



Allerdale Borough Council

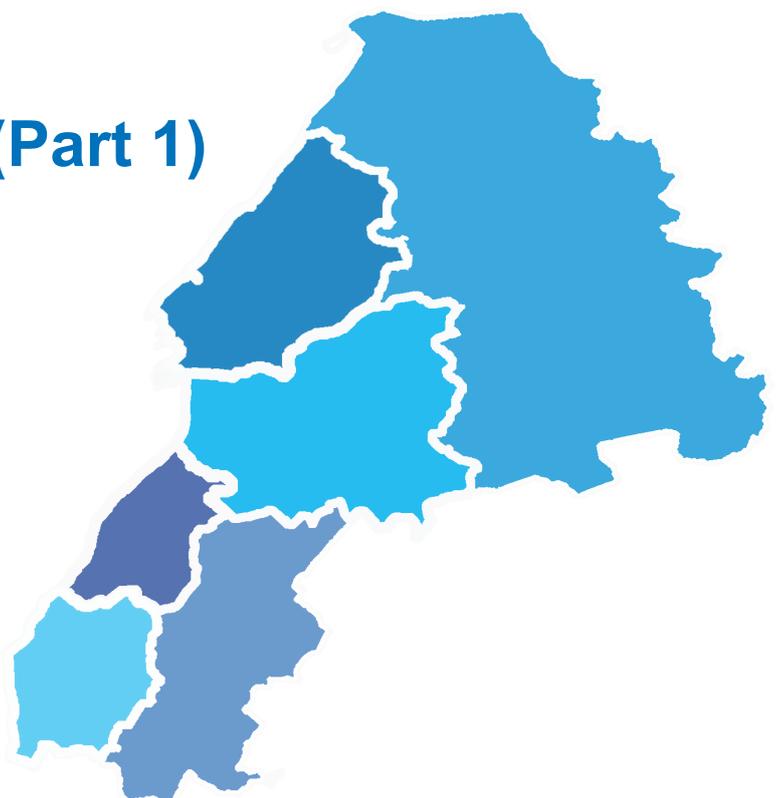


Allerdale Local Plan (Part 1)

Position Statement Main Matter 2:

The extent of the
Plan period

January 2014



Allerdale Local Plan (Part 1) Examination – Allerdale Borough Council Position Statement January 2014

Matter 2 - The Extent of the Plan period

Introduction

1. This Statement has been produced by Allerdale Borough Council to outline its response to the matters raised by the Inspector for the Hearings **[ED3]** into the Submitted Allerdale Local Plan (Part 1) Development Plan Document (DPD) **[CD1]**.
2. These Statements form the main basis for the Council's submission to the Hearings. They relate to the elements of the DPD that have been raised by the Inspector as matters to be discussed. Where appropriate the Statements draw upon and cross-refer to the main sources of information used in the preparation of the DPD such as the outcomes of public consultation, the Sustainability Appraisal, the evidence base and the supporting Topic Papers. Core Document numbers are given where appropriate.

Position of the Council regarding Matter 2

3. Whilst the proposed Plan period 2011-2028 is considered sound it is acknowledged that the Plan period ending in 2028 would not result in a 15 year time frame, post adoption. Therefore it is proposed to extend the Plan period to 2029 to overcome this. However, the Council does not agree that the Plan period should be extended to ensure a 15 year period from the adoption of all Development Plan Documents. The reasons for this are set out below.

Current Housing and Employment commitments

4. As illustrated in the table of housing commitments in appendix 4 of the annotated Local Plan **[CD2]** and **MM101** in **[CD4]** there are significant outstanding housing commitments across all tiers of the settlement hierarchy. The level of commitments

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is such that the requirement for additional land supply, in terms of site allocations, will be focussed on the medium to long term of the Plan period. This allows sufficient time to develop and adopt the site allocations. Work on the site allocations has already commenced with a 'call for sites', and consultation on the Sustainability Appraisal scoping and discussion paper.

5. With respect to employment land supply the Employment Land Review update (2012) **[EB6a]** concludes that there are 100 hectares of available employment land across the Plan area. This is compared to a 54 hectare requirement over the plan period up to 2029. The approach to employment land supply is one of consolidation and rationalisation of the existing supply rather than being substantially dependent on allocating further sites. (This is explored further in Matter 14) The existence of the current employment land supply allows for a considered approach to the medium to long term supply without stifling economic growth in the short term.

Infrastructure Requirements

6. The Strategy for Infrastructure **[CD7 DSE4]** has been developed closely with infrastructure providers, including consideration of indicative areas of search for potential sites, to understand in greater detail critical infrastructure constraints. **(See matter 5)**
7. The Strategy for Infrastructure concludes that the delivery of the Local Plan will not be compromised by critical infrastructure deficits and as such the level of proposed growth is not dependent on major infrastructure projects for delivery.

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8. Phasing of development may be required to ensure that local infrastructure is in place but there has been no indication from the statutory providers that this cannot be achieved within the proposed plan period.

Proposed modifications [CD 4]

9. Extension to the Plan period to 2029 **MM1** and **MM4 [CD4]**
10. Adjustment to the housing and employment requirement to reflect the revised plan period **MM12, MM15** and **MM99 [CD4]**.

Conclusion

11. Due to the level of commitments and absence of major infrastructure requirements the implementation of the Local Plan will not be delayed pending the adoption of site allocations Development Plan Document or major infrastructure work. The timing of the site allocations will ensure that the required land supply is available to provide the medium to long term supply without causing undue delay to delivery during the Plan period.