

Kirkbymoorside Town Council

Information for the Planning Committee meeting on Monday 20 November 2023

5. North Yorkshire Local Plan

- a) **To receive information from Rachael Balmer, Planning Policy Team Leader (Ryedale Office) in response to the status of the Ryedale Local Plan review and its influence on North Yorkshire Local Plan, pursuant to Minute 23119**

Reference Minute 23119 regarding progress of Ryedale Local Plan review and influence on North Yorkshire Local Plan.

At the Ordinary meeting on 16 October 2023 the Local Plan Review was considered as a matter of business. The Town Council would like clarification as to the intentions of North Yorkshire Council regarding the Local Plan for North Yorkshire. The Town Council request progression of the Ryedale Local Plan Review process to ensure that local planning considerations are influenced by matters affecting and specific to Ryedale.

Clarification is sought as to what influence the review of the Ryedale Local Plan will have on the formulation of a North Yorkshire Plan and if the findings of the Ryedale Local Plan review will contribute to the planning considerations for the local area.

A report was taken to Council (North Yorkshire Council) on the 19 July which confirmed that the Ryedale Plan review, as a standalone review of a development plan would not continue, and instead the review would be subsumed into the preparation of the new local plan for north Yorkshire. Members of the Council agreed with the recommendations.

<https://edemocracy.northyorks.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=1145&MId=6506&Ver=4> (minute 24)*Resolved - That work on the Ryedale Local Plan review be halted and that work undertaken to date be considered, as appropriate, in the preparation of the new Local Plan for North Yorkshire.*

Link to the report: <https://edemocracy.northyorks.gov.uk/documents/s20401/Report.pdf>

The report does set out, in brief terms, what are the pros and cons to continuing the review, and what the potential implications would be for the Local Plan for North Yorkshire, and what the implications could be for places if the review is subsumed and the land supply falls below the 5 years' worth of supply. This would not, however, mean a 'free for all' and that the Development Plan as a whole would become silent or have no weight in the consideration of planning applications for housing development. Any adverse impacts would still need to be satisfactorily addressed. But it would bring uncertainty, and mean difficult decisions for Members regarding speculative applications when they are made.

I am very sorry that the policy team has not specifically write to the statutory consultees to advise them of this matter, it was decided that a single coordinated letter would go out in due course once our new consultation software, Objective, is up and running to formally commence work on the new local plan. Town Councils have been automatically migrated onto this new system, but general consultees have needed to register, and in inviting them to do so, I have referenced the situation with regards to the Ryedale Plan review.

The review of the Ryedale Plan work we did prior to vesting date will have a degree of influence on the preparation of the new local plan- particularly in relation to site specific matters- as whilst we will undertake a call for sites- the same sites are likely to be resubmitted and so much of this work will be refreshed- as we are committing to the preparation of authority-wide evidence base. As part of the preparation of a new local plan, we are naturally looking at what levels of development were previously attributed to settlements and what are the implications going forward for a continuation of that approach or is different approach needed. A lot of public resources went into this work, and best use of this should be made.

At this stage, the approaches that we explored in the review of the Ryedale Plan are part of a suite of different, much wider options that the Council, as the Council of North Yorkshire, with its sizable geography, will now have to wrestle with.

It is my personal view that recent emerging work on local plans will be weaved into work on the new local plan in a range of ways, but this is not likely to be in a direct/explicit way. It will come from the knowledge and evidence the staff already have and have collated, and indeed from the input of local communities and stakeholder in former district and borough areas from previous consultation. But also crucially that will come as the work and consultations on the new local plan commence, and in that respect I would stress that new representations should always been made at each stage of the consultation process for the new local plan for North Yorkshire, and to not rely on earlier submission (even if the spirit of those responses is unchanged).

I reiterate that am very sorry that we have not contacted you yet about the decision on the Ryedale Plan to not continue it as a standalone review given the decision was made in July.

Kind regards,

Rachael Balmer

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