

Positive step forward for the Penrith Neighbourhood Development Plan

On 14 November 2023, Penrith Town Council Chair and Mayor Councillor Doug Lawson attended a meeting of Westmorland & Furness Council Cabinet to detail the history of the Penrith Neighbourhood Development Plan and ask for support to go to referendum.

Penrith Town Council is pleased that Westmorland & Furness Council agreed to take the Neighbourhood Development Plan for a final consultation of not less than 6 weeks. This final consultation is necessary as the final plan would be contrary to the Examiners recommendation to remove Policy 8 – Protection of Local Green Space and Policy 9 – Protection of Sport, Leisure and Recreation Facilities.

Following the consultation, any final amendments would be made and then a public referendum would be held to vote on whether the Neighbourhood Plan, which has been developed through public consultation, should be adopted.

Penrith Town Council Chair and Mayor Councillor Doug Lawson said:

"The Penrith Neighbourhood Plan offers numerous benefits to our town and its communities, allowing them to have a say in how Penrith develops.

"Neighbourhood Plans also have legal weight in planning law to help direct development once adopted.

"I'm really pleased that the Westmorland and Furness Cabinet were so openly supportive of the initiative. Thank you to all the residents, businesses and visitors who contributed to our numerous consultations."