

**REPORT FROM: HOUSING, HEALTH AND ENGINEERING SERVICES  
MANAGER**

**TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

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## **MASTERPLANS FOR COLNE, BARNOLDSWICK AND EARBY**

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To seek agreement to commission masterplans for Colne town centre, Barnoldswick and Earby.  
To agree Member representation to sit on the steering groups to oversee the masterplanning process.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Policy and Resources Committee:

- (1) Agree that masterplans are commissioned for Colne town centre, Barnoldswick and Earby.
- (2) Agree that:
  - i Three Members from the Colne and District Committee sit on the steering group to oversee the Colne masterplanning process.
  - ii Three Members from the West Craven Committee sit on the steering group to oversee the Earby/Barnoldswick masterplanning process.

### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- (1) To develop plans to support the future vitality and sustainability of these towns and to underpin future funding bids and investments.
- (2) To agree Member representation from Pendle Council on the steering groups.

### **Background**

1. The Council has recently secured funding through the One Public Estate (OPE) 8 programme to develop masterplans for Colne town centre, Barnoldswick and Earby. OPE is a national programme which has brought together public sector organisations to take a strategic

approach to asset management in order to support economic growth, transform service delivery and generate efficiencies.

2. Funding secured through OPE 7 enabled a masterplan to be developed for Nelson during 2020. Brierfield also has a '10 year vision' document which was agreed in 2016. Both of these documents have underpinned investment activity and bids for external funding within these towns, e.g. LEP funding, Town Deal, etc. There is now an opportunity to carry out a similar exercise in Colne, Barnoldswick and Earby to support the vitality and sustainability of these centres/towns in the future.

## Masterplans

3. The masterplans will enable the current challenges and opportunities presented by the changing economic climate and the changing nature of town centres to be considered in a coherent manner in the context of public sector reform.
4. Within Colne and the West Craven towns there are a number of publicly owned sites and buildings from which bodies such as Lancashire County Council (LCC), the Police, Pendle Council, the Town and Parish Councils and the NHS are delivering their services. Although Pendle Council has ongoing contact with public sector partners through the Lancashire Property Board and Pennine Lancashire Strategic Estates Group, it is intended to engage and consult much more widely with a range of stakeholders, businesses and residents as a part of the masterplan development process.
5. The masterplans will, amongst other things:
  - Assess the feasibility of key sites and buildings within Colne and the West Craven towns for re-development or re-purposing to provide opportunities for enhanced service delivery or new housing/employment opportunities.
  - Look in more detail at the challenges and at opportunities to further support and enhance the West Craven town centres and their feed into Colne town centre.
  - Build on the previous asset mapping and the aspirations of partner groups to explore opportunities for consolidation and development.
6. The masterplans will consider existing plans and strategies, including the draft Colne Neighbourhood Plan and the emerging Pendle Economic Strategy and COVID Recovery Plan.

## Steering groups

7. It is proposed that the development of the masterplans is overseen by two separate steering groups - one for Barnoldswick and Earby and another for Colne. The role of each steering group is to oversee progress and provide input and guidance for the development of the masterplans.
8. The steering groups will include representatives from a number of organisations / sectors as set out below.

Colne Masterplan Steering Group	
Organisation/representative	No of seats
Pendle Council / Colne Area Committee	3
Colne Town Council	2
Colne BID (Private Sector)	2
Lancashire County Council	1

<b>Earby / Barnoldswick Masterplan Steering Group</b>	
<b>Organisation/representative</b>	<b>No of seats</b>
Pendle Council / West Craven Area Committee	3
Barnoldswick Town Council	2
Earby Town Council	2
Private Sector (reps to be confirmed)	2 (1 from each town)
Lancashire County Council	1

9. Other key bodies and groups, e.g. health, police, community and voluntary sector, etc, will be engaged in the process as part of wider consultation and engagement work.

10. It is expected that consultants will be appointed to carry out the masterplanning work by late summer.

## **IMPLICATIONS**

**Policy:** None as a result of this report.

**Financial:** Funding of £70k has been secured through the OPE 8 programme to cover the costs of developing the masterplans. £14k of this funding has been awarded as a 'sustainable grant' which must be repaid within 3 years on the basis that the project is likely to unlock land/property receipts and/or savings. Returned funds are reinvested into new OPE priorities, helping to sustain the programme. Opportunities for other funding, to undertake feasibility studies on key sites that might be identified in the masterplans, are also being explored.

**Legal:** None as a result of this report.

**Risk Management:** None as a result of this report.

**Health and Safety:** None as a result of this report.

**Sustainability:** The masterplans will consider the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the towns.

**Community Safety:** None as a result of this report.

**Equality and Diversity:** None as a result of this report.

## **APPENDICES**

None

## **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None