

Appendix 1 – Initial Impact Assessment of the Publication Local Plan

Impact Assessment Level 1: Initial screening assessment

Subject of assessment:	Local Plan Examination Modifications – Delegated Authority			
Coverage:	Crosscutting			
This is a decision relating to:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strategy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Service	<input type="checkbox"/> Function
	<input type="checkbox"/> Process/procedure	<input type="checkbox"/> Programme	<input type="checkbox"/> Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Review
	<input type="checkbox"/> Organisational change	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please state)		
It is a:	New approach:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Revision of an existing approach:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
It is driven by:	Legislation:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Local or corporate requirements:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Description:	<p>Key aims, objectives and activities</p> <p>The report seeks to secure the necessary approvals are in place to request that the Planning Inspector is able to recommend modifications to the Local Plan during the Independent Examination, and to allow the agreement of a list of modifications with the Planning Inspector.</p> <p>Statutory drivers</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>Differences from any previous approach</p> <p>The 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>Key stakeholders and intended beneficiaries (internal and external as appropriate)</p> <p>The key stakeholders are: The Council, Middlesbrough Development Corporation, developers, businesses, investors and the local community.</p> <p>Intended outcomes.</p> <p>To secure the necessary approvals are in place to request that the Planning Inspector is able to recommend modifications to the Local Plan during the Independent Examination, and to allow the agreement of a list of modifications with the Planning Inspector.</p>			

Live date:	The Council will consider the report seeking approval for the Publication Local Plan on 15 th October 2025.			
Lifespan:	Until the Local Plan is finalised for adoption following Independent Examination.			
Date of next review:	Not applicable			
Screening questions	Response			Evidence
	No	Yes	Uncertain	
Human Rights Could the decision impact negatively on individual Human Rights as enshrined in UK legislation?	☒	☐	☐	The decision is solely to secure the necessary approvals to enable the Planning Inspector to recommend modifications and for a delegated approval to allow the agreement of a list of modifications. If modifications are proposed and agreed, they will be subject to sustainability appraisal, public consultation and further consideration by the Council ahead of adoption. This process is in line with legislation and national policy. In light of the above, it is not considered that the decision will have an adverse impact on individual human rights.
Equality 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?	☒	☐	☐	The decision is solely to secure the necessary approvals to enable the Planning Inspector to recommend modifications and for a delegated approval to allow the agreement of a list of modifications. If modifications are proposed and agreed, they will be subject to sustainability appraisal, public consultation and further consideration by the Council ahead of adoption. This process is in line with legislation and national policy. In light of the above, it is not considered that the decision will have an adverse impact on different groups or individuals in terms of equality.
Community cohesion Could the decision impact negatively on relationships between different groups, communities of interest or neighbourhoods within the town?	☒	☐	☐	The decision is solely to secure the necessary approvals to enable the Planning Inspector to recommend modifications and for a delegated approval to allow the agreement of a list of modifications. If modifications are proposed and agreed, they will be subject to sustainability appraisal, public consultation and further consideration by the Council ahead of adoption. This process is in line with legislation and national policy. In light of the above, it is not considered that the decision will impact negatively on relationships between different groups, communities of interest or neighbourhoods within the town.
Next steps: ➡ If the answer to all of the above screening questions is No then the process is completed. ➡ If the answer of any of the questions is Yes or Uncertain, then a Level 2 Full Impact Assessment must be completed.				

Assessment completed by:	Alex Conti	Head of Service:	Claire Holt
Date:	25/09/2025	Date:	25/09/2025