

**WYRE LOCAL PLAN EXAMINATION:****Session 8 – 09.30 Tuesday 22 May 2017****Matter 8 – Allocations Fleetwood, Thornton and Norcross****Site SA1/1 – West of Broadway, Fleetwood.**

**[REDACTED] Lancashire County Council in response to Preliminary Questions concerning this proposed allocation.**

**1) Site Description and History**

Site SA1/1 forms part of what used to be the playing fields of the Beach Road Annexe of Fleetwood High School. The former playing fields have performed no formal recreational or sports function for approximately 18 years following the closure and demolition of the Annexe to the High School. There has been no authorised or otherwise permitted public access to the former playing fields and no letting out of the land for any other purpose during that period. In this important respect the site has performed no active open space purpose for the best part of 2 decades. In 2002 the County Council Cabinet declared surplus the site area of the former buildings of the High School Annexe. The site of the Annexe buildings received outline planning permission for residential development in 2003. This development has since been built out.

The total area of the former playing fields covers 2 hectares. In November 2016 an in-principle agreement was reached with the adjacent St Wulstan's and St Edmund's RC Primary School that a portion of the site would be transferred to the school for use as playing fields. That decision left the county council free to declare the remainder surplus to its operational requirements. The remainder of the site, measuring approximately 1.05 hectares, was formally declared surplus on 25th January 2017.

**2) Local Plan Review**

The site was first identified as a potential housing site in the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment of 2010 commissioned by Wyre Borough Council and was taken forward for consideration under the umbrella of the Call for Sites exercise of 2012. Thereafter, the site has been under active consideration by the Borough Council as a potential housing site. The county council has actively promoted its consideration throughout the Local Plan Review process.

**3) Owner intentions and site availability**

Lancashire County Council can confirm that the proposed Housing Site SA1/1 is available for sale for beneficial development and that subject to the outcome of the Examination in Public the county council would be seeking to actively market the site in the next 6 months.

This statement was prepared by [REDACTED] Planning Review Officer, Estates Service, Lancashire County Council. Dated: 25<sup>th</sup> April 2018