

Neighbourhood Plan report to P&R

1. The 94 page Saltash Neighbourhood Development Plan Consultation Draft was subjected to SEA (Strategic Environmental Assessment) and HRA (Habitat Regulation Assessment) screening by Cornwall Council in December 2018. The comments raised have been considered by the SNP Steering Group and a meeting has been organised to discuss material matters with Cornwall Council. A decision on the need to commission a full and formal Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) will be taken following that meeting.
2. A formal SEA will delay our ability to proceed with the requisite Regulation 14 Public Consultation. If it can be avoided then we will be in a position to conduct the Reg. 14 Consultation in the next 3/4 months.
3. The Consultation Draft is presently being amended. This is about 75% complete. The revisions to mapping and updating the National Planning Policy Framework references to the 2018 version and then checking that our policies are compliant with that is what is taking time.
4. The Planning Inspectors' Report which will include requirements on The Cornwall Site Allocation DPD Development Plan Document for Saltash) is due at the end of March 2019. The SNP Consultation Draft may need to be updated to reflect the inclusion of a second strategic housing site. The report is timetabled to be in with CC for 'fact checking' this week, so presumably we can expect its publication sometime in April with the final DPD confirmation in May after due process at CC.
5. All responses received, including those from the Cornwall Council screening will be recorded and summarised in a further Report of Findings which will be used to modify the Neighbourhood Plan as necessary.
6. Approval of the resulting modified Neighbourhood Plan will then be sought from Saltash Town Council and sent to Cornwall Council as the Local Planning Authority to check for legal compliance.
7. Once compliant, a further six week consultation will be held by Cornwall Council inviting representations which will be put before an Independent Examiner. The Examiner will produce and publish a report with recommendations which might or might not require further modification of the Plan.
8. Assuming a positive outcome, a Referendum will be held to formally establish local community support for the Plan.
9. It is hoped that this whole process will be completed by the end of March 2020.

Councillor David Yates