



Shaping our future



SOUTH LAKELAND LOCAL PLAN 2040

Shaping our Future:

South Lakeland Local Plan 2040: Issues and Options Consultation

Think of planning and you might think of complicated rules and red tape, but planning is about the future and future generations, it's about people and communities and it's about all of us working together to make sure that:

“The right building and development, of the right design and quality, happens in the right place, and the impact of any new development is well managed.”

We do this by preparing a **Local Plan**, which carefully considers the housing and the economic growth that our area needs to continue to thrive, while also protecting our local and historic character and special landscapes and environment.

The Local Plan allocates sites for housing and other developments, such as new employment sites. It also contains the policies that we use to decide whether to grant planning permissions for new development. Please note the South Lakeland Local Plan only applies to the parts of the district outside the National Parks. The National Parks have their own Local Plans.

The Local Plan doesn't just set out rules – it seeks to make our area better, for example by **reducing the environmental impact of new development**, building **affordable housing**, **helping our wildlife**, **reducing flood risk**, and **improving our infrastructure** such as roads and cycleways.

Help us to plan for the future

We need to **regularly review our Local Plan** to make sure it continues to meet the challenges facing our area. In particular we need to ensure that it helps deliver the Council's strong commitment to action on climate change and biodiversity.

Our review will include our overall plan for development to 2040, site allocations and policies used for deciding planning applications. It will not include the detailed policies and sites in our Arnsdale and Silverdale AONB Local Plan, which will be reviewed at a later date.

We hope that anyone who cares about the future of our area will want to be involved. It's important that we speak to as many people as possible to understand their point of view. See the end of this leaflet to find out how to get involved.

We want the Local Plan to be **everyone's plan** for the future of South Lakeland – not just the Council's plan.

We want you to think about not just the here and now, but what is best for the future of the area – the things that your children or grandchildren will want from future development. The Local Plan will look ahead to 2040 so it's a long term plan for the development of the area.

What is the Issues and Options Consultation?

We started **reviewing our Local Plan** in early 2020. We asked people how they saw the future of South Lakeland, what they thought was important in planning for the next 20 years and which parts of our Local Plan needed to change.

Building on what people told us during this very early consultation, and further research we have undertaken, we're now at what we call the **'Issues and Options'** stage. We're still at an **early stage of the review** and need your views before the draft plan is drawn up. So **everything in the Issues and Options report is for discussion and nothing is decided.**

At this stage we present some of the key issues in planning for future development in South Lakeland. We set out a number of options and approaches on how the new Local Plan might address the issues and ask your views on them.

For example we set out **options for how new development might respond to the climate crisis**, and options for **how many homes we think need to be built**, and options for **managing change in our town centres** and helping them adapt to changes.

The plan has to deal with many different issues and there are many choices to make. To make it easier to understand, we've split the main Issues and Options report into a number of chapters covering different topics or 'themes'. It's important to note that the topics are all linked together and some issues such as climate change run all through the document.

Local Plan Themes





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What Issues are we looking at in the consultation document?

We're looking at a wide range of issues under the following themes. For each issue we set out possible policy 'options' or 'approaches' for dealing with the issue, which we are seeking your views on in the Issues and Options consultation document.

Tackling Climate Change

We want your views on how development can play its part in helping South Lakeland become carbon neutral by 2037. This includes looking at the energy efficiency and construction standards of new buildings, and our approach to supporting renewable energy developments (e.g. wind turbines and solar panels).

Development Strategy

We want your views on how new development should be shared out across our towns and villages. We're also looking at what factors we'll consider when we start to select new development sites to help meet housing and employment needs up to 2040.

Some sites were suggested to us in summer 2020 through our 'Call for Sites' and we're inviting further site suggestions now. We will assess these to see if any are suitable to include in the Local Plan and will consult on preferred sites in 2022 in our draft Local Plan.

Thriving Market Towns, Villages and Rural Areas

We're looking at the issues and opportunities in each of our main towns and larger villages, and want your views on how you would like your town or village to change over the next 20 years. We are also considering broad options for how our key service centres might develop in future, including seeking views on some possible 'directions of growth'.

Healthy People and Communities

We're looking at how new development can help ensure we are able to live active, healthy and safe lives. For example by providing safe walking and cycling routes and green spaces for people and nature.

Meeting Housing Needs

We want your views on how many new homes should be built each year in South Lakeland, what types of homes should be built and how much and what types of affordable homes we should require developers to build on new housing sites.

Supporting a Sustainable Economy

We want your views on how the Local Plan can help support the local economy and how it can help deliver new sites for businesses to help create more local and higher paid jobs. We also want to hear your thoughts on how we can help our town centres adapt and thrive.

Greener Travel, Transport and Infrastructure Delivery

We're looking at how we can ensure new developments are supported by the infrastructure and services they need and that developers help pay for any improvements needed. We're also looking at how new development can help improve our walking and cycling networks.

Enhancing the Natural and Built Environment

We're looking at how new development can help enhance our built and natural environments so that South Lakeland's unique and special landscapes and heritage are respected.



How to get involved

We are at an early stage in reviewing the Local Plan so it's a great time to get involved.

We would like to hear your views and for you to share local knowledge with us to help us prepare our draft Local Plan which we'll consult on in 2022. You can get involved in the following ways:

- Visit our [virtual consultation room](#)¹ to see our exhibition boards and find links to our online survey and consultation documents
- Browse our Document Library on our [website](#)² or at Kendal Town Hall and libraries in Kendal, Ulverston, Grange-over-Sands, Milnthorpe, Arnside.
- Talk to a planning officer online or on the phone (see our [website](#) for details and times)
- Respond to our [online survey](#)³
- Sign up to our [mailing list](#)⁴ so that you'll be notified of any upcoming consultations and receive updates on the Local Plan Review.
- Keep an eye out for our in person drop in events in September – we're closely monitoring the covid-19 situation and if it's safe to do so we'll arrange some 'in person' drop in events in September – we'll publicise them on our website and on social media and with local posters and fliers.

The timeline for the Local Plan Review

Stage	Date
Early conversations	Early 2020
'Issues and Options' Consultation	Summer 2021
Draft Plan Consultation	Summer 2022
Formal Representations	Spring 2023
Public Examination	Autumn 2023
Adopting the Local Plan	Spring 2024

Contact Us

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¹ https://lucmaps.co.uk/South_Lakeland_Local_Plan_Consultation/

² www.southlakeland.gov.uk/LocalPlanReviewIO

³ <https://cumbria.citizenspace.com/south-lakeland-district-council/south-lakeland-local-plan-review-issues-and-option>

⁴ www.southlakeland.gov.uk/LocalPlanConsultations