

Report to:	COUNCIL
Relevant Officer:	Alan Cavill, Director of Place
Relevant Cabinet Member:	Councillor Gillian Campbell, Deputy Leader of the Council (Tourism, Economic Growth and Jobs)
Date of Meeting:	20 January 2016

BLACKPOOL LOCAL PLAN PART 1: CORE STRATEGY - ADOPTION

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To consider the recommendation of the Executive from its meeting on 18 January 2016 relating to the adoption of the Core Strategy.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

The Executive will be recommended to recommend to Council:

- 2.1 To accept the Inspector's findings and his recommendations and adopt the Blackpool Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy with the Main Modifications recommended by the Inspector as set out in Appendix 2(a) (ii) and with the additional (minor) modifications to the Core Strategy set out in Appendix 2(b) and the amended Policies Maps at Appendix 2(c) (ii) on the Executive agenda.
- 2.2 To authorise the Chief Executive to undertake the necessary steps for the adoption process to be completed.
- 2.3 To authorise the Director of Place to make any final modifications to improve readability and the final presentation of the document, and to correct any factual matters or typographical errors.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 To progress Blackpool Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy, which forms part of the statutory planning framework, to adoption to support Blackpool's future regeneration and growth.

- 3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No, If the Local Plan is approved it will become the new Planning Policy document
- 3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

The earlier Issues and Options document set out a range of alternative strategic development options, which have been considered in detail. The Preferred Options document April 2010 also highlighted alternatives where appropriate on certain key issues.

4.0 Council Priority:

- 4.1 The relevant Council priority is "Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience".

The relevant Council Priorities are:

- "The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool"
- "Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience"

5.0 Background Information

- 5.1 The Council is now at the Adoption Stage in the plan making process and the Executive at its meeting on 18 January will consider the Inspector's Report and his recommendations (Appendix 2a of the Executive report).

- 5.2 The Core Strategy is a key document, which forms part of the statutory planning framework for Blackpool, which will facilitate the physical, economic and social change and is seen by the Council and its partners as essential to Blackpool's future. It sets out where new development including housing and employment, retail and leisure should be located to meet Blackpool's future needs to 2027; identifies areas which will be regenerated, protected or enhanced; and sets out key development principles such as for design and affordable housing. The Core Strategy will be used to determine planning applications and priorities for the Borough over the next 12 years.

- 5.3 In developing the Core Strategy there were a number of stages that the Council were required to go through, each stage provided an opportunity for the community and other stakeholders to be involved in choosing the right planning policies for Blackpool.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

List of Appendices:

Executive Decision Notice EX01/2016 – to be circulated after the meeting of the Executive on 18 January 2016.

A copy of the supporting documentation to this decision notice was submitted with the agenda for the Executive and can be found on the [Council's website](#).

6.0 Legal considerations:

- 6.1 The Core Strategy, when adopted by the Council, will be the key strategic spatial document forming part of the Council's statutory Local Plan. It would appear given the report of the Planning Inspector that the Core Strategy incorporating the modifications outlined in this report satisfies the requirements of Section 20(5) of the 2004 Act and therefore meets the criteria for soundness in the National Planning Policy Framework.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

- 7.1 The Core Strategy has been resourced by existing staff within the Development Plans and Projects Team.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

- 8.1 An Equalities Assessment has been undertaken during the preparation of the Core Strategy.

9.0 Financial considerations:

- 9.1 The work has been undertaken within existing budgetary provisions.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

- 10.1 The Core Strategy is the key document, which will provide the statutory planning framework to enable and assist the delivery of Blackpool's future development requirements. Without its progress acquisition, land assembly and planning approval for key regeneration and development projects will be undermined and delayed. In

addition with the publication of the National Planning Framework in March 2012 there is an imperative to progress the Core Strategy through to adoption as quickly as possible to ensure the Council has a planning framework that is directing development within the Borough which reflects the community and elected members priorities and needs and to avoid national policy being the principle basis for making decisions. The latter could lead to an increase in appeals if applications are received proposing development, which is not in line with the priorities and needs of Blackpool.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 Extensive consultation has taken place during the preparation of the Core Strategy as referred in paragraph 5.3 of this report. The outcome of the consultations has informed subsequent iterations of the Strategy.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 There are no additional background papers to this report.