



## Planning Policy Update from Lancaster City Council - March 2025

### Local Plan Timetable

This [Interim Lancaster District Local Plan Timetable](#) has been prepared in response to the direction of Matthew Pennycook, Minister of State for Housing and Planning, within his Written Ministerial Statement (WMS) "Building the homes we need" published on 12 December 2024. The Minister stated that he would write to all local planning authorities asking them to provide an updated plan-making timetable within 12 weeks. On 13 December 2024, Joanna

Averley, the Chief Planner at the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government stated that this meant by no later than 6 March 2025.

Lancaster City is preparing a new local plan and has been preparing that plan in accordance with a Local Development Scheme (plan timetable) that provides dates for the preparation “milestones” (such as the publication date of the draft Local Plan), however the government wishes local planning authorities to prepare plans in accordance with a proposed new system, although the full details of this new system have not yet been announced. The new system will require local planning authorities to set out the dates for the preparation of their local plan within a fixed 30-month long time-period following a formal commencement date. The new timetable must provide the “milestone” dates and dates for “Gateway Assessments”. These new assessments involve a government appointed external assessor conducting a three-stage review of the emerging local plan prior to it being submitted to government.

This document is an Interim Lancaster District Local Plan Timetable; it has been submitted to government and published on the City Council’s website to satisfy the Government’s direction that a new timetable must be made available by 6th March 2025. The City Council’s Cabinet will formally consider the proposed timetable soon. It is hoped that Cabinet will have the benefit of the awaited details of the new system from Government to support that formal consideration. The Council’s Cabinet will confirm, or potentially amend the interim timetable. A formally approved version of the timetable will then appear on the City Council’s website.

## [Call for Local Green Spaces](#)

**We need your help to identify areas of Local Green Space across the district.**

Access to a network of high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and physical activity is important for health and the wellbeing of communities. The

designation of land as Local Green Space through local plans allows communities to identify and protect green areas of particular importance to them. Planning policies for managing development within Local Green Spaces are consistent with Green Belts and therefore the level of protection afforded through designation is high. Local Green Spaces can only be designated when a Plan is being prepared or updated. **The call for Local Green Spaces will run to Monday 28 July 2025.**

Further information can be found on the Council website: [Local Plan Review Hub>>>>>](#)

## **Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 16 Consultation**

Lancaster City Council is consulting on the Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Development Plan (2024-2031) to **12 noon Monday 28 April 2025**. Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council has previously consulted on their plan, however, this final consultation will be led by the city council, as outlined in Regulation 16 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) (Amendment) Regulations 2015. [Read more about this consultation.](#)

## **Other consultations**

### **Conservation Area Appraisal for the Yealand Conyers and Redmayne Conservation Area**

We are seeking views of those with an interest in the area on the draft Conservation Area Appraisal for the Yealand Conyers and Redmayne Conservation Area. We welcome comments from the local community and other interest groups the content of the conservation area appraisal and the proposed boundary extensions. You may wish to provide general comments or

respond to the questionnaire. [Read more about this consultation.](#)

### **Conservation Area Appraisal and proposed conservation boundary changes for the Over Kellet area**

There has recently been a seven-week public consultation looking at a draft Conservation Area Appraisal for Over Kellet, along with two proposed boundary extensions. This consultation came to an end on 20 January 2025, and we have been considering the comments received. A number of respondents suggested that a third area ought to be brought within the boundary: the field to the south east of Court House, opposite the Old School House on Nether Kellet Road. We agree that this field contributes to the dispersed spatial character of this conservation area, forming part of its rural setting, and, as such, should be included within the conservation area boundary. [Read more about this consultation.](#)

### **Coming Soon!**

#### **Conservation Area Appraisal for Whittington Conservation Area**

We are soon be seeking views of those with an interest in the area on the draft Conservation Area Appraisal for the Whittington Conservation Area. Details will be added to the Council

webpage: <https://www.lancaster.gov.uk/planning/conservation/conservation-areas>.

Many thanks

Planning and Housing Strategy Team  
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