



**Report Reference Number:** E/22/38

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**To:** Executive  
**Date:** 2 March 2023  
**Status:** Key Decision  
**Ward(s) Affected:** All Wards  
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**Lead Executive Member:** Councillor Mark Crane - Leader of the Council and Lead Executive Member for Leisure, Strategic Matters, Place Shaping and External Relations and Partnerships  
**Lead Officer:** Martin Grainger, Head of Planning and Interim Head of Regulatory Services

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## **Title: Update on the Selby District Local Plan**

### **Summary:**

On 17 September 2019 Council gave approval for work to commence on the preparation of a new comprehensive Local Plan for the District. A Local Development Scheme was also brought into effect following Council approval.

In accordance with the Local Development Scheme, consultation took place on the Local Plan Issues and Options in early 2020. Consultation on the Preferred Options for the Local Plan took place in early 2021, with subsequent consultations taking place on Additional Sites and Local Plan Evidence later that year.

In August 2022 Executive approved consultation on the Publication Local Plan which ended on the 28 October 2022.

This paper provides an update on the progress of the Local Plan and sets out recommendations for taking the plan through to formal submission given the changes to local governance.

### **Recommendations:**

**That the Executive note the content of the report and that any future decision to progress the Selby District Local Plan be made by North Yorkshire Council.**

## **Reasons for recommendation**

To ensure that the decision on the progression of the Selby District Local Plan is in accordance with changes to local governance arrangements.

### **1. Introduction and background**

- 1.1 On 17 September 2019 Council gave approval for work to commence on the preparation of a new comprehensive Local Plan for the District. The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 set out the requirements in relation to the preparation of Local Plans. The Local Plan has been prepared in line with the National Planning Policy Framework, National Planning Practice Guidance and has been informed by a number of technical evidence documents.
- 1.2 In accordance with the Local Development Scheme, consultation took place on the Local Plan Issues and Options for the Local Plan in early 2020. This consultation sought views on the subject that the plan should consider and on broad spatial options for future growth.
- 1.3 The feedback from the Issues and Options consultation helped to shape the development of the Preferred Options for the Local Plan with consultation taking place on the preferred spatial development, proposed allocations and draft policy approach in early 2021. This consultation was followed in the Autumn of 2021 with consultations taking place on Additional Sites and key Local Plan Evidence. In total 466 sites have been robustly assessed for their suitability as part of this process. In August 2022 Executive approved consultation on the Publication Local Plan which ended on the 28 October 2022.
- 1.4 The emerging Local Plan sets out an ambitious strategy for the growth of Selby District over the next 17 years. The policies will deliver the Council's Vision and Objectives for the Local Plan, which aim to create well-designed high-quality places to live, with well-paid employment opportunities, an attractive rural environment and lower carbon emissions.
- 1.5 The Publication Local Plan contains an ambitious proposal to allocate a new settlement known as Heronby to the north of Selby District, which would support growth of the District well beyond 2040. The new settlement proposal could create a well-designed mixed community which will be developed through a Master Developer method to ensure that high-quality aspirations are met. A large site is also proposed for allocation to the west of the village of Eggborough with the opportunity to provide new housing to meet needs generated from the large new employment sites which have been granted planning permission at the former Kellingley Colliery and former Eggborough Power Station.
- 1.6 In the emerging plan, the Selby Urban Area continues to be the District's most sustainable existing settlement as it has the greatest range of facilities and services and this is reflected in the high number of sites allocated for housing. A heritage-led regeneration approach is proposed for Tadcaster which seeks to bring forward the re-development of the Central Area car park for new residential use, with replacement provision delivered through a new underground car park located underneath a new publicly accessible Town Green. Alongside the allocation of a

number of greenfield sites this approach will help to bring forward the regeneration of the town and support bringing a number of empty properties back into use.

- 1.7 Further proposed allocation sites are distributed across the Selby District, informed by the level of services and facilities which are currently available to ensure that the most sustainable strategy is progressed.
- 1.8 Work has continued in responding to the issues raised through the Publication Local Plan consultation and in preparing the Local Plan for submission to the Secretary of State. A significant amount of resources have been invested in developing the evidence which underpins the Local Plan and in progressing the plan to this stage and it is crucial that work continues in order provide certainty to local communities and businesses.

## **2. Local Government Reorganisation**

- 2.1 The Local Government (Structural Changes) (Transitional Arrangements) (No.2) Regulations 2008 (as amended) requires that a single tier council adopts a local development document under section 23 of the 2004 Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act to apply to the whole of its area within a period of five years starting with the date of re-organisation. Counsel advice has been sought which confirms that a new comprehensive Local Plan will need to be prepared and that this should be adopted within five years. Once adopted, the new local plan will replace the existing district-wide local plans adopted by the District Councils and will form part of the development plan for those parts of North Yorkshire that are outside of the two national park authorities. The National Planning Practice Guidance says that Plans that are being prepared, but not yet adopted, can also carry over and continue through to adoption in the new authority.
- 2.2 Since consultation took place on the Selby District Local Plan in summer 2022 further consideration has been given to how a new Local Plan for the new North Yorkshire Council geography should be taken forward.
- 2.3 Until a new Local Plan is adopted, five-year housing land supply calculations and the Housing Delivery Test will continue to be assessed on the District boundary basis. This alongside with the very advanced stage that the plan has reached means that work on the Selby District Local Plan should continue as there is likely to be a policy vacuum until the adoption of the new North Yorkshire plan.
- 2.4 In December 2022 a report was presented to North Yorkshire Council's Executive which recommended that a single local plan is prepared and progressed as soon as possible. In addition, the report recommended that work on the Selby District Local Plan should continue, and formal governance arrangements should also be established to oversee plan making. The report agreed that these recommendations should be taken forward for decision by Full Council. This decision is programmed to be presented to North Yorkshire Council's Full Council meeting in May 2023.
- 2.5 As Selby District Council will cease to exist on 1 April 2023 there are complexities regarding the change in political governance. Given that the Selby Local Plan has long term implications for the future of this part of North Yorkshire it is considered appropriate for decisions on whether further consultation on the Local Plan is

necessary or whether it should progress to Submission should be made by North Yorkshire Council. For this reason, a report setting out recommendations to progress the Selby District Local Plan will be presented to the North Yorkshire for a decision at the earliest opportunity.

### **3. Alternative Options Considered**

None as decisions need to be made in accordance with revised governance arrangements.

### **4. Implications**

#### **4.1 Legal Implications**

This report is for information only. The recommendations accord with revised local governance arrangements.

#### **4.2 Financial Implications**

The preparation of the Local Plan will be undertaken within the Local Plan budget.

#### **4.3 Policy and Risk Implications**

The continuation of the Local Plan aims to mitigate any risk regarding 5-year supply challenge.

#### **4.4 Corporate Plan Implications**

The progression of a new Local Plan will help the Council to deliver its Corporate Plan objectives to make Selby a great place to do business and to enjoy life. More specifically it will contribute to the objective to have a local plan in place which will deliver more houses in the District, business opportunities, promote health and well-being and protect and enhance the local environment.

#### **4.5 Resource Implications**

None

#### **4.6 Other Implications**

None

#### **4.7 Equalities Impact Assessment**

None as this is an information report only.

### **5. Conclusion**

**5.1** As Selby District Council will cease to exist on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 the decision to progress the Local Plan will be presented to North Yorkshire Council in accordance with revised governance arrangements.

## **6. Background Documents**

Issues and Options Local Plan  
Preferred Options Local Plan  
Publication Local Plan August