

Council Plan

Council Plan - Element	Comments	SLDC Recommendation
Vision		
The best place to live work and explore	Remains the right aspiration for the South Lakeland area and compatible with the place based elements of the visions of other authorities	Recommend to WFC that this vision underpins its own vision of the wider District
Priorities		
Working across boundaries, delivering sustainable regional growth across Morecambe Bay	Morecambe Bay remains important as an economic region whilst the Eden area has its own links with the Carlisle area – cross boundary working outside the Cumbria space must remain a priority.	Recommend to WFC that working across boundaries (particularly outside Cumbria) and sustainable growth remain a priority for the new Council
Delivering a balanced community, a South Lakeland for all ages	The demographic challenge and addressing the needs of a shrinking working age population are common to South Lakeland, Eden and Barrow.	Recommend to WFC that growing the working age population and addressing the implications of an aging population should remain a priority for the new Council
Fairer South Lakeland (Tackling income, housing and health inequalities)	Health inequalities are a significantly greater issue in Barrow than in South Lakeland whilst housing and income inequalities are critical for both Eden and Barrow	Recommend to WFC that tackling health, income and housing inequalities remain a priority for the new Council.
Climate Change and Biodiversity	SLDC, Eden and Barrow have all declared climate emergencies and are committed to Carbon Neutrality by 2037 at the latest	Recommend to WFC that demanding climate change targets be adopted building on the progress made by the Districts to date.
Targets – Working Across Boundaries		
Deliver 320 homes every year across the district	Housing target set through the Local Plans for South Lakeland and the National Parks	Recommend that WFC continue with the preparation and adoption of a local plan for South Lakeland and that it's housing target be founded on robust evidence. Also that WFC support local plan preparation in the National Parks.
Produce draft South Lakeland Local Plan by mid 2022	Whilst the timetable may need revision, there remains an urgent need to complete the plan.	Recommend that preparation work on the South Lakeland Local Plan continues.

Support delivery of Swarthmoor Roundabout	Roundabout currently under construction and will be complete during 2022/23	Recommend that SLDC continue to support the delivery of the project on the current timescale.
Submit Morecambe Bay Growth bid	Whilst functional geographies remain, any growth bid will necessitate major resource and strategic commitments which WFC will need to come to its own view on	Postpone until after vesting day. Recommend to WFC that within its economic strategy, it continues to develop Morecambe Bay wide approaches to infrastructure, skills and Higher Education.
Complete Master Plan for GSK site in Ulverston by July 2021	A vital strategic site and a limited time window to secure its future	Continue Master Planning work and aim to complete by April 2023
Complete Economic Development Strategy by December 2021	There will be a need for a strategic approach to economic development across the new authority	Postpone until after vesting day. The strategic approach to economic development and the resource to deliver it require a WFC wide approach
develop Morecambe Bay Population Health Strategy	Cumbria Public Health Strategy in place. Draft Morecambe Bay wellbeing strategy produced by Population Health Partnership	Continue to support CCG work Recommend that WFC work with health partnerships on appropriate alignment of organisations in the Eden area
support Morecambe Bay CCG in managing Covid Pandemic	SLDC will continue to support LRF and Health Providers	Continue track and trace, grant distribution and locality based work on pandemic.
Targets - Balanced Community		
Housing Targets 477 affordable homes for rent 588 affordable homes to buy between 2020 and 2025 300 extra care units between 2020 and 2025 337 self and custom build dwellings between 2020 and 2025	The Housing Targets set out in the Council's Housing Strategy remain valid and related to need. Whilst, in time, the new authority will develop its own Housing Strategy the housing needs of South Lakeland remain acute and housing enabling activity must not slow down	Continue with housing enabling programme and recommend that affordable and special needs housing provision remain a key priority in any future housing strategy
Economic Targets Implementation of Kendal Town Centre Strategy including provision of new employment floorspace commencement of development on 5 allocated employment sites by 2025	Kendal Town Centre is a long term project and needs co-ordination with Kendal vision. The Local Plan process is key. Employment opportunities remain critical .	Continue to engage. That WFC be advised that the development and implementation of a strategy and vision for Kendal Town Centre should form a key influence on its Local plan Continue to implement through encouraging market mechanisms.

delivery of Great Places programme	Great Places now largely delivered. Legacy discussions in progress	Delivered – no further action needed
completion of Customer Connect Transition programme;	Customer Connect programme approaching completion	Recommend that the new authority ensure that the principles of a customer led operating model be taken forward by the new authority
Ensure that community interests championed in National Park plans and strategies	Recently adopted National Park management plans in both Lake District and Yorkshire Dales	Largely delivered for now. Recommend that WFC continue to engage with National Parks on behalf of communities to deliver housing and jobs
Ensure that population health strategies make relevant provision for the elderly ensure that social programmes address loneliness	The needs of the elderly and people suffering from isolation and loneliness remain key issues for South Lakeland and for Eden and Barrow	Continue to support CCG work and ensure that strategies reflect the needs of the elderly and lonely. Recommend that WFC work with health partnerships on appropriate alignment of organisations in the Eden area
Targets - Fairer South Lakeland		
halve the proportion of households in poverty and eliminate child poverty	A target which will be challenging to deliver on a Westmorland and Furness Footprint	Recommend that WFC continue to address poverty in South Lakeland as well as in greater concentrations elsewhere within the new Council area
implement Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategies	Homelessness Strategy and Rough Sleeper Strategy run to 2024	Recommend that WFC undertake an early review of the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy
reduce the percentage of private sector homes with category 1 hazards to less than 15% by 2025	New Private Housing Stock Monitoring Study updates evidence base on housing standards	Recommend that as part of an early review of Housing Strategy, new targets be adopted for housing standards including targets for energy efficiency in the existing housing stock.
distribute grants to aid businesses through the Covid crisis	Assuming no further serious outbreaks, grant regimes should be completed by Vesting Day	Implement current grant scheme and assist partner authorities.
widen and improve the quality of broadband coverage	Continue to work to expand broadband through planning and support for community broadband	Recommend that WFC continue to work to improve quality of broadband coverage.
advise businesses deliver new business space in Kendal Town Hall	Business advice to continue both directly and through relevant advice providers	Continue delivery of business advice, delivery of managed workspace through Mintworks and through Kendal Town Hall

	Kendal Town Centre provision to complete by 2020	
Complete Kendal Air Quality Management Plan implementation	Ongoing – EV charging points to be installed in the Spring	Continue implementation. WFC will inherit responsibility for Kendal AQMA and responsibility for AQ planning.
review the third sector commissioning and the delivery of financial advice and support to vulnerable people	Community Grants reviewed in 2020. Further change to be informed by Poverty and Truth Commission.	Review delivered – WFC to be requested to use intelligence from South Lakeland Poverty and Truth Commission to inform development of future services
work with partners to safeguard people against exploitation	Continue existing partnership approaches	As part of its duties, WFC will need to develop integrated approaches to safeguarding and protecting people against domestic abuse.
work with partners to protect people against domestic abuse	Continue existing partnership approaches	
Targets – Carbon Neutral South Lakeland		
reduce the percentage of homes in the lowest energy performance certificate (EPC) bands (F and G) from 16.4% to less than 10% by 2025	Tackling energy inefficient housing is critical part of carbon reduction programme	Continue current measures and request to WFC that demanding energy efficiency targets for existing housing be incorporated within an updated housing strategy
Updated environmental standards for new development to be included in Local Plan	See comments on Local Plan above	See comments on Local Plan
enabling agile and home working	Despite relaxation of Covid rules, agile working reduces need for travel.	Request that WFC maintains support for agile and home working
completion of Kendal Flood defences	Currently under construction	Request that WFC support future phases including upstream storage and natural flood management
SLDC to be carbon neutral in its own operations by 2030 South Lakeland to be carbon neutral by 2037	Targets remain relevant and essential to meet national carbon reduction targets	Request that WFC uphold Climate Change targets and integrate upper and lower tier functions to help to deliver them
supporting preparation and implementation of Kendal cycling and walking strategy	Kendal LCWIP completed. Ulverston LCWIP in preparation	Support delivery of LCWIP and encourage WFC to do the same