

Appendix 1 – Initial Impact Assessment of the Publication Local Plan

Impact Assessment Level 1: Initial screening assessment

<b>Subject of assessment:</b>	Publication Local Plan			
<b>Coverage:</b>	Crosscutting			
<b>This is a decision relating to:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Strategy</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Policy</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Service</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Function</b>
	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Process/procedure</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Programme</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Project</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Review</b>
	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Organisational change</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other (please state)</b>		
<b>It is a:</b>	<b>New approach:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Revision of an existing approach:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>It is driven by:</b>	<b>Legislation:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Local or corporate requirements:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Description:</b>	<p><b>Key aims, objectives and activities</b></p> <p>The Publication Local Plan sets out the Council’s revised Local Plan. It has been prepared following earlier public consultation and will the statutory processes to take place ahead of the Independent Examination.</p> <p>The Publication Local Plan identifies key policy areas including: the overall vision and strategy; creating quality places; economic growth; housing; natural environment; physical, social and environmental infrastructure; and the historic environment.</p> <p>The Publication Local Plan will be subject to six weeks statutory consultation, where formal representations can be made on legal compliance and soundness matters. Any representations made will be submitted to the Secretary of State with the Publication Local Plan and will be taken into consideration during the Independent Examination.</p> <p><b>Statutory drivers</b></p> <p>The Council must prepare Local Plans and associated planning documents, under the requirements of Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Localism Act 2011, and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).</p> <p><b>Differences from any previous approach</b></p> <p>The emerging Local Plan will update the whole of the Council’s planning framework (except that relating to minerals and waste development) in line with the latest legislation and policy/guidance. This includes new policy approaches for all areas with a strengthened focus on placemaking, good quality design, a revitalised town centre and a strong network of infrastructure. New site allocations have also been identified for the location of new development.</p>			

	<p><b>Key stakeholders and intended beneficiaries (internal and external as appropriate)</b></p> <p>The key stakeholders are: The Council, Middlesbrough Development Corporation, developers, businesses, investors and the local community.</p> <p><b>Intended outcomes.</b></p> <p>To set out the Council’s Publication Local Plan and to enable statutory consultation and submission to the Secretary of State for Independent Examination, the outcomes of which will be used in finalising the Local Plan.</p>			
<b>Live date:</b>	The Council will consider the report seeking approval for the Publication Local Plan on 15 <sup>th</sup> January 2025.			
<b>Lifespan:</b>	Until the Local Plan is finalised for adoption following Independent Examination.			
<b>Date of next review:</b>	Not applicable			
Screening questions	Response			Evidence
	No	Yes	Uncertain	
<p><b>Human Rights</b></p> <p>Could the decision impact negatively on individual Human Rights as enshrined in UK legislation?</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>The Publication Local Plan will be subject to consultation in accordance with the regulations and the Council’s Statement of Community Involvement. It will provide the opportunity for everyone to understand the Council’s approach to changing its planning policies and to make formal representations to these. The representations will be fully considered and taken into account by a Planning Inspector during the Independent Examination into the Local Plan.</p> <p>In light of the above, it is not considered that the Publication Local Plan will have an adverse impact on individual human rights.</p>

<p><b>Equality</b></p> <p>Could the decision result in adverse differential impacts on groups or individuals with characteristics protected in UK equality law? Could the decision impact differently on other commonly disadvantaged groups?*</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>The Publication Local Plan sets out the approach to changing the Council’s planning policies. It has been prepared in accordance with all relevant legislation and national planning policy. It includes a suite of policies that seek to ensure the assessed needs of existing and future residents are fully met based on a robust and extensive evidence base. There are specific policies designed to meet the needs of particular groups who have specific housing needs, including older people, disabled people, and Gypsies &amp; Travellers. The suite of design and other policies seek to ensure new development is well designed, safe and useable by all sectors of the community, including those with protected characteristics. The plan has also been subject to Sustainability Appraisal to meet broader economic, environmental and social objectives that include reducing health inequalities and poverty/deprivation.</p> <p>An initial consultation on a Scoping Report was followed by a public consultation on Draft Local Plan in 2024, and the significant number of responses from both consultation stages have been taken into consideration when finalising the Publication Local Plan. The document will be subject to further consultation in accordance with the regulations and the Council’s Statement of Community Involvement, and is open to everyone. The representations received during this period will be submitted to the Government along with the Plan, following which an Independent Examination will take place to ensure that the Plan meets the Government’s Tests of Soundness, and that it has been prepared in a legally compliant way.</p> <p>In light of the above, it is not considered that the Publication Local Plan will have an adverse impact on different groups or individuals in terms of equality.</p>
<p><b>Community cohesion</b></p> <p>Could the decision impact negatively on relationships between different groups, communities of interest or neighbourhoods within the town?*</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>The Publication Local Plan sets out the approach to changing the Council’s planning policies. The plan has been subject to Sustainability Appraisal to meet broader economic, environmental and social objectives. It will be subject to consultation in accordance with the regulations and the Council’s Statement of Community Involvement, and is open to everyone.</p> <p>In light of the above, it is not considered that the Publication Local Plan will impact negatively on relationships between different groups, communities of interest or neighbourhoods within the town.</p>
<p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ If the answer to all of the above screening questions is No then the process is completed.</li> <li>➤ If the answer of any of the questions is Yes or Uncertain, then a Level 2 Full Impact Assessment must be completed.</li> </ul>				
<p><b>Assessment completed by:</b></p>	<p>Alex Conti</p>		<p><b>Head of Service:</b></p>	<p>Paul Clarke</p>
<p><b>Date:</b></p>	<p>14/02/2025</p>		<p><b>Date:</b></p>	<p>14/02/2025</p>

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