

Framework



Barnoldswick Town Square



Welcome to Issue 56 of *Framework*, the newsletter that keeps you up to date with progress on the Local Plan and other planning policy matters in Pendle.

We are continuing to work 'behind the scenes' so that the final draft of the Pendle Local Plan Fourth Edition can be made available for public consultation this summer. We have taken the opportunity to update our Local Development Scheme (LDS) to show you the key dates for public engagement between now and adoption of the plan in 2025. In addition colleagues are running two important public consultations are taking place right now, which also address matters that will help to shape the future of Pendle.

Enhancing our natural environment

Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)

The word biodiversity comes from the term 'biological diversity'. It refers to the variety of all living organisms, including animals, insects, plants, bacteria and fungi.

BNG is an approach to development, and/or land management, that aims to provide improvements to the natural environment and drive nature recovery.

Almost all new development now needs to show how it will leave the natural environment in a measurably better state than it was beforehand.¹

As a minimum developers will be required to provide a 10% net gain for biodiversity. This will normally be achieved by delivering on-site habitat improvements as part of the development.

Off-site improvements or the purchasing of 'biodiversity credits' are other options that may be acceptable.

Biodiversity Duty

Attractive landscapes and the high-quality of our natural environment is one of Pendle's major attractions.

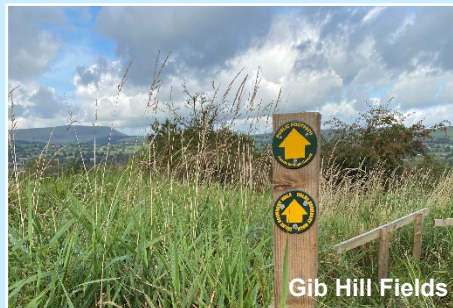
Large areas of open countryside and upland moors host rich and varied habitats, which support a wide range of plant and animal species.

Many of these habitats are protected by international, national, regional, or local designations. But elsewhere the

environment is under threat from new development.

Pendle Borough Council continues to own and manage large areas of land across the borough.

Our draft [Biodiversity Duty Report](#) was published in January 2024. It is the first consideration of the extent to which the Council, is meeting its commitment to further the general biodiversity objective, when exercising its functions.² It covers the five-year period from 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2028. Future updates will also have a base date of 1 January.



Notes

¹ On 12 February 2024 BNG became mandatory for major developments in England (i.e. those providing 10 or more dwellings, over 1,000 square metres of floorspace, or a site area of 0.5 hectares). From 2 April 2024 BNG will also be a requirement on smaller sites, although specific forms of development including household extensions and alterations are exempt.

² [Section 102 of the Environment Act 2021](#) states that the "general biodiversity objective" is the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity ... through the exercise of (an organisations) functions.

Pendle Local Plan

Our Local Development Scheme (LDS) is a rolling three-year work programme. It sets out the details, timescales, and arrangements for preparing the Pendle Local Plan and other planning policy documents.

The LDS helps local communities and other interested parties to keep track of the progress we are making on preparing new planning policy. It also shows when they can expect to be actively engaged or formally consulted.



Our review of the LDS timetable reflects:

- Completion of our assessment of the comments received in response to last year's public consultation on the draft Local Plan and the sites nominated as potential Local Green Space.
- Necessary changes to the Local Plan to address matters arising from an update of the [National Planning Policy Framework \(NPPF\)](#) on 19 December 2023.
- The timescales for obtaining updated evidence on economic viability, housing need, and flood risk prior to submission of the Local Plan to the Secretary of State for independent examination.

The draft LDS (8th Revision) will be [considered by the Council's Executive on Thursday 14 March 2024](#).

ISSUE 56 : February 2024



Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS)

[Local Nature Recovery Strategies \(LNRS\)](#) were established by the Environment Act 2021. They are locally led collaborative plans to drive nature recovery and provide wider environmental improvements.

Lancashire County Council is leading on the [preparation of the Lancashire LNRS](#), which will seek to:

- Agree priorities for nature's recovery
- Map the most valuable existing areas for nature
- Map specific proposals for creating or improving habitat for nature and wider environmental goals

The [public engagement survey is live](#) and will close on **31 March 2024**.

The survey should take between 10-15 minutes to complete.

An [interactive map](#) allows you to place your comments at the locations where:

- Nature matters to you
- You think nature recovery should be prioritised
- Local nature recovery projects are already underway.



This is a unique opportunity to share your experiences and views about our natural environment and the issues we must address now and those we will face in the future.

The information you provide will help to inform the development of the Lancashire LNRS.

How To Contact Us

John Halton

Principal Planning Officer (Policy)
01282 661330

Craig Barnes

Senior Planning Officer (Policy)
01282 661377

Neil Watson

Planning, Building Control and
Regulatory Services Manager
01282 661706

Pendle Council
Planning, Building Control and
Regulatory Services
Town Hall
Market Street
Nelson
BB9 7LG

E: planningpolicy@pendle.gov.uk

W: www.pendle.gov.uk/planning

Town Centre Masterplans

A long-term project to guide future regeneration of the town centres in Barnoldswick, Colne and Earby has reached a critical stage.

The project team, led by consultants Optimised Environments (OPEN), has published copies of the final draft Masterplans for comment.

Each Masterplan combines analysis of the latest published data with comments from the workshops held in October 2022 and Summer 2023 to address:

- Employment
- Retail
- Leisure
- Housing
- Healthcare
- Community Facilities

They also look at the measures we can take to promote active travel (e.g. walking and cycling), address climate change and protect the natural environment.

The Masterplans establish a vision and clear set of priorities for each town centre over the next 10-15 years.

This will make it easier for the Council and its partners to access funding when it becomes available.

The closing date for the receipt of comments on this stage of the public consultaion is **Monday 11 March 2024**.



You can comment on the Masterplan proposals by [completing one of our online surveys](#).

You can also write to:

Ryan Gifford
Senior Regeneration Officer
Economic Growth
Town Hall
Market Street
Nelson
BB9 7LG

E: economic.growth@pendle.gov.uk

Document Progress

This summary is based on our [Local Development Scheme \(LDS\)](#). It shows the stage we have reached in preparing new planning policy documents.

Development Plan Documents	
Bradley Area Action Plan	4
Core Strategy	4
Pendle Local Plan: Fourth Edition	2
Neighbourhood Plans	
Trawden Forest	4
Barrowford	4
Kelbrook and Sough	4
Colne	4
Supplementary Planning Documents	
Conservation Area Design Guidance	4
Design Principles	4
Open Countryside & AONB	-
Brierfield Canal Corridor	4
Brierfield Railway Street Neighbourhood	4

- 1 Plan preparation and evidence gathering. Includes informal discussion with key stakeholders and other interested parties.
- 2 Formal public consultation to consider the **first** draft of the Plan, which is then amended to reflect the comments received.
- 3 Formal public consultation to consider the **final** draft of the Plan. After the consultation the unaltered Plan and any comments received are subject to independent examination. This stage does **not** apply to Supplementary Planning Documents.
- 4 Document formally adopted by Pendle Council.

THE RTPI
PLANNING
AWARDS
2009
WINNER



For an alternative format of this document phone 01282 661330