## SOUTH LAKELAND AREA PLAN

### 1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 *This report presents the draft Area Plan for South Lakeland for approval by Local Committee. It also provides an indicative programme of work for the further development and roll out of area planning leading up to the publication of an Area Delivery Plan in August 2014.*

### 2.0 STRATEGIC PLANNING AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

2.1 *Under the Constitution each Local Committee is required to develop an Area Plan for the area which sets out the local priorities and how services will be delivered in the local area.*

2.2 *The Area Plan is framed within the Council Plan priorities which were agreed at full council on Thursday 13 February 2014.*

2.3 *There are no equality implications arising out of this report.*

### 3.0 RECOMMENDATION

3.1 *Members are asked to adopt the new Area Plan for South Lakeland.*

### 4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 The Council’s constitution stipulates that the 6 Local Committees will develop Area Plans for agreement by Council. The plan for each area sets out the Council’s priorities, provides a comprehensive socio-economic picture of the area, records achievements in the last year and planned service delivery across all of the Council’s responsibilities.

4.2 Area plans are an important feature of Area Planning – which is the broader process of Local Committees working together with communities and local service leads to consider:

- the needs of the area
4.3 Each Area Plan sits alongside the Council Plan, Service Plans and other key strategies – providing an overview on an area by area basis of how the council is delivering on its priorities in a way which reflects the specific needs and opportunities within an area. Local priorities are defined by Local Committees and are informed by local communities and local evidence. The plans have been developed using a set of common principles, which support the integration of Area Plans into the strategic planning process.

4.4 The 6 Area Plans are used to support:
1. the reconfiguration of services within geographical localities
2. the further development of Service Plans
3. the development of future council priorities and aspirations
4. decision making about strategic asset management and the capital programme
5. decision making of Local Committees

4.5 In respect of points 1 and 5 above, councillors will be aware that Service Plans are being updated, which define how every part of the council delivers its services. The new Area Plans will help provide a vehicle to re-shape council services locally through the development of Service Hubs, taking into account planned development in the area. This work will be particularly important in the context of the budget challenges that face the County Council in the years ahead. Re-shaping council services provides an opportunity to contribute to the further savings and efficiencies which will an essential part of council work going forward.

4.6 The Area Planning Process of the County Council has involved members of South Lakeland Local Committee setting the local focus and direction. A team of officers from across the Council have worked together to review progress against the existing South Lakeland local plan and draw up a new plan. As well as drawing on a range of statistical data, this new plan is based upon the professional experience of managers who are specialists in their fields of expertise, and the information held by County Councillors with wide and varied understanding of the needs of people in South Lakeland.

4.7 The Area Plans are living documents, which will develop over time as key transformational projects come on line and service reviews take place. They are pitched at a strategic level - work has begun and will continue over the next few months to produce Area Delivery Plans, which will set out in greater detail the range of service delivery that people should expect from the Council. Details of this process will be provided as the work develops, with an expectation that these documents are in place by the end of August 2014.

4.8 Printed versions of the finalised plan will be produced, once councillors have made any final comments on the draft.
5.0 OPTIONS

5.1 Members can choose to ask for further work to be undertaken prior to endorsing the plan.

6.0 RESOURCE AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The Area Plan for South Lakeland highlights the key major strategic initiatives proposed and where relevant informs on the financial considerations for individual items.

6.2 Whilst the Area Plan highlights the financial considerations, these are the subject of ongoing development and review as part of the Council’s budget planning process. The items specifically mentioned in the Area Plan have been checked against the 2014-15 medium term financial plan to ensure consistency at this point in time, but Members should be aware that this may require review and amendment as the budget planning process rolls forward.

7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from the report.

8.0 CONCLUSION

8.1 As well as being an essential duty of Local Committees, local Area Planning provides the ideal mechanism to recognise past achievements, identify our current position and give clear direction to people within and outside the County Council.

8.2 This Area Plan is a culmination of a process that the Local Committee has been fully engaged in. During the coming year there will be further opportunities for Local Committee to develop positive and effective relationships with directorates and their service leads, and to set out delivery plans to re-shape services in line with defined Service Hubs and contribute to future savings and efficiencies.

Jim Savege
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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – South Lakeland Area Plan (to follow)

Electoral Division(s): All in South Lakeland

Executive Decision

Key Decision

If a Key Decision, is the proposal published in the current Forward Plan?

Is the decision exempt from call-in on grounds of urgency?

If exempt from call-in, has the agreement of the Chair of the relevant
Overview and Scrutiny Committee been sought or obtained?

Has this matter been considered by Overview and Scrutiny?
If so, give details below.

Has an environmental or sustainability impact assessment been undertaken?

Has an equality impact assessment been undertaken?

N.B. If an executive decision is made, then a decision cannot be implemented until the expiry of the eighth working day after the date of the meeting – unless the decision is urgent and exempt from call-in and necessary approvals have been obtained.

PREVIOUS RELEVANT COUNCIL OR EXECUTIVE DECISIONS
[including Local Committees]

“No previous relevant decisions”.

CONSIDERATION BY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

“No considered by Overview and Scrutiny”.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

“No background papers”.

REPORT AUTHOR

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