You are requested to attend a meeting of the Community Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee on Monday, 18 January 2010, at 2.00p.m. in the District Council Chamber, South Lakeland House, Kendal

Committee Membership

Councillors
Kath Atkinson
Roger Bingham
Jane Carson
Brian Cooper
Jackie Cooper
Joss Curwen
Colin Davies
Julie Dawson
Clare Feeney-Johnson (Vice-Chairman)
Clive Graham
Anne Hall
Chris Hogg
Janette Jenkinson
Sonia Lawson
Clive Leal
Maureen Nicholson
Vivienne Rees
Ian Stewart
David Vatcher
Mark Wilson
Mary Wilson (Chairman)

Co-opted Members
Margaret Akrigg
Leith Hallatsch
Charles Howarth

8 January 2010
Debbie Storr, Corporate Director (Monitoring Officer)

For all enquiries, please contact:-

Committee Administrator: Chris Kelly
Telephone: 01539 733333 Ext.7446
e-mail: committeeservices@southlakeland.gov.uk
AGENDA

PART I

Standing Items

1. APOLOGIES
   To receive apologies for absence, if any.

2. MINUTES
   To authorise the Chairman to sign, as a correct record, the minutes of the meeting
   of the Committee held on 25 November 2009 (copy attached).

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
   To receive declarations by Members of personal and prejudicial interests in
   respect of items on this Agenda.

   If a Member requires advice on any item involving a possible declaration of
   interest which could affect his/her ability to speak and/or vote, he/she is advised to
   contact the Monitoring Officer at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

4. DECLARATION OF THE PARTY WHIP
   In accordance with Rule 16 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, any
   Member who is subject to a party whip on any item must declare the existence
   and nature of the whip.

5. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 – EXCLUDED ITEMS
   To consider whether the items, if any, in Part II of the Agenda should be
   considered in the presence of the press and public.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
   Any member of the public who wishes to ask a question, make representations or
   present a deputation or petition at this meeting should apply to do so before the
   commencement of the meeting. Information on how to make the application can
   be obtained by viewing the Council’s Website www.southlakeland.gov.uk or by
   contacting the Democratic and Member Services Manager on 01539 717440.

   (1) Questions and Representations
   To receive any questions or representations which have been received from
   members of the public.

   (2) Deputations and Petitions
   To receive any deputations or petitions which have been received from
   members of the public.

7. FORWARD PLAN
   To consider the items in the Forward Plan (1 January 2009 to 30 April 2010) which
   fall within the remit of this Committee. Please bring your copy of the Plan to the
   meeting. Additional copies are available in the Members’ Room but must be
   replaced following use.

8. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATION BOARD
   To provide feed back (as appropriate) from the Chairman on matters discussed at
   the Co-ordination Board.
9. **DRAFT LAKELAND AREA SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2**  
To approve the draft proposals on the Draft Shoreline Management Plan subject to further consultation and amendment as required.

10. **LAKES TO DALES LANDSCAPE DESIGNATION PROJECT**  
To Consider Natural England’s proposals for extensions to the Lake District and Yorkshire Dales National Parks.

**PART II**  
**Private Section** (exempt reasons under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, specified by way of paragraph number)

There are no items in this part of the Agenda
COMMUNITY SERVICES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the proceedings at a meeting of the Committee held in the District Council Chamber at South Lakeland House, on Wednesday 25 November 2009, at 2.00 p.m.

Present

Councillors

Mary Wilson (Chairman)
Clare Feeney-Johnson (Vice-Chairman)
Kath Atkinson
Roger Bingham
Jane Carson
Brian Cooper
Joss Curwen
Colin Davies
Chris Hogg
Janette Jenkinson
Vivienne Rees
David Vatcher

Co-opted Members

Margaret Akrigg

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Jackie Cooper, Julie Dawson, Clive Leal, Mark Wilson and co-optee Charles Howarth.

Officers

Simon Blyth
Lawrence Conway
Emma Ludlam
Ron Matthews
Chris Woods
Policy Officer
Corporate Director (Communities)
Scrutiny Officer
Scrutiny Support Officer (seconded)
Democratic and Member Services Manager

Also in attendance for part of the meeting were Councillors Ian McPherson and Peter Thornton (Communities and Wellbeing Portfolio Holder).

CSOS/050 MINUTES

RESOLVED – That the Chairman be authorised to sign, as a correct record, the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on Wednesday, 4 November 2009.

CSOS/051 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

RESOLVED – That it be noted that Councillor Jane Carson declared an interest in Minute No. CSOS/058.
DECLARATION OF PARTY WHIP

RESOLVED – That it be noted that there were no declarations of any party whip on any of the issues to be discussed on the Agenda.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 – EXCLUDED ITEMS

RESOLVED – That it be noted that there were no items in Part II of the Agenda.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

RESOLVED – That it be noted that no questions, representations, deputations or petitions had been received.

FORWARD PLAN

Consideration was given to items in the Forward Plan covering the period 1 December 2009 to 28 February 2010 which fell within the remit of this Committee.

In regard to Key Decision No. KD09/047/CS (Restoration of Clare House Lane Footbridge), Councillor Peter Thornton made reference to Cabinet’s awareness of the importance of the issue to the people of Grange-over-Sands. He informed the Committee that attempts were currently being made to tie up loose ends in preparation for a report to Cabinet on the matter in December.

Key Decision No. KD09/052/E&S (Draft North West England and North Wales Shoreline Management Plan 2) was also discussed briefly by the Committee at this point. Councillor Clare Feeney-Johnson drew attention to the decision date of 9 December although the consultation period was not due to finish until 10 January 2010.

Furthermore, Key Decision No. KD09/051/H&D (South Lakes Housing Delivery Plan 2010/11) was discussed. It was suggested that relevant reports and consultation documents for Forward Plan items should be brought to the attention of the Committees automatically.

Finally, Key Decision No. KD09/036/Sev (Parks and Grounds Maintenance Contract) was raised. Members asked if this process was on target to meet the 27 January 2010 decision deadline. The Corporate Director (Communities) informed the Committee that Barrow Borough Council were leading on the matter and it was understood that the target date would be met.

RESOLVED – That

(1) the relevant items in the Forward Plan be noted; and
(2) a report on the Parks and Grounds Maintenance Contract be brought to the 18 January 2010 meeting of the Committee.

CONFIRMATION OF CO-OPTEE

Consideration was given to the nomination of a Co-optee, Leith Hallatsch, from the Cumbria Association of Local Council’s (CALC).

RESOLVED – That the nominee from CALC, Leith Hallatsch, be accepted to serve on the Community Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
CSOS/057 ACHIEVING EQUALITY PROJECT – PROGRESS REPORT

The Committee considered a report from the Corporate Director (Vision and Strategy) which outlined the Council's work towards Level 2 (Achieving) of the Equality Framework for Local Government.

The need for embedding equality work in the work of the Council, as well as by Councillors themselves, was highlighted. It was also noted that an equality workshop for Members had been arranged for 3 December so that they could gain an understanding of the issues and legislation around equality.

RESOLVED – That the Committee’s Task and Finish Groups be asked to include equality impact assessments in its processes, using the equality impact assessment toolkit.

Note – Councillor Jane Carson declared a personal interest in the following item of business by virtue of the fact that she was a resident of the area discussed in the report.

CSOS/058 DRAFT SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2

The Shoreline Management Plan 2 (SMP2) provided a large scale assessment of the risks associated with coastal erosion and flooding at the coast. The Plan presented policies to help manage the risks in a sustainable manner.

The SMP2 considered objectives, policy setting and management in three timescales of 0 to 20 years, 20 to 50 years and 50 to 100 years into the future.

Members raised concern that an Appendix mentioned in the report had not been included on the agenda. During the discussion on this item it was also noted that Members had not been made aware of the Coastal Ward Member workshops mentioned in the report. Members felt this was particularly important in view of the recent flooding in the County.

The Corporate Director (Communities) informed the Committee that the authority was a consultee. He confirmed that the Appendix to the report would be circulated to Members as soon as possible and agreed to report back the Committee’s concerns about the item.

RESOLVED – That the draft Consultation report be not approved for the following reasons -

(1) the report was incomplete insofar as an Appendix had not been included;
(2) contrary to what was stated in the report, there had been no consultation with Ward Members on the Plan; and
(3) the Corporate Director (Communities) be asked to write to the Environment Agency outlining the concerns raised at the meeting.

CSOS/059 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATION BOARD

Members were informed that there had been no meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Coordination Board since the last meeting of the Committee.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.
CSOS/060 CUMBRIA HEALTH AND WELLBEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Members were provided with a short report from Councillor Janette Jenkinson, who informed the Committee that a ‘Transforming Community Services’ Task Group had recently been set up by the Cumbria Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee, whose remit was to review coordination between community services, particularly regarding primary care healthcare.

RESOLVED – That the update be noted.

CSOS/061 PROVISION OF VISITOR INFORMATION TASK GROUP DRAFT REPORT

Consideration was given to the draft report from the Provision of Visitor Information Task Group. This was presented to the Committee by Councillor Ian McPherson, the Chairman of the Task Group, who outlined the context of the review and its links with the Corporate Plan. From its research, the Task Group had concluded several key points, particularly the importance of high quality, face-to-face provision of tourist information within the District.

RESOLVED – That the Provision of Visitor Information Task Group draft report and recommendations be referred to Cabinet for its consideration.

CSOS/062 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN HEALTH ACT 2007: LEADERSHIP MODELS

The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 required the Council to choose a new form of executive arrangements under its Constitution, and the Council was required to take reasonable steps to consult upon its proposed new arrangements. The legislation required a decision to be made by 31 December 2010.

Members were broadly in agreement with the continuation of a leader and cabinet executive model.

RESOLVED – That it be recommended to Council that -

(1) it indicates that it is minded to continue to operate the leader and cabinet executive, subject to the new requirements imposed by the 2007 Act and pending the outcomes of partner and public engagement consultation exercise;

(2) it agree a proposed timetable for consultation and implementation;

(3) officers be authorised to carry out appropriate consultation on executive arrangement, indicating the Council’s preferred model, as stated in (1) above, but also including reference to the alternative option provided for in the 2007 Act, and draft a proposed timetable for consultation and implementation;

(4) the results of the public consultation be reported to a future meeting of the Council, to be held before December 2010, for a final decision to be taken on what form of executive arrangements to be adopted; and

(5) consideration be given to whole Council elections.
Members were provided with a progress report on the work of the Committee, including feedback on the recent trip to the Houses of Parliament undertaken by the Scrutiny Officer and a group of Members from local authorities across Cumbria. The Scrutiny Officer agreed to provide a written report on the visit and distribute this in due course.

RESOLVED – That the Progress Report be noted.

Consideration was given to the current status of the Committee’s Work Programme for 2009/10, with Members being informed that each review was currently on schedule.

RESOLVED – That the Work Programme be noted.

The meeting ended at 4.10 p.m.
Summary

The Shoreline Management Plan 2 (SMP2) provides a large-scale assessment of the future risks associated with coastal flooding and erosion. It presents sustainable policies to help manage and protect these risks to communities, wildlife and the environment. This SMP2 (the first being published 10 years ago) considers objectives, policy setting and management in three timescales of 0 to 20 years, 20 to 50 years, and 50 to 100 years. Community Services O & S are requested to consider, comment and approve the proposals in the draft SMP.

Recommendations

a) Members are requested to approve the draft proposals, as per Appendix 1, subject to further public consultation and amendment, as required.

Report

1. The SMP2s are being developed by consultants Halcrow Group Ltd, on behalf of the North West England and North Wales Coastal Group – a partnership between the Environment Agency, Maritime Local Authorities and other interested organisations. It covers the coastline between the Solway Firth and Gt. Ormes Head, known as Cell 11. Blackpool Council is the lead authority responsible for managing the contract, overseen by a Project Management Board comprised of Local Authorities, Environment Agency, Natural England, English Heritage and Coastal Group Chairs.

2. The Governments Guidance for developing SMP2s (Defra 2006) require the SMP2 to:
   - Identify sustainable and deliverable policies for managing coastal risks while working with natural processes wherever possible:
   - Promote management policies for the coastline over the next 100 years, to achieve long-term objectives that are technically sustainable, environmentally acceptable and economically viable:
   - Be realistic and consider known legislation and constraints, both human and natural, and not promise what cannot be delivered.

3. Full engagement in the SMP2 is important to SLDC. It is a regional plan which identifies the main objectives for the future management policies of the North West coastline. Failure to adopt the SMP2 will restrict SLDC’s involvement and future funding for coastline management and defence works.
4. The SMP2 will set coastal defence policies for three time periods or ‘epochs’, as it is important to recognise that changes to policies in the short term may not always be possible.

- 0 to 20 years short term
- 20 to 50 years medium term
- 50 to 100 years long term

5. For each of these time-spans one of four policies will be chosen for each length of coast:

- Advance the line – Create more land by moving coastal defences into the sea
- Hold the line – Keep the shoreline in the same place
- Managed re-alignment – Letting the shoreline move forward or backwards in a controlled way
- No active intervention – Letting nature take its course on the shoreline

6. In the short term the policy for each of the sections of coast remain the same as are currently adopted, however in the medium to long term the policies, the draft proposals in brief include:

- South Arnside – allow the existing resistant headland to continue to function without intervention.
- Kent estuary – protect Arnside and Sandside from flooding and erosion and to maintain the integrity of the railway. In order to mitigate the impacts of these defences on the estuary and with expected future sea level rises, the long term plan considers the creation of flood storage areas and new habitat creation by realigning existing defences.
- Grange-over-Sands – continue the ongoing coastal defence.
- Cartmel Peninsular – in the short term hold the line, however the long term vision is to set back defences while maintaining protection where economically justifiable to the railway and agricultural land.
- Leven estuary – the long term plan is to protect property and infrastructure at Greenodd, but by realigning flood risk area back to higher ground where opportunities exist and then allow natural process to return the estuary to a more natural state.
- Leven estuary to Rampside – the general plan is to allow natural functioning of the shoreline without intervention, with local protection being justified where property or the road is at risk, in addition industrial facilities in the flood zone between Canal Foot and Ulverston will justify protection into the long term.
- Duddon estuary – the long term plan is to set back defences where opportunities exist, while continuing to protect the necessary infrastructure and properties in the main villages and towns.
- See appendix 1 for more details of the draft plan.
6. Several methods are being used to consult a wide range of stakeholders. Members are to be invited to Stakeholder Forum in January 2010. These forums will be supported by Client Steering Group meetings and there will be opportunities for public involvement through written and web-based consultation.

7. A formal, 3-month public consultation by the coastal group and the local authorities on the draft plans will close on the 14 February 2010. A variety of communication methods are been used to consult on the draft SMP2 document. These include:

   - Coastal Group website - www.mycoastline.org
   - Reports to Maritime Authority Committees
   - Press releases – Visitor group papers
   - Local stakeholder workshops.

8. Under the strategic overview for the coast, the national SMP2 programme is managed by the Environment Agency. Each plan will be reviewed by the SMP2 Quality Review Group to check quality and consistency. The review will ensure compliance with the Habitats Directives and the Water Framework Directive.

9. The follow table shows key dates in the adoption and approval of the programme.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14 Feb 10</td>
<td>Public examination of draft SMP2 closes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 Feb 10</td>
<td>Report outcomes of consultation to Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 March 10</td>
<td>Revision of draft policies to account for consultation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 April 10</td>
<td>Seek Councils adoption of SMP2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Jun 10</td>
<td>Regional Director sign-off</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. Before the SMP is signed-off by the Environment Agency Regional Director, approval and adoption will be sought by all participating Local Authorities. Failure of operating authorities to engage with the development of the shoreline management plan may lead to inappropriate policy options and jeopardise future capital grant aid funding.

11. The Council continues to work with the SMP2 Project Management Board and the Quality Review Group to ensure the adoption and approval process runs smoothly and that committees are briefed and consulted in a timely fashion.

**Alternative Options**

N/A

**Key Decision**

This report relates to Key Decision (Ref. No. KD09/052/E&S). It appears in the Forward Plan for the period December 2009 to March 2010
Material Considerations

Finance
The SMP2 is grant funded by Defra, and this grant is administered by the Environment Agency.

Risk Management

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk</th>
<th>Consequence</th>
<th>Controls required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not contributing and adopting the SMP2</td>
<td>The SMP2 is a non-statutory document, but a high level policy document for coastal flood and erosion risk management. However failure to adopt the plan will jeopardise future coastal funding</td>
<td>Adopt the SMP2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Staffing

N/A

Links to Corporate Plan
The SMP2 will link directly to the following Corporate Plan objectives:

a) Making South Lakeland the Best Place to Live
1.1 – People’s essential needs are addressed through effective public service
1.7 – South Lakeland’s development is balanced against protecting the area's natural and built environment

b) Making South Lakeland the Best Place to Visit
3.1 – The public realm in South Lakeland is upgraded, protecting and enhancing its special character
3.2 – The tourism industry is sustainable and meets the needs of both local people and visitors

Links to Other Strategic Plan(s)
Community Strategy 2009 - 2024

Equalities & Diversity
N/A.

Community Safety
The SMP2 will address coastal safety issues into the future.

Background Documents
Document: Draft Shoreline Management Plan Contact: Phil Greenup

Date: 11/01/2010
Version No:
Amended by:
Appendix 1

The draft policies are detailed in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Short Term Policy</th>
<th>Medium Term Policy</th>
<th>Long Term Policy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Heald Brow to Ash Meadows</td>
<td>No Active Intervention</td>
<td>No Active Intervention</td>
<td>No Active Intervention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ash Meadows to Humphrey Head</td>
<td>Hold the line</td>
<td>Hold the line</td>
<td>Hold the line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kent Viaduct to Dick Fell Road (Sandside)</td>
<td>Hold the line</td>
<td>Managed Realignment</td>
<td>Managed Realignment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandside (Dick Fell Road to Hollins Well Road)</td>
<td>Hold the line</td>
<td>Hold the line</td>
<td>Hold the line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hollins Well Road north to Levens Bridge (east Bank) &amp; Levens Bridge to Kent Viaduct (west bank)</td>
<td>Hold the line</td>
<td>Managed Realignment</td>
<td>Managed Realignment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humphrey Head</td>
<td>No Active Intervention</td>
<td>No Active Intervention</td>
<td>No Active Intervention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humphrey Head to Cowpren Point</td>
<td>Hold the line</td>
<td>Managed Realignment</td>
<td>Managed Realignment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cowpren Point to Cark</td>
<td>No Active Intervention</td>
<td>No Active Intervention</td>
<td>No Active Intervention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cark to Leven Viaduct</td>
<td>No Active Intervention</td>
<td>No Active Intervention</td>
<td>No Active Intervention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leven Viaduct to Haverthwaite</td>
<td>Hold the line</td>
<td>Managed Realignment</td>
<td>No Active Intervention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenodd to Barrow</td>
<td>Hold the line</td>
<td>Hold the line</td>
<td>Hold the line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barrow End Rocks (A590) to Leven Viaduct</td>
<td>Hold the line</td>
<td>Managed Realignment</td>
<td>No Active Intervention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leven Viaduct to Canal Foot Cottages</td>
<td>No Active Intervention</td>
<td>No Active Intervention</td>
<td>No Active Intervention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canal Foot</td>
<td>Hold the line</td>
<td>Hold the line</td>
<td>Hold the line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glaxo Factory Site</td>
<td>No Active Intervention</td>
<td>No Active Intervention</td>
<td>No Active Intervention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandhall to Conishead Priory</td>
<td>Hold the line</td>
<td>Managed Realignment</td>
<td>Managed Realignment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conishead Priory to Bardsea</td>
<td>No Active Intervention</td>
<td>No Active Intervention</td>
<td>No Active Intervention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bardsea to Newbiggin</td>
<td>No Active Intervention</td>
<td>No Active Intervention</td>
<td>No Active Intervention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newbiggin to Rampside</td>
<td>Hold the line</td>
<td>Managed Realignment</td>
<td>Hold the line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunnerholme to Sandside</td>
<td>Hold the line</td>
<td>Hold the line</td>
<td>Hold the line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kirkby-in-Furness</td>
<td>Hold the line</td>
<td>Hold the line</td>
<td>Hold the line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herdhouse Moss</td>
<td>No Active Intervention</td>
<td>No Active Intervention</td>
<td>No Active Intervention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Galloper Pool to Viaduct</td>
<td>Hold the line</td>
<td>Hold the line</td>
<td>Hold the line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duddon Estuary</td>
<td>Managed Realignment</td>
<td>Managed Realignment</td>
<td>Managed Realignment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Summary

This report introduces the consultation currently being undertaken by Natural England into the proposals for extending the boundaries of both the Lake District and Yorkshire Dales National Parks. The agenda item will include a presentation by Natural England. Members are invited to discuss Natural England’s proposals and raise issues they would wish to see considered in the development of the Council’s formal consultation response. The report identifies how the full consultation publications may be accessed.

Recommendations

It is recommended that Members:

1. Consider Natural England’s proposals for extensions to the Lake District and Yorkshire Dales National Parks and identify issues they would wish to see considered in the development of the Council’s formal consultation response.

2. Consider whether they wish to identify a small working group to assist further with the development of the Council’s formal consultation response, including discussion with Eden District Council to identify areas of common ground the Councils may make in their responses.

Report

Introduction

1. Natural England is the public body responsible for conserving and enhancing the natural environment in England. Natural England is considering whether certain areas of land between the Lake District and Yorkshire Dales National Parks should be designated as extensions to the National Parks. They have carried out studies to investigate which landscapes meet the legal requirements for inclusion in a National Park or Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and have prepared proposals to designate specific areas. Natural England is now consulting, inviting views on whether these areas should be designated.

2. The landscape designation project began in 2004 with a study area covering a large part of eastern Cumbria and northern Lancashire. Natural England have concluded that there are areas that have the necessary qualities of natural beauty and opportunities for
open-air recreation, and that they should be designated as extensions to the Lake District and Yorkshire Dales National Parks. Two extensions are proposed to the Lake District National Park and two extensions proposed to the Yorkshire Dales National Park. Natural England are also proposing that the Orton Fells (in the Eden District) be included in one of these extensions, but have not yet decided which is the most appropriate and are seeking comments on this as part of the consultation.

3. The consultation is open up until the 17th March. A full copy of the consultation publications is available for inspection in the Members Room. In addition, all consultation publications can be accessed and downloaded from: www.lakestodaleslandscapes.org.uk

The Proposals

4. The map in appendix 1 indicates the proposed areas of the extensions. Detailed maps will be available for inspection at the meeting.

5. The proposed areas for extension, which include land within the South Lakeland District, are the proposed Eastern and Southern extensions to the Lake District and the proposed Western extension to the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

6. The detail of each proposed extension, in respect of its natural beauty, the opportunity for open air recreation, the desirability to designate and the proposed boundary to the extension are provided in the consultation documents. A representative from Natural England will attend the meeting to make a presentation that will brief Members on the project and each of the proposed extension areas. They will also be able to inform Members of how the consultation is being conducted.

7. In consulting on the proposals, Natural England are seeking responses to a series of questions in respect of each of the proposed extensions:

   a. Do you agree that this area has natural beauty?
   b. Is there any other important information that we should include in our assessment of this area’s natural beauty?
   c. Do you agree that this area has opportunities for open-air recreation?
   d. Is there any other important information that we should include in our assessment of this area’s opportunities for open-air recreation?
   e. Do you agree that it is desirable to designate this area as an extension to the National Park?
   f. Is there any other important information that we should include in our assessment of the desirability of designating this area?
   g. Do you agree with the proposed boundary of this area?

Formulating the Council’s formal response to the Consultation.

8. It is intended to develop the Council’s response following a number of meetings:

   a. On the 11th December 2009, we held an informal Member briefing on the forthcoming consultation.
   b. Today’s meeting provides opportunity for Members to receive a fuller briefing on proposals, to ask questions of Natural England and to identify and discuss issues which they would wish to see considered in the formulation of the response.
   c. Officers will be considering the proposals, taking on board the issues raised by Members, including Members representing Wards within the proposed extensions, and developing the draft consultation response for consideration by Cabinet.
d. It is proposed to share our emerging response with Eden District Council, exploring areas of common ground and how the considerations of both Councils may best be presented.

9. Members of the Community Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee are invited to consider whether they would wish to identify a small group of their membership to further consider the emerging response and attend a joint meeting with representatives from Eden District Council to explore areas of common interest.

10. The Council’s consultation response will address the questions posed by Natural England. In respect of the question over the desirability to designate, the Council will have to consider how designation would affect the ability of the Council to deliver the community outcomes as identified within its Corporate Plan. It will also have to consider the effect of designation on the delivery of services, in particular the delivery of Development Control and Development Planning as responsibility for these functions within any designated extensions would be transferred to the respective National Park Authority.

**Alternative Options**
The Council could decide not to respond to the consultation. This is not recommended as the consultation is of significance to the District and communities it represents.

**Key Decision**
This report relates to Key Decision (Ref. No. KD10/002/H&D). It appears in the Forward Plan for the period January to April 2010.

**Material Considerations**

**Finance**
Any financial implications for the Council arising from designation of additional areas as National Park will be considered as part of the Council’s formal response. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

**Risk Management**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk</th>
<th>Consequence</th>
<th>Controls required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inadequate consideration of issues arising from designation</td>
<td>Council’s formal response does not adequately represent the issues arising from designation.</td>
<td>Full consideration by Members and Officers of issues arising. Liason with neighbouring authorities.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Staffing**
There are no staffing implications arising from this report

**Links to Corporate Plan**
The development of the formal consultation response will consider the likely effect of designation on the Council’s priorities as expressed in the Corporate Plan.

**Links to Other Strategic Plan(s)**
The development of the formal consultation response will consider the likely effect of designation on the delivery of other strategic plans relevant to the District.

**Equalities & Diversity**
Not applicable

Date: 11/01/2010
Version No: Amended by:
Community Safety
Not applicable

Background Documents


Contact: David Sykes
Proposed National Park extensions
(25 November 2009)