendments to this policy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Buildings will now be expected to maximise natural light and make use of renewable energy. • Requirements for the consideration of reusing and recycling materials. • Requirement for the consideration of including green and blue infrastructure. •Provision of growing space in new developments to support the local growing of food must be included in developments. •The inclusion of habitat creation for protected species has been expanded as a key development component 	AS08 Design	<p>AS08 promotes good design in keeping with the AONB.</p> <p>DM29 seeks new approaches to design in new development and will change primarily construction methods. It is considered these can be achieved without compromising the need for good design that conserves and enhances the character of the AONB.</p>

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POLICY NUMBER	POLICY TITLE	POLICY DESCRIPTION	PROPOSED CHANGE TO POLICY	Applicable AONB DPD Policies	Implications for AONB DPD
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequate space for on-site composting is now required 		
DM30	Sustainable Design	The policy seeks to support the role of sustainable design and construction methods within new development.	<p>DM30 has now been split into three policies—Policy DM30a: Sustainable Design and Construction-New Development, Policy DM30b: Sustainable Design and Construction-Water Efficiency, and Policy DM30c: Sustainable Design and Construction-Materials, Waste & Construction.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Energy and design: The policy requires developments to be designed to minimise energy and water consumption and maximise energy and water efficiency. The importance for low carbon and renewable energy generation and distribution is also included. It also highlights the importance of buildings that can be retrofitted throughout their lifetime and are designed for renewables. It places new requirements for commercial buildings to meet BREEAM ‘Excellent’. •Water efficiency: All residential developments must now achieve, as a minimum, the optional requirement set through the Building Regulations Requirement G2: Water Efficiency or any future updates to the requirement. All major non-residential development should incorporate water conservation measures so that predicted per capita consumption does not exceed the appropriate levels set out in the applicable BREEAM ‘Excellent’ standard. The design of new developments should consider the inclusion of water efficiency and consumption measures, such as rainwater recycling, green roofs, and water butts in the construction of new buildings. 	AS07 Historic Environment AS08 Design AS13 Energy and Communications AS12 Water Quality, sewerage and sustainable drainage	<p>AS08 promotes good design in keeping with the AONB and provides guidance for each settlement on the development expected. The application of fabric first targets set out in Policy DM30a will have impacts on construction methods but should have limited impacts on the external appearance of buildings.</p> <p>Policy AS13 promotes the use of renewable energy, whilst AS12 is primarily concerned with waste water. The CELPR will potentially support Policy AS13 and AS12, and add additional requirements in terms of water efficiency, construction methods and the use of Sustainable Design Statements.</p>

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POLICY NUMBER	POLICY TITLE	POLICY DESCRIPTION	PROPOSED CHANGE TO POLICY	Applicable AONB DPD Policies	Implications for AONB DPD
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Construction process: This key area focuses future development on using materials that have lower embodied carbon and reduced construction and transportation associated emissions. Where possible, local suppliers should be used and modern methods of construction. •Materials and waste: The full lifecycle of the building should be considered from concept to demolition and considers designing for lifecycles of the building for adaptability and retrofitability. It aims to reduce the amount of waste produced and support the reuse and recycle of waste and includes the ways in which green walls and roofs can be incorporated and the importance of designing buildings with structures to accommodate inbuilt green infrastructure. Developments should provide water management energy efficiency and conservation, and space for biodiversity. •Sustainable Design Statement: The policy now requires new developments to evidence their compliance with the sustainable design policies in a Sustainable Design Statement to be submitted at planning application stage. 		
DM31	Air Quality Management and Pollution	The policy sets a general approach to air quality matters which seeks to minimise emissions. The Policy also sets an approach to developments located within designated Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs)	This adopted 'sound' Local Plan policy remains unchanged as it is operating well. The supporting text has been slightly amended to set out a series of measures that can be put in place to help mitigate air quality impacts, and also to set out the expectation to consider the impacts of development upon levels of particulate matter as well as nitrogen dioxide.	N/A	None

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POLICY NUMBER	POLICY TITLE	POLICY DESCRIPTION	PROPOSED CHANGE TO POLICY	Applicable AONB DPD Policies	Implications for AONB DPD
DM33	Development and Flood Risk	The policy seeks to address the issues associated with flooding and flood risk in new development in accordance with national planning policy.	DM33 and the supporting text have been amended to ensure that where the flood risk for allocated sites has changed, an exception test is carried out to ensure development is safe and opportunities to provide wider sustainability benefits are taken. Resilience and adaption measures are incorporated, as well as measures to reduce flooding and measures to improve watercourses and use natural flood risk management techniques.	AS12 Water Quality, sewerage and sustainable drainage	Policy AS12 is concerned with waste water and unaffected by changes to DM33.
DM34	Surface Water Run-Off and Sustainable Drainage	The policy seeks to provide a generic approach towards the role of sustainable drainage within new development to minimise water run-off and provide effective water management on-site via SuDS.	This policy has been significantly amended to secure better outcomes in relation to flooding. A new Sustainable Drainage Hierarchy has been introduced which prioritises the reuse of water and infiltration together with above ground features which provide multi-functional benefits. The amended policy includes requirements for the design of Sustainable Drainage Systems, minimum run-off rates and a list of requirements for submission with an application to improve the information available when determining the acceptability of schemes.	AS12 Water Quality, sewerage and sustainable drainage	Policy AS12 promotes the use of SuDS and the CELPR is compatible/supportive.
DM35	Water Supply and Wastewater	The policy identifies the importance of ensuring that new development has adequate and appropriate connections to a water supply and wastewater network.	Minor changes have been included to clarify the need for developers to demonstrate adequate water supply and wastewater capacity. The requirement for water efficiency in non-residential buildings has been moved to Policy DM30b: Sustainable Design and Construction – Water Efficiency.	AS12 Water Quality, sewerage and sustainable drainage	Policy AS12 is primarily concerned with waste water treatment in areas with no mains drainage. THE CELPR will support Policy AS12.

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POLICY NUMBER	POLICY TITLE	POLICY DESCRIPTION	PROPOSED CHANGE TO POLICY	Applicable AONB DPD Policies	Implications for AONB DPD
DM36	Protecting Water Resources and Infrastructure	This policy highlights the importance of protecting water resources and infrastructure which is critical to maintaining an effective water supply and wastewater network.	The policy now requires development to include multi-level source control to prevent ground and water pollution, to protect and where possible, improve water quality and to clarify support for infrastructure investment.	AS12 Water Quality, sewerage and sustainable drainage	Policy AS12 is primarily concerned with waste water treatment in areas with no mains drainage. THE CELPR will support Policy AS12.
DM43	Green Infrastructure	The policy sets out an approach towards the protection and improvement of Green Infrastructure within the district.	<p>The GBI Strategy highlighted the important role that GBI assets can play in climate change adaptation and mitigation. Therefore, the policy now emphasises the importance of the connectivity of GBI assets, and their role within the wider GBI network which has now been identified.</p> <p>The policy sets out the multifunctional value of GBI and the six key uses that should be considered when designing GBI and how climate change benefits run through each of these. The policy now also requires a GBI Management and Maintenance Plan to be submitted to ensure such assets and their long-term benefits are secured and maintained.</p> <p>DM43 is now called 'Green and Blue Infrastructure'.</p>	AS04 Natural Environment AS05 Public Open Space and Recreation	<p>AS04 sets out how development should conserve and enhance the AONBs biodiversity and geodiversity. It also promotes green corridors and networks and recognises the importance of wider public benefits and delivering ecosystem services.</p> <p>AS05 identifies designated open spaces for recreation, amenity and allotments.</p> <p>The GBI Strategy is district wide, with the AONBs playing an important part in the multi-functional benefits of green and blue infrastructure. The CELPR supports AS04 and AS05 and adds weight to the importance of GBI assets from a climate change point of view.</p>
DM45	Protection of Trees, Hedgerows and Woodland	The policy sets out an approach which supports the protection and retention of valuable trees, hedges and woodland. It also sets a policy position in relation to the increase of tree coverage.	The policy position has changed from encouraging tree and hedgerow planting to expecting it. The policy now also highlights their climate change mitigation and adaptation value.	AS04 Natural Environment	AS04 sets out how development should conserve and enhance the AONBs biodiversity and geodiversity. It requires net gain on all sites. The CELPR means DM45 is more in alignment with AS04 in terms of requirements for new planting.

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POLICY NUMBER	POLICY TITLE	POLICY DESCRIPTION	PROPOSED CHANGE TO POLICY	Applicable AONB DPD Policies	Implications for AONB DPD
DM53	Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation	The policy seeks to identify and support opportunities for renewable sources of energy generation within the district in the context of national planning policy.	<p>This policy has been significantly amended. The existing policy has been strengthened to explicitly state support in principle for renewables and has been expanded to include more renewable and low carbon energy options as well as distribution networks.</p> <p>There is now a specific policy requirement in relation to several renewable technologies, covering both energy generation and energy distribution networks. This has moved the policy from focusing purely on wind energy generation to also now considering hydro, solar and six additional potential technologies (with acknowledgement that the industry is growing) as well consideration for heating and cooling networks. The implementation of this policy will allow for these technologies to be utilised more easily within schemes.</p> <p>The policy now aims to ensure that energy is locally available from low carbon and renewable sources (ahead of grid decarbonisation). There is now an aim to support the green recovery and the creation and continuation of green jobs.</p>	AS13 Energy and Communications	<p>Policy AS13 encourages small scale low carbon/ renewable energy schemes as long as they do not harm the purposes of the AONB. The policy promotes the use of low carbon, energy efficiency schemes in new development or through retrofitting.</p> <p>The CELPR is compatible and supportive of AS13.</p>
DM57	Health and Well-Being	The policy sets out a generic approach towards health and well-being looking at various aspects of development which can impact on people's /communities quality of life and health.	Promotes the importance of climate resilience in terms of place-making within communities. Amendments seek to promote the delivery of low carbon development and the delivery of modal shift towards more sustainable forms of transport.	No corresponding policy	N/A
DM58	Infrastructure Delivery and Funding	The policy sets out a position on the funding of new infrastructure through planning obligations and the investigation of implementing a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).	Amendments have been made to clarify the Council's position in terms of infrastructure delivery and affirm the commitments relating to the preparation of a Viability Protocol SPD.	No corresponding policy	N/A

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POLICY NUMBER	POLICY TITLE	POLICY DESCRIPTION	PROPOSED CHANGE TO POLICY	Applicable AONB DPD Policies	Implications for AONB DPD
DM59	Telecommunications and Broadband Improvements	The policy seeks to promote the increased role of the telecommunications and broadband in everyday lives and encourages improvements to the network through new development.	Amendments made to support the delivery of the Council's Digital Strategy and ensure better connectivity within new development. Policy seeks to support upgrades to broadband connectivity / digital signal within both urban and rural locations.	AS13 Energy and Communications	Compatible with the CELPR
DM60	Enhancing Accessibility and Transport Linkages	The policy seeks to promote modal shift and sustainable forms of transport rather than prioritising the private car. The policy also looks at land-use patterns to ensure that sustainable locations are chosen for development with high footfall.	The policy wording has been strengthened so will no longer 'seek' to ensure but will instead now 'ensure' that policy requirements are met.	AS10 Infrastructure for New Development	AS10 gives high priority to development supporting sustainable travel. The CELPR is compatible with and strengthens Policy AS10.
DM61	Walking and Cycling	The policy seeks to promote the role of cycling and walking to make local journeys and contribute to the agenda of modal shift. The policy seeks to encourage expansion of the network and other associated infrastructure that would promote a greater role for cycling and walking.	<p>Policy changes now mean that walking and cycling are clearly prioritised ensuring that active travel is given appropriate attention and the pedestrian environment will be improved, thereby increasing the appeal of walking (and cycling as well as adaptive mobility) as an alternative to the private car.</p> <p>Development proposals must now be in accordance with Local Transport Note 1/20 which is a significant change and will ensure development is designed with walking and cycling at the forefront instead of the private car.</p>	AS10 Infrastructure for New Development	AS10 gives high priority to development supporting sustainable travel. The CELPR is compatible with and supports Policy AS10.
DM62	Vehicle Parking provision	The policy sets out parking standards for vehicular parking but also includes parking for cycles in new development. The levels of provision are set out in Appendix E of the DPD.	Cycle parking standards set out in Appendix E of DPD have been amended to reflect the latest Government guidance and now also include the addition of mobility scooter spaces and non-standard cycles. The use of electric vehicles through the installation of charging points is encouraged. Whilst the existing policy did work towards this, the strengthened wording will ensure better outcomes in relation to tackling climate change.	AS10 Infrastructure for New Development	AS10 gives high priority to development supporting sustainable travel. The CELPR is compatible with and supports Policy AS10.

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POLICY NUMBER	POLICY TITLE	POLICY DESCRIPTION	PROPOSED CHANGE TO POLICY	Applicable AONB DPD Policies	Implications for AONB DPD
DM63	Transport Efficiency and Travel Plans	The policy seeks to promote a strategic approach to travel movements within large development through the promotion of travel plans.	The amendments to this policy, whilst appearing to be minimal, are important in encouraging modal shift and reducing carbon emissions.	AS10 Infrastructure for New Development	AS10 gives high priority to development supporting sustainable travel. The CELPR is compatible with and supports Policy AS10.
DM64	Lancaster District Highways and Transport Masterplan	The policy sets out the key approaches taken in the Lancaster District Transport and Highways Masterplan (prepared by Lancashire County Council) and ties them to the growth proposed through the Local Plan.	There are no amendments made to this adopted 'sound' policy.	No corresponding policy	N/A

