

Report to:	COUNCIL
Relevant Officer:	Steve Matthews, Head of Planning and Strategic Housing
Relevant Cabinet Member	Councillor Fred Jackson, Urban Regeneration
Date of Meeting	25 th June 2014

BLACKPOOL LOCAL PLAN PART 1: CORE STRATEGY - PROPOSED SUBMISSION VERSION JUNE 2014

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 This report relates to the Blackpool Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy - Proposed Submission version (Proposed Submission Core Strategy) together with the necessary supporting documents, including amendments to the Policies Map, Statement of Consultation, Sustainability Appraisal, Habitats Regulation Assessment and the Draft Statement of Compliance with the Duty to Cooperate.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 That Council agrees:

(1) To approve the Proposed Submission Core Strategy (Appendix 2a Part to the Executive report) including the evidence base listed in the plan; amendments to the Policies Map (Appendix 2a Part 1 of the Executive report); Statement of Consultation (Appendix 2c Part 1 of the Executive report) including the responses to the representations received to the Revised Preferred Option (May 2012); Sustainability Appraisal (Appendix 2d Part 1 of the Executive report) and Habitats Regulation Assessment (Appendix 2e of the Executive report) for publication and subsequent submission to the Secretary of State;

(2); That should the person appointed to carry out the examination consider that the circumstances are as described in s20(7B) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, to formally request that s/he recommend any necessary modifications to the Plan to make the Plan satisfy the appropriate requirements and sound, pursuant to section 20 (7C) of the 2004 Act;

(3) That the Head of Planning and Strategic Housing, after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Urban Regeneration, be given delegated authority to propose

minor amendments to improve the clarity of the documentation referred to under recommendation (1) and which do not alter the substance of the document when submitting the Plan to the Secretary of State (these amendments will be highlighted) and during the Examination process;

(4) To approve the draft Statement of Compliance (Appendix 2j to the Executive report) for consultation alongside publication of the Proposed Submission Core Strategy; that the Head of Planning and Strategic Housing, after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Urban Regeneration, be given delegated authority to make any amendments to the Statement of Compliance where necessary in response to representations received; and to publish the final version as an evidence base document to the Core Strategy;

(5) To agree that the Proposed Submission Core Strategy housing requirement figure (set out in Policy CS2) be used to calculate the five-year housing land supply pending adoption of the Core Strategy.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To progress the preparation of the statutory planning framework 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? Yes, this will form the new Core Strategy

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? No

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

As part of the requirements of plan preparation a range of alternative strategic development options have been considered in detail at various preparation stages of the Core Strategy. The Proposed Submission Core Strategy represents the preferred option arising from this process.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priorities are

- Attract sustainable investment and create quality jobs
- Encourage responsible entrepreneurship for the benefit of our communities
- Improve housing standards and the environment we live in by using housing

investment to create stable communities

5.0 Background Information

5.1 The Core Strategy is a key planning document for Blackpool. 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 design and affordable housing. The Core Strategy when formalised will be used to determine planning applications within the Borough.

5.2 If approved, representations will be invited on the Proposed Submission Core Strategy during an 8 week consultation period, after which the Core Strategy and supporting documents will be submitted to the Secretary of State for Examination.

5.3 The Executive considered this report at its meeting on Monday 16th June and recommended Council accordingly. A copy of the decision notice from that meeting is attached at Appendix 9(a). A copy of the supporting documentation to this decision notice was submitted with the agenda for the Executive. Further copies can be obtained from the Democratic Services department on 01253 477034.

5.4 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

5.13 **List of Appendices:**
Executive decision notice at Appendix 9(a)

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 The Core Strategy when adopted will be the key strategic spatial document forming part of the Council's statutory Local Plan.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 The Core Strategy is being resourced by staff within the Development Plans and Projects Team.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 An Equality Analysis has been prepared to ensure the Council meets the legal

obligation of the Equality Act 2010, taking into account all relevant and appropriate equality considerations. This document was included in the report to the Executive.

9.0 Financial considerations:

- 9.1 The work is being undertaken within existing budgetary provisions, including the independent Core Strategy examination by the Secretary of State during 2015.

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 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

- 11.1 Extensive consultation has taken place on the progression of the Core Strategy to date. Previous key consultations have involved the Issues and Options (2008); Preferred Option (2010) and Revised Preferred Option (2012) stages.

12.0 Background papers:

- 12.1 None