

As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, services and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to a range of impacts. These include; equality, diversity, cohesion, health, community safety, sustainability, and resources.

This form:

- Can be used to prompt discussion when carrying out your impact assessment
- Should be completed during the assessment process
- Should include a brief explanation where a section is not applicable

Service Area: Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services	
Lead Person: John Halton	Contact number: 01282 661330
Date of Assessment: June 2024	

1. Title: Pendle Local Plan Fourth Edition
<p>Is this a:</p> <p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strategy <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/> Service <input type="checkbox"/> Function <input type="checkbox"/> Other </p>
<p>Is this:</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> New / proposed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Already exists and is being reviewed <input type="checkbox"/> Is changing </p> <p>(Please tick one of the above)</p>

2. Members of the assessment team:		
Name	Organisation	Role on assessment team (e.g. service user, manager of service, specialist)
John Halton	Pendle Borough Council Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services	Principal Planning Officer (Policy) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EqlA co-ordinator • Report author • Member of departmental equalities team
Neil Watson	Pendle Borough Council Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services	Planning & Building Control Manager <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appraisal of strategic objectives and policies • Equalities lead for planning
Craig Barnes	Pendle Borough Council Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services	Senior Planning Officer (Policy) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appraisal of strategic objectives and policies
Alex Cameron	Pendle Borough Council Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services	Principal Development Management Officer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appraisal of strategic objectives and policies • Member of departmental equalities team
Sarah Astin-Wood	Pendle Borough Council Housing and Environmental Health	Head of Policy and Commissioning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document review • Council lead on equalities

3. Summary of strategy, policy, service or function that was assessed:
<p>As the local planning authority, the Government requires Pendle Council to prepare a Local Plan.</p> <p>The Local Plan sets out a long-term spatial vision for the area and establishes the strategic direction for the Council's planning policies for up to 15 years from the date of adoption.</p> <p>The Local Plan is the key component in the statutory development plan, a set of documents that help to guide future growth and development in the borough, which are used by planning officers when determining applications for planning permission.</p> <p>All other planning policy documents, including any Neighbourhood Development Plans that are formally 'made', must be in general conformity with the strategic policies in the Local Plan.</p>

The first Pendle Local Plan was adopted by the Council in January 1999. This was superseded by the [Replacement Pendle Local Plan](#) (RPLP) in May 2006. The [saved policies from the RPLP](#) continue to be in effect alongside those in the [Pendle Core Strategy](#), which was adopted in December 2015.

The Core Strategy was intended to be the first part of a new two-part Local Plan. But at its meeting on 9 December 2021 the Council passed a motion to stop work on the Pendle Local Plan Part 2 and to start work on the preparation of a new single Local Plan.

The key role of the Local Plan is to promote sustainable development and growth. The Sustainability Appraisal [“SA”] Report, which accompanies the Local Plan, records the likely social, economic and environmental impacts of each policy. It also considers their cumulative impact against these three pillars of sustainable development. The SA Report addresses the EU requirement for Strategic Environmental Assessment [“SEA”], which has been transposed into UK law, albeit that [The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes \(Amendment\) Regulations 2020](#) has modified a number of requirements.

A comprehensive monitoring and delivery framework (Appendix 10) will help to assess the ongoing effectiveness of the [Pendle Local Plan Fourth Edition](#) [“the Local Plan”]. Annual monitoring will help to identify any inequalities, or other unforeseen consequences, arising from the day-to-day use of its policies and allow any failings to be addressed at the earliest opportunity.

4. Scope of the Service Impact Assessment

(Complete – 4a if you are assessing a strategy, policy or plan or 4b. if you are assessing a service, function or event)

4a. Strategy, policy or plan

(Please tick the appropriate box below)

The vision and themes, objectives or outcomes

☒

The vision and themes, objectives or outcomes and the supporting guidance

☐

A specific section within the strategy, policy or plan

☐

Please provide detail:

The [evidence base underpinning the Local Plan](#) identifies the borough’s development needs up to 2040. The policies and site allocations in the Local Plan establish the amount, type and location of development to meet these needs. Where appropriate the requirements of the Council’s other adopted strategies, action plans, proposals and programmes are reflected in the document, as are those of its partners.

The Local Plan seeks to establish a strategic direction for planning policy throughout the borough. Eleven key objectives provide the basis for delivering our shared vision for the future of Pendle.

To help deliver these objectives the Local Plan includes 12 strategic planning policies. Any [neighbourhood plans](#) that are published in Pendle should be in general conformity with these policies.

Arranged under the following headings, a further 47 development management policies and two site allocation policies, guide the day-to-day assessment of applications for planning permission.

- Spatial Strategy – *Directing Future Growth and Development*
- Environment – *Our Foundations for a Sustainable Future*
- Social – *Improving our prospects and quality of life*
- Economic – *Creating a dynamic and competitive economy*
- Site Allocations – *Locations for sustainable growth*

Full details of the key objectives and policies in the Local Plan can be found in Section 8 of this EqIA.

Each policy or site allocation has the potential to have a positive and/or negative impact on the lives of people living, working, or visiting the area. This equalities impact assessment (EqIA) helps to show that any potential inequalities have been identified and, where necessary, that the appropriate measures have been put in place to counter these.

4b. Service, function, event

(Please tick the appropriate box below)

The whole service
(including service provision and employment)

☒

A specific part of the service
(including service provision, or employment, or a specific section of the service)

☐

Procuring of a service
(by contract or grant)

☐

Please provide detail:

The Local Plan has implications for delivery across a number of Council services and those operated on its behalf by Liberata; notably planning, housing and environmental health, economic growth, operational services (parks and waste services) and property services.

5. Fact finding – what do we already know

Make a note here of all information you will be using to carry out this assessment. This could include: previous consultation, involvement, research, results from perception surveys, equality monitoring and customer/ staff feedback.

This should also include any mitigating circumstances that need to be documented as part of the assessment process

(Priority should be given to equality, diversity, cohesion, community safety and health related information)

The Local Plan is a statutory planning document, which the following legislation requires each local planning authority to prepare:

- [Town and Country Planning Act, 1990](#)
- [Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004](#)
- [Planning Act, 2008](#)
- [Town & Country Planning \(Local Planning\) \(England\) Regulations 2012, as amended](#)
- [Localism Act 2011](#)
- [Housing and Planning Act, 2016](#)
- [Levelling-up and Regeneration Act, 2023](#)

From the outset, the preparation of the Local Plan has involved pro-active engagement and formal public consultation with key stakeholders and members of the public. This has been carried out in accordance with [Regulation 18 of the Town & Country Planning \(Local Planning\) \(England\) Regulations 2012](#), as amended and the provisions set out in the Council's most recently adopted [Statement of Community Involvement](#) (SCI) and a more focussed Local Plan Engagement Strategy (2023). Key sources of published information include.

Published Sources of Information:

Published evidence has been used widely. The main sources of information used in plan-making are listed below.

- [Census](#) (Office for National Statistics), 2011 and 2021
- [Sub National Population Projections](#) (Office for National Statistics), various years
- [Household Projections for England 2018-based](#) (Office for National Statistics)
- [Local Statistics](#) (Office for National Statistics)
- [Neighbourhood Statistics](#) (NOMIS and Office for National Statistics)
- [Pendle Area Profiles](#) (Pendle Council), 2006, 2011, and 2015
- [Pendle Ward Profiles](#) (Lancashire County Council)
- [Pendle District Insight](#) (Lancashire County Council), updated on an ongoing basis

- Review of published strategies and action plans – internal and external stakeholders
- Review of best practice guidance (Planning Advisory Service, Town and Country Planning Association, Royal Town Planning Institute and other sources)

Empirical Research & Analysis

Bespoke evidence has been produced internally and by independent consultants appointed by the Council. The reports below are listed chronologically and have been formally approved by the Council's Executive, unless noted with an asterisk.

- [Lancashire Sub-Regional Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation and Related Services Assessment](#) (GTAA) (Salford Housing & Urban Studies Unit, University of Salford), May 2007
- [Pendle Biodiversity Audit](#) (Pendle Borough Council), September 2010
- [South Pennines Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Study](#) (Maslen Environmental), December 2010
- [Burnley and Pendle Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Accommodation Assessment](#) (Salford Housing & Urban Studies Unit, University of Salford), August 2012
- [Landscape Guidance for Wind Turbines Up to 60m High in the South and West Pennines](#) (Julie Martin Associates), January 2013
- [Burnley & Pendle Strategic Housing Market Assessment](#) (SHMA) (Nathanial Lichfield & Partners), December 2013
- [Pendle Employment Land Review](#) (Pendle Borough Council), September 2014
- [Strategic Employment Land Site Allocation](#) (Pendle Council), December 2013
- [Strategic Housing Land Site Allocation](#) (Pendle Council), December 2013
- Pendle Housing Needs Study Update (Nathaniel Lichfield & Partners), October 2014
- [Rossendale, Pendle and Burnley Playing Pitch Strategy, Action Plan and Assessment Report](#) (Knight, Kavanagh & Page), April 2016
- [Pendle Green Belt Assessment](#) (DLP Planning), September 2016
- Pendle Indoor Sports Review (Pendle Council), March 2017*
- Pendle Retail Thresholds Evidence Note (Pendle Council), October 2017*
- [Pendle Green Infrastructure Strategy](#) (LUC), January 2019
- [Pendle Open Space Audit](#) (Pendle Council), February 2019
- [Pendle Housing Needs Assessment](#) (Lichfields), March 2020
- [Local Plan Viability Assessment](#) (Lambert Smith Hampton), March 2020
- Pendle Borough SM2 Implications (Lichfields), June 2021
- [Pendle Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment](#) (JBA Consulting), October 2021
- [Pendle Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment](#) (SHLAA) (Pendle Borough Council), February 2023

- [Pendle Retail and Leisure Capacity Study](#) (Lichfields), March 2023
- [Pendle Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment](#) (HEDNA) (Iceni Projects), March 2023
- [Pendle Five-Year Housing Land Supply Statement](#) (Pendle Borough Council), November 2023
- [Pendle Sustainable Settlements Study](#) (Pendle Borough Council), November 2008 and January 2024 (update)
- Pendle Infrastructure Delivery Plan (Pendle Council), May 2024*
- Pendle HEDNA Sensitivity Analysis (Iceni Projects), May 2024*
- Pendle Level 2 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (JBA Consulting), September 2024*
- Local Plan Viability Assessment (TBC), September 2024*
- [Pendle Retail Occupancy Survey](#) (Pendle Borough Council), annually*

An annual review of planning policy and development management decisions, including figures for the take-up of housing, employment, retail and leisure land are set out in the [Authority Monitoring Report](#) (AMR).

Key Spatial Issues

This evidence has highlighted the following key issues for Pendle:

- It is estimated that between 2018 and 2043 the population of Pendle will increase by 4.1%. This is significantly lower than the 7.2% population rise predicted for Lancashire.
- It is estimated that between 2018 and 2043 the number of households will increase by 4,272 (11.1%).
- It is estimated that between 2018 and 2043 the average household size will fall from 2.36 persons to 2.22 persons. This reflects a significant projected rise in the number of single-person households
- Overall the population has an ageing profile with the percentage of people aged over 65 increasing from 29.5% in 2018 to 35.6% in 2043.
- There are fewer working age residents in Pendle considered to be ‘economically active’ compared to regional and national figures.
- The working age population is anticipated to reduce in size over the plan period. An agenda for economic growth, set out in the Local Plan, seeks to arrest this by supporting the growth and diversification of the local economy. In turn this will reduce worklessness and deprivation.
- There is a need to increase levels of educational attainment and skills within the workforce.
- There is a need to facilitate the regeneration of previously developed (Brownfield) land and improve access to new employment opportunities.

- There is a need to regenerate housing in our inner urban areas and improve the thermal efficiency of homes to help reduce levels of fuel poverty.
- There is a need to improve the health prospects of children and young people; in particular by reducing levels of childhood obesity.
- There is a need to address issues relating to community cohesion.
- There is a need to improve public transport, to improve connectivity both within and outside the borough.
- There is a need to improve the telecommunications network, in particular access to high-speed broadband within the rural areas.
- There is a need to protect the best examples of our natural and historic environment.

The primary focus for the spatial interventions outlined in the Local Plan can be grouped under the following four headings:

- To protect and enhance the built and natural environment, managing the causes and impacts of climate change.
- To deliver a range and mix of housing appropriate to the needs of the Borough.
- To create a strong and dynamic economy.
- To address our infrastructure requirements, creating sustainable urban and rural communities.

Are there any gaps in equality, diversity, cohesion, community safety and health information?

Please provide detail:

None identified.

Action required:

None identified.

6. Wider involvement – have you involved groups of people who are most likely to be affected or interested?

☒

Yes

☐

No

Please provide detail:

Consultation required in the production of a Local Plan is prescribed in the [Town & Country Planning \(Local Planning\) \(England\) Regulations 2012](#), as amended.

The Council's [Local Development Scheme](#) (LDS) – the eighth revision was adopted by the Council in March 2024 – includes a projected timeline for the production of documents to be included in the statutory Development Plan for Pendle.

The Council's [Statement of Community Involvement](#) (SCI) adopted in September 2022, sets out how and when the Council will engage with the local community and partner organisations at the key stages prescribed in The Regulations. It seeks to ensure that statutory consultees are properly consulted during the preparation of the Local Plan and that engagement with members of the public and other stakeholders takes place in an appropriate and timely manner, at key stages in the plan making process.

Informal engagement and consultation with key partners is front loaded but continues throughout the iterative plan-making process. In accordance with Regulation 18 the first draft of the Local Plan (the [Preferred Options Report](#)) was subject to formal public consultation over a period of not less than six weeks. This makes sure that the document adequately addresses those issues that are of paramount concern to local residents and those that visit on a regular basis for work, education, or recreation. This approach helps to ensure that our policy response is locally distinctive and reflects spatial variations.

Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement

The following list summarises the main stages where engagement and consultation with members of the public, statutory bodies and other key stakeholders has helped to shape the strategy, policies and site allocations set out in Local Plan Part 2.

- Internal Officer Working Group
- Elected Member Steering Group – Leaders of the Conservative, Labour, Liberal Democrats (one of whom will also be Leader of the Council) plus a second councillor from each party.
- Reports to quarterly Lancashire Development Plan Officer Group (DPOG) meetings and additional Duty to Cooperate meetings with neighbouring local authorities (as necessary)
- Meetings with key infrastructure providers – housing developers, transport, education and social care, environment, emergency services, health, minerals and waste and utilities
- Information placed on the Pendle Council website, with electronic forms providing the opportunity to comment online
- Engagement with statutory consultees and key stakeholders; including:
 - June to August 2022 – Public consultation to consider the [Local Plan Scoping Report](#) and [Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report](#).¹
 - June to August 2022 – Call for Sites sought to identify potential development sites and to areas of land that should be protected from future development because of its

¹ In England the Sustainability Appraisal process also addresses the EU requirement for the Strategic Environmental Assessment of plans.

importance for biodiversity, the historic environment, sport and recreation etc.

- June to August 2023 – Public consultation held in accordance with Regulation 18 to consider the ‘first draft’ of the Local Plan (known as the [Preferred Options Report](#)) and its supporting evidence. Its purpose was to provide members of the public and other interested parties with an opportunity to view the Council’s proposed development strategy up to 2040 and to recommend any changes to the options that had been chosen. The consultation period was extended beyond the statutory six-week minimum to take account of the fact that it was taking place during the summer holiday period. To facilitate online consultation events and engagement with teenage children a short video, explaining the purpose of the public consultation, produced and promoted via a campaign in the local press and on social media. It was also sent to local secondary schools for display on video screens in their reception areas. Advertisements and press releases drew attention to a series of online area-based events, with separate topic-based workshops held for key stakeholders. [A dedicated page on the Pendle Council website](#) included a link to the YouTube video, copies of the Local Plan and supporting evidence, and a representation form that could be completed online or downloaded and filled-in by hand.
- October to November 2023 – A six week public consultation to allow people to comment on the Council’s assessment of 55 sites put forward for formal designation as Local Green Space.

Before submitting the final draft of the Local Plan (known as the Pre-Submission Report) to the Secretary of State the Council must conduct a final statutory public consultation over a period of not less than six weeks, in accordance with Regulation 19.

The purpose of this consultation is not to recommend further changes to what the Council considers to be the ‘final draft’ of its plan. Instead representations are required to focus on the ‘soundness’ of the document, namely that it is:

- Positively prepared – represents an objective assessment of local development and infrastructure requirements.
- Justified – represents the most appropriate strategy, when considered against the reasonable alternatives.
- Effective – is deliverable over the 15 year plan period
- Consistent with national policy – as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

At this stage the accompanying Consultation Statement is a key focus of attention. This document sets-out details of:

- Who was notified in advance of the previous Regulation 18 public consultation.
- How they were contacted and encouraged to engage in the plan-making process.
- Any formal written representations submitted in response to the public consultation.
- How any comments received influenced changes to the first draft of the Local Plan.

As soon as practicable, after the close of the consultation, the ‘final draft’ of the Local Plan, any formal representations that have been received, and all supporting documents are submitted to the Secretary of State (Regulation 22), who will appoint an Inspector from the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) to conduct an independent examination of the Local Plan (Regulations 23 and 24).

All documents prepared by the Council, or commissioned from external organisations, accord with the requirements of the corporate style guide and web accessibility guidelines. We aim to use plain English wherever possible. Evidence base documents are often technical so, where appropriate, an Executive Summary is provided in plain English. A non-serif font (Arial, Calibri or Aptos) is used at a minimum font size of 11 point for the body text (strategy documents) and 10 point (leaflets, captions and table contents). All new documents as a minimum must meet Level AA of the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.1 to be displayed on the Pendle Council website. The ‘Just Ask’ logos and text are included on the front and/or back cover of documents to acknowledge that they can be made available in alternative formats and languages on request.

Action required:

Ensure that all consultation and public engagement exercises, associated with the preparation of the Local Plan, are carried out in accordance with the Regulations issued by the government, the provisions set out in the SCI, and comply with corporate guidelines.

7. Who may be affected by this activity?

(Please tick all relevant and significant equality characteristics, stakeholders and barriers that apply to your strategy, policy, service or function)

Equality Characteristics:

☒

Age

☐

Carers

☒

Disability

☐

Gender reassignment

☒

Race

☐

Religion or belief

☒

Sex (male or female)

☐

Sexual orientation

☐

Other (please specify)

(For example – marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, unemployment, residential location or family background, education or skills level)

Stakeholders:

☒

Service users

☐

Employees

☐

Trade Unions

☒

Partners

☒

Members

☐

Suppliers

☐

Other (Please specify)

Potential barriers:☒

Built environment

☒

Location of premises and services

☒

Information and communication

☐

Customer care

☒

Timing

☐

Stereotypes and assumptions

☒

Cost

☒

Consultation and involvement

☐

Specific barriers to the strategy, policy, services, or function

(Please specify)

8. Positive and negative impact

(Think about what you are assessing (scope), the fact finding information, the potential positive and negative impact on equality characteristics, health, cohesion, community safety, sustainability, stakeholders and the effect of the barriers)

Planning is concerned with ensuring that our built environment can function effectively and efficiently, seeking to overcome any barriers to equality wherever it is practical and viable to do so.

Infrastructure constraints, and adverse economic conditions, can affect the timely delivery of new development. The policy response in such circumstances is to phase the delivery of new development.

The objectives and policies in the Local Plan are set out below:

Local Plan objectives

- LP01 Establish a hierarchy of settlements to assist regeneration by directing growth to the most sustainable locations and promoting the re-use of existing buildings and Brownfield sites.
- LP02 Ensure that infrastructure capacity can support both new and existing development, thereby helping to create sustainable communities.
- LP03 Promote high-quality design in new buildings, streets and public spaces, to

create fully accessible, attractive and safe places to live, learn, work, play and visit.

- LP04 Respond to the causes and potential impacts of climate change through a process of prevention, mitigation and adaptation.
- LP05 Deliver quality housing that is both appropriate and affordable for current and future residents, contributing to the creation of a balanced housing market.
- LP06 Strengthen the resilience of the local economy by facilitating economic growth, particularly where it supports diversification and regeneration.
- LP07 Increase the choice, variety and quality of our retail and leisure offer by promoting uses that contribute to the creation of a well-balanced, safe and socially inclusive town centres.
- LP08 Reduce inequalities by ensuring that new community facilities and their services are accessible to all, and that new development promotes wider improvements to health and well-being.
- LP09 Protect, enhance and improve access to our green spaces, sport and recreation facilities improving health and wellbeing through the promotion of more active lifestyles; encouraging a greater appreciation of the enjoyment they provide and the valuable contribution that they make to biodiversity, landscape character, the local economy and carbon reduction.
- LP10 Ensure that new development respects our natural and historic environments by seeking to protect, maintain and enhance those sites and habitats (including their wider settings), which are highly valued for the positive contribution they make to the character of our landscape, townscape, or biodiversity.
- LP11 Deliver a safe, sustainable transport network that improves connectivity, reduces the need to travel by car, supports long-term growth and contributes to an improved environment.

Strategic planning policies

- SP01 Presumption in favour of sustainable development
- SP02 Spatial strategy
- SP03 Distribution of development
- SP04 Retail and town centre hierarchy
- SP05 Green Belt
- SP06 Towards net zero carbon
- SP07 Water management
- SP08 Natural environment
- SP09 Historic environment
- SP10 Healthy and vibrant communities

- SP11 Transport and connectivity
- SP12 Infrastructure and developer contributions

Development Management Policies

Environment

Addressing the climate emergency

- DM01 Climate change resilience
- DM02 (a) Flood risk
- DM02 (b) Surface Water and Foul Water Management
- DM03 Renewable heat and energy

Promoting biodiversity

- DM04 Biodiversity net gain
- DM05 Ecological networks
- DM06 Green infrastructure
- DM07: Trees and hedgerows
- DM08 South Pennine Moors

Protecting valued landscapes

- DM09 Open Countryside
- DM10 Landscape character
- DM11 Forest of Bowland National Landscape
- DM12 Local Green Space

Safeguarding the environment

- DM13 Environmental Protection
- DM14 Contaminated and unstable land
- DM15 Soils, Minerals and Waste

Enhancing the built environment

- DM16 Design and placemaking
- DM17 Advertising and commercial signage
- DM18 Heritage assets
- DM19 Leeds and Liverpool Canal corridor

Social

Building better homes

- DM20 Housing requirement and delivery

- DM21 Design and quality of housing
- DM22 Housing mix
- DM23 Affordable housing
- DM24 Residential extensions and alterations
- DM25 Residential conversions
- DM26 Housing in the countryside
- DM27 Self-build and custom housebuilding
- DM28 Specialist housing
- DM29 Gypsy, traveller and travelling showpeople community

Promoting health and well-being

- DM30 Healthy places and lifestyles
- DM31 Open space, sport and recreation
- DM32 Walking and cycling
- DM33 Hot food takeaways

Improving our quality of life

- DM34 Engaging the community
- DM35 Cultural and community facilities
- DM36 Education and training
- DM37 Parking
- DM38 Taxis
- DM39 Digital and electronic communications

Economic

Supporting a dynamic and competitive economy

- DM40 Employment land requirement and delivery
- DM41 Protected Employment Areas

Creating a vibrant and viable retail experience

- DM42 Vibrant town centres
- DM43 Mixed-use development
- DM44 Out-of-centre retail and commercial development

Attracting visitors

- DM45 Tourist facilities and accommodation
- DM46 Equestrian development

Site Allocations

Locations for sustainable development and growth

- AL01 Housing site allocations
- AL02 Employment site allocations

The following table assesses each of the policies in the Part 2 Local Plan against the eight equality strands recognised by the Government. Where a potential impact has been identified a comment is provided at the end of the table. The potential impacts are rated as:



Positive



Adverse



Neutral / No impact



Mixed / Unknown

Local Plan Objective / Policy	Equality Strands and Protected Characteristics								
	Age	Disability	Gender Reassignment	Marriage & Civil Partnership	Pregnancy & Maternity	Race	Religion or belief	Sex	Sexual Orientation
LP01	O	?	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
LP02	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
LP03	+	+	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
LP04	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
LP05	+	+	O	O	O	+	O	O	O
LP06	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
LP07	+	+	O	O	+	O	O	O	O
LP08	+	+	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
LP09	+	+	O	O	+	O	O	O	O
LP10	O	?	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
LP11	+	+	O	O	+	O	O	O	O
SP01	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
SP02	+	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
SP03	+	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
SP04	+	+	O	O	+	O	O	O	O
SP05	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
SP06	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
SP07	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
SP08	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
SP09	O	?	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
SP10	+	+	O	O	O	O	O	O	O

Local Plan Objective / Policy	Equality Strands and Protected Characteristics								
	Age	Disability	Gender Reassignment	Marriage & Civil Partnership	Pregnancy & Maternity	Race	Religion or belief	Sex	Sexual Orientation
SP11	+	+	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
SP12	+	+	O	O	+	O	O	O	O
DM01	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
DM02(a)	O	+	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
DM02(b)	O	+	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
DM03	+	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
DM04	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
DM05	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
DM06	+	+	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
DM07	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
DM08	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
DM09	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
DM10	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
DM11	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
DM12	+	+	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
DM13	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
DM14	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
DM15	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
DM16	+	+	O	O	+	O	O	O	O
DM17	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
DM18	O	?	O	O	O	O	O	O	O

Local Plan Objective / Policy	Equality Strands and Protected Characteristics								
	Age	Disability	Gender Reassignment	Marriage & Civil Partnership	Pregnancy & Maternity	Race	Religion or belief	Sex	Sexual Orientation
DM40	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
DM41	+	+	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
DM42	+	+	O	O	+	O	O	O	O
DM43	+	+	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
DM44	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
DM45	O	+	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
DM46	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
AL01	+	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O
AL02	+	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O

8a. Positive impact:

The Local Plan, as evidenced by the accompanying Sustainability Appraisal, represents what is considered to be an appropriate strategic response to the key spatial issues facing the borough, having taken into consideration the economic, social and environmental impacts of any appropriate alternatives that have been identified, including any cumulative impacts.

Environmental

The plan includes a wide range of policies, which seek to avoid the possibility of development causing harm to our natural and historic environment – notably strategic policies **SP02, SP05, SP08, SP09** and development management policies **DM01-DM19 inclusive**.

Economic

A key role of the Local Plan is to promote future growth and development, which helps to meet our needs for employment, retailing, and leisure in a sustainable way.

- Local Plan Objectives **LP07 and LP08** together with policies **SP04, DM42 and DM43** seek to provide an appropriate mix of town centre, insofar as new Use Class E permits this. Together with an attractive public realm that is accessible to all members of our community this will help to improve the viability, vitality and vibrancy of our town and local shopping centres at a time when traditional retail uses are in decline in these central locations.
- Policy **DM41** resists inappropriate development in those employment areas that are best placed to support economic growth and meet our future employment needs in a sustainable manner. Protecting employment areas close to our most deprived communities, reduces the need to travel to work by and makes a valuable contribution to reducing levels of worklessness.
- Sites that address the residual need for employment land set-out in Policy WRK2 of the Core Strategy (2015) are allocated through Policy **AL02**. The shortfall in supply is predominantly within the West Craven area. the diversification of the local economy, helping to provide higher quality, better paid and more secure employment.
- Policies **DM45** and **DM46** support investment in tourism leisure and culture; including, where appropriate, small-scale sustainable development proposals in rural areas.

Social

The policies in the Local Plan are also an important vehicle for delivering wider social benefits. The focus here is on the delivery of new and better homes and addressing specific community needs. These have positive outcomes principally in terms of age, disability but to a lesser extent for pregnancy and maternity, and race.

(a) Housing

- Local Plan Objective **LP05** seeks to deliver affordable housing that is appropriate to local needs. To help overcome levels of overcrowding, which are highest amongst the Asian heritage element of the local population, it promotes the provision of larger homes.
- Policies **DM21-DM29** seek to deliver good quality homes that are both appropriate and affordable thereby helping to reduce levels of homelessness and fuel poverty. In turn this will help to improve the health and well-being of local residents.
- Policy **DM20** seeks to deliver sufficient housing to meet the borough's identified needs. With evidence of an ageing population over the plan period a key priority is to deliver more adaptable and supported housing to promote independent living, which will have a positive outcome in terms of both age and disability.
- Policy **DM21** promotes beautiful and well-designed homes. It also encourages compliance with the highest possible standards of design in order to secure the provision of accessible, adaptable and energy efficient homes.
- Policy **DM23** supports the provision of affordable homes in new housing developments, so that young people, particularly in rural areas, are able to take their first step onto the housing ladder and, where possible, remain within the community where they have been brought-up.
- Policy **DM24** recognises that residential extensions and alterations (e.g. the provision of dormers) may also be an appropriate way in which to address the issue of overcrowding (see LP05 above) and meet the housing needs of the BME community in an acceptable and cost effective manner.
- Policies **DM27** and **DM28** address the provision of homes that meet specific local needs, including custom and self-build projects (Policy DM27); communal housing (Policy DM28).
- Policy **DM29** addresses the accommodation requirements of a specific element of the local community, although evidence shows that the principal areas of demand are within the neighbouring authorities of Hyndburn and to a lesser extent Burnley and Blackburn.
- Policy **AL01** allocates specific sites to deliver sufficient homes where they are most needed (Policy LIV7) or to come forward should annual monitoring reveal that the delivery of new homes, or the supply of sites for housing, has fallen below the levels required to meet our housing needs in full by the end of the plan period.

(b) Community

- Local Plan Objective **LP11** promotes sustainable and active travel to help promote accessible forms of transport (buses and taxis), which facilitate increased mobility for older and disabled people. Further support for these objectives is provided through Policies **SP11** and **SP12**.
- Local Plan Objective **LP09** supports the provision of accessible infrastructure, with Policy **DM35** seeking to ensure that the facilities that are important to local communities are retained wherever practicable. **Policy DM06** focuses on green infrastructure, open space, and recreation, whilst accessible tourism facilities are facilitated through Policy **DM54**.
- Policy **SP10** seeks to promote healthy lifestyles. It links to a large number of other policies within the Plan.
- Policy **DM33** specifically contributes to reducing high levels of childhood obesity by resisting the opening of hot-food takeaways outside town centres, where these are close to facilities frequented by young people.

Action required:

Through the Development Management process seek to approve new developments that address identified local needs and help to meet the aspirations of local residents. Support sustainable development and growth, by taking decisions that are in accordance with the spatial policies set out in the Local Plan and any neighbourhood plans that are subsequently adopted.

8b. Negative impact:

Developing a balanced strategy inevitably requires compromises to be made. The integration of EqIA into document and policy preparation ensures that any potentially negative impacts on equality and diversity are highlighted at any early stage, so that action can be taken to overcome, or minimise, their effects.

None of the policies in the Local Plan are considered to have an adverse impact on the nine protected characteristics.

The potential for a mixed impact has been recorded against age and disability for Local Plan objectives **LP01**, which promotes the re-use of existing buildings and **LP10**, which seeks to protect our historic environment and Policies **SP09** and **DM18**, which consider the historic environment and heritage assets in greater detail. This recognises that in certain circumstances the importance of the historic environment may take precedence over any adaptations to improve its functionality. In particular, protecting the fabric of buildings of architectural and/or historic interest may restrict the scope for providing reasonable levels of accessibility.

An uncertain impact has been assigned to Policy **DM19** in respect of age and disability. This policy takes a strategic approach to the protection of the historic environment associated with the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, so overall the positive outcomes of the policy should outweigh any potentially negative impacts associated with specific development proposals.

Action required:

Government legislation and the relevant design policies for housing, places of employment, public buildings and the public realm support the provision of fully accessible buildings and spaces, requiring all reasonable alternatives to be explored.

All applications for Listed Building Consent must be accompanied by a Design and Access Statement. This is a short report showing how the design process has assessed the special architectural or historic interest of the listed building and explaining the principles adopted to preserve or enhance that special interest. Where an aspect of the design has the potential to affect this adversely, the statement is required to explain why this is necessary, and what measures have been taken to minimise its impact.

If the proposed works include alterations to provide facilities for people with disabilities, the statement should explain how the proposal balances the duties imposed by the Equality Act 2010 and the protection of the building's special architectural or historic interest. It should set out the range of options considered, including any alternative means of providing services or physical access.

9. Will this activity promote strong and positive relationships between the groups / communities identified?



Yes



No

Please provide detail:

The objectives and policies in the Local Plan seek to create a high quality and accessible built environment that seeks to advance equality of opportunity between people, and encourages positive interaction, thereby helping to build sustainable and confident communities.

Action required:

No further action required.

10. Does this activity bring groups / communities into increased contact with each other?

(e.g. in schools, neighbourhood, workplace)

☒

Yes

☐

No

Please provide detail:

The consultation process for the Local Plan has been fully inclusive.

To help avoid the possibility of people feeling marginalised or excluded from the plan-making process, every effort has been made to ensure that all groups have had an equal opportunity to participate. Fundamental to this is the compilation and maintenance of a consultee database – including details of hard-to-reach groups – to ensure that all interested parties receive advance notifications of key events. In person sessions focussed on engagement or consultation are held in the morning, afternoon and evening, and on different days of the week, to help ensure that everyone can attend at least one session. Events are hosted in venues that are central to the community in which they are taking place and fully accessible. Online events, having proved extremely popular during the COVID-19 pandemic, remain an integral part of the engagement process.

Within the document several policies contribute directly to fostering improved relationships within the community.

- Inclusive and high quality design within the public realm aims to increase its use by members of the community and help to promote positive interaction.
- Essential services and facilities and new employment opportunities are encouraged to locate within a short walking distance of people's homes or to be easily accessible by public transport, helping to advance equality of opportunity.
- Where possible, new housing developments are required include different sizes and types of home that are tenure blind at a mix of densities, again encouraging positive interaction between people in order to help build sustainable and confident communities.

Action required:

No further action required.

11. Could this activity be perceived as benefiting one group at the expense of another?

☒

Yes

☐

No

Please provide detail:

Although it promotes regeneration and is often the most sustainable option, focussing

development in the M65 Corridor may be to the detriment of people in rural areas and the peripheral West Craven towns.

Action required:

All policies undergo a thorough and independent sustainability appraisal using a toolkit prepared by our consultants Wood plc (2007) as the basis for their assessment. This helps to achieve consistency, ensuring that the chosen policy response is the most appropriate given the need to balance the economic, social and environmental objectives of the strategy.

The rural proofing of policies is an integral part of the policy writing process, rather than a stand alone assessment on completion of the strategy.

This approach ensures that any potential impacts that could result in unlawful discrimination or harassment are identified and eliminated at an early stage.

12. Could this activity be perceived as benefiting the health of any one group?

☐

Yes

☒

No

Please provide detail:

N/A

Action required:

N/A

13. Could this activity be perceived as enhancing or creating community safety issues?

☒

Yes

☐

No

Please provide detail:

Enhancing community safety is a key objective for policies addressing the public realm and the design of new premises.

Local Plan objectives LP03 (Design) and LP07 (Town Centres) and Policy DM16 (Design and Place-making) in particular seek to promote high quality design that helps to reduce the potential for criminal activity. Even though crime figures have fallen in Pendle, public

perceptions about the fear of crime remain a concern. Good design in the public realm, particularly in and around town centres where a more inclusive night-time economy is being promoted, can help to make a significant contribution towards reducing the fear of crime.

Action required:

Development Management officers to ensure compliance with policy requirements that seek to maintain low crime levels.

14. Could this activity be perceived as benefiting one location at the expense of another?
(e.g. location of service users / staff etc. – rural / urban)

☒

Yes

☐

No

Please provide detail:

Although it is often the most sustainable option, focussing development in the M65 Corridor may be to the detriment of people in rural areas and the peripheral West Craven towns.

Action required:

All policies undergo a thorough and independent sustainability appraisal, using a template prepared by our consultants Wood plc (2007), to ensure that they represent the best balance between the economic, social and environmental objectives, and therefore represent the most appropriate policy response. Policies are also 'rural proofed' as a matter of course.

15. Are there mitigating circumstances that should be taken into account when making this decision?

☒

Yes

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No

Please provide detail:

The requirements for public consultation in plan-making are prescribed in the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, as amended. The Local Plan is also subject to independent examination. The relevant stages are as follows:

- Regulation 18: Issues and Options – Informal engagement with key stakeholders and members of the public.
- Regulation 18: Preferred Options – A formal six week public consultation to allow for comments on the council's preferred strategy and policy options. This was extended to eight weeks as it took place during the summer holiday period in 2023.
- Regulations 19: Publication – A formal six-week public consultation on the 'soundness' of the Local Plan – is it justified, reasonable, effective and in conformity with national policy.
- Regulation 22 – Formal submission of the final draft of the Local Plan, any supporting documents, and all the representations received in response to the Regulation 19 public consultation to the Secretary of State (SoS). The SoS will appoint an inspector from the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) to conduct an examination of the Local Plan.
- Regulations 23 & 24: Examination by an independent inspector.
- Regulation 26: Adoption – The Local Plan, incorporating any changes recommended by the Inspector (known as Main Modifications) is adopted by the Council. There is an eight-week period, following on from the date of adoption, whereby a person wishing to challenge the

validity of the Council's decision may do so by way of judicial review.

Further information on consultation carried out in the preparation of the Local Plan can be found in Section 6.

Action required:

All representations received are carefully considered by officers in the planning policy team. Their comments and recommended changes are then considered by officer and member steering groups before being submitted to the Council's Executive and, where appropriate, Full Council for their formal approval.

16. Service Impact Assessment action plan

(Insert all your actions from your assessment here, set timescales, measures and identify a lead person for each action)

Action	Timescale	Measure	Lead person
Section 5: Ensure that the document is built on a robust and credible evidence base.	Ongoing	Review agreed indicators Commission new studies and update existing documents, as required.	Principal Planning Officer (Policy)
Section 5: Develop a monitoring framework to ensure that policies are effective and deliverable.	Ongoing	Review agreed indicators in the Annual Monitoring Report and report to Executive.	Senior Planning Officer (Policy)
Sections 6, 9, 10 & 15: Engage and empower communities through timely public consultation to ensure that development meets the needs of local residents and businesses.	Ongoing	Carry out all public consultations and engagement in accordance with planning regulations and the Council's policy on community engagement. Full details of the informal public engagement and formal public consultation carried out at each stage of the plan-making process are set out in the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). The latest version of the SCI was adopted by Pendle Council in September 2022. This incorporates	Principal Planning Officer (Policy)

		improvements, particularly for online events, which came out of the COVID-19 pandemic.	
Section 6: Provide regular updates on progress to partner organisations and members of the public staff.	Quarterly	Publish 4-6 issues of our planning policy newsletter <i>Framework</i> each year.	Principal Planning Officer (Policy)
	Ongoing	Update pages on the Council website, as necessary.	Senior Planning Officer (Policy) and Planning Technician
	Ad hoc	Hold meetings with officer and member steering groups at key points in the plan-making process.	Principal Planning Officer (Policy)
Sections 6, 8 & 14 Identify any adaptation or mitigation measures required, to make policy more effective and/or avoid spatial inequalities.	Key stages in the preparation of the document (1-3)	Document preparation: (1) Feedback from public consultations (2) Sustainability Appraisal – the toolkit prepared by consultants Wood plc is used to identify the positive and negative outcomes of a policy. (3) Habitat Regulations Assessment – determines the potential impact of policies in order to protect the integrity of internationally important ecological sites.	Principal Planning Officer (Policy) Senior Planning Officer (Policy) Principal Planning Officer (Policy)
		Annually Policy implementation: (1) Authority Monitoring Report – records how planning policies have been used in Development Management decisions in the preceding year	Senior Planning Officer (Policy)

		and measures performance against agreed targets	
Sections 6, 8 & 11 Provide feedback on consultation outcomes and set out the Council's rationale for change where applicable.	Submission stage	<p>The Town & Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 require a Consultation Statement summarising the Regulation 19 public consultation to be submitted to the Secretary of State alongside the Local Plan.</p> <p>Although not required by the regulations, a Consultation Statement was also published at the Preferred Options stage. This sets out details of the formal public consultation carried out in accordance with Regulation 18. It also provides an officer response to each of the representations received and shows consultees how the draft Local Plan was amended to reflect their comments, where necessary.</p> <p>This document is made available on the Council's website and at Council Shops and public libraries throughout Pendle.</p>	Principal Planning Officer (Policy)
Section 13 Ensure policies make a positive contribution towards "creating safer communities where people feel safe and crime continues to fall".	Ongoing	Assess policies against Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Strategy 2022-25 targets	Principal Planning Officer (Policy) Head of Policy and Commissioning

17. Governance, ownership and approval

(State here who has approved the actions and outcomes from the Service Impact Assessment)

Name	Job Title	Date
Neil Watson	Assistant Director: Planning, Building Control and Regulatory Services	

18. Monitoring progress for Service Impact actions.

(Please tick)

- ☒ Review through Corporate Equality Steering Group
- ☒ Updates will be agreed by Service Manager and sent to the Equalities lead
- ☐ Other (Please specify)

19. Publishing

Date sent to Equality Lead:	
Date published:	