

7. NEXT STEPS

- 7.1 The Penrith Neighbourhood Development Plan (PNDP) has been formally consulted on during the Regulation 14 and 16 consultation and undergone examination in public by an independent Planning Inspector in February 2021.
- 7.2 The examiner considered that the PNDP met the basic conditions and was legally compliant, however there was a delay whilst he considered Beacon Hill specifically deciding that it was an extensive tract of land and therefore could not be included. His final report was released in March 2022. The Examiner made a number of recommendations including the deletion of policies relating to green spaces and leisure and recreation spaces.
- 7.3 Following a further consultation on green spaces as agreed by Eden District Council (now Westmorland and Furness Council) it was agreed that these policies could be retained and a report produced recommending whether or not the PNDP is put to local referendum (all those eligible to vote in the neighbourhood area).
- 7.4 If there is a majority vote (50% of turnout +1) at the referendum, Westmorland and Furness Council (W&F) will then “make” the PNDP part of the district’s development plan. The PNDP will be used alongside W&F’s development plan policies to help make decisions on planning applications in Penrith.