



Planning Policy Committee – 30 July 2018

Further revision to the Local Development Scheme 2018-2021

Purpose of report

To set out a revision to the Local Development Scheme that sets out the key milestones for delivering the Local Plan Part 2.

Attachments

Appendix 1 East Northamptonshire District LDS Revision 2018 – 2021

Appendix 2 East Northamptonshire District LDS Revision Timetable 2018 – 2021

1.0 Background

1.1 A report considering the Local Plan Part 2 was presented to the Planning Policy Committee at its meeting of 23 April 2018. This report sets out a revised timetable for taking the Local Plan through to adoption.

2.0 Local Development Scheme Revision

2.1 The timescale for setting out local plan progress is provided through a Local Development Scheme (LDS), which is required to inform the public and stakeholders of the key milestones//consultation dates for the Local Plan.

2.2 At the meeting of the Planning Policy Committee on 23 April 2018, a revised LDS was agreed, which anticipated the adoption of the Local Plan in June 2020. The detail relating to the timetable was set out in that report.

2.3 Since the meeting of the 23 April Planning Policy Committee, the implications of Government reform have become much clearer. This resulted in a further report to 4 June Planning Policy Committee which considered the impact that proposed unitary status, along with local election dates moving from May 2019 to May 2020, would have on the progression of the Plan. The report proposed to make amendments to the Local Plan timetable and subsequently resolved that the Local Development Scheme was revised to reflect the new timescale and brought back to the Planning Policy Committee for approval.

2.4 The revised LDS Key milestones were set out as follows:

Plan Stage	Revised Timescale
Draft Plan consultation	November / December 2018
Pre Submission	February / March 2019
Submission to Secretary of State	May 2019
Examination	August 2019
Adoption	December 2019

2.5 This revision brings forward the completion of the Plan in advance of local elections in May 2020 and allows the adoption of the Plan to be considered within the remit of the current administrative arrangements.

- 2.6 The report also included a recommendation that delegated authority be given to the Head of Planning Services, in conjunction with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Planning Policy Committee, to agree a detailed work programme for delivering the adoption of the East Northamptonshire district-wide Local Plan Part 2 by December 2019.
- 2.7 Further discussions in respect of the timetable highlighted in paragraph 2.4 above indicate that it would be preferable to bring forward consultation on the draft plan by a few weeks to allow more time to respond to the anticipated representations in advance of publishing the pre-submission plan in February/March 2019.
- 2.8 It is therefore proposed to consult on a draft plan in October/November 2018, details of which would be reported to the next meeting of the Planning Policy Committee on 17 September.
- 2.9 The revised milestones are set out in the LDS attached to this report (Appendices 1 and 2 refer).
- 2.10 The revised timetable will ensure that the Council continues to maintain a proactive approach to plan making and provides an opportunity for consulting on draft plan options in advance of a pre submission plan in Spring 2019.

3.0 Equality and Diversity Implications

- 3.1 The production of a Local Plan document requires a comprehensive analysis of its policies to assess any impact on issues of equality. The adoption of a shortened timetable for delivery will not affect the duration of these statutory consultation periods and therefore is not considered to have any Equality and Diversity implications

4.0 Legal Implications

- 4.1 The publication of an agreed Local Development Scheme (the project management plan for preparing the district-wide Local Plan Part 2 document) is a legal requirement under the planning legislation (including the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, the Localism Act 2011 (as amended) and the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012).

5.0 Risk Management

- 5.1 Risk Management is built into the project plan for the Local Plan and progress against the LDS is monitored. The main risks in preparing the district-wide Local Plan Part 2 are identified as:
- a) Maintaining progress to ensure that key stages are met to enable the Local Plan to proceed as soon as possible to examination and adoption. This will be mitigated by tight weekly project management and reporting procedures and delegation of decisions between the Head of Service and Chair/Vice Chair of the Planning Policy Committee, as appropriate.
 - b) Ensuring the availability of sufficient resources to enable the Local Plan preparation process to proceed efficiently. Additional resourcing may be required due to the current secondment of the Principal Planning Policy Officer to the Joint Planning and Delivery Unit to work on the new growth deal.
 - c) Ensuring that the Local Plan satisfies the tests for examination, namely that it has been positively prepared, is justified, is effective, and is consistent with national policy.

6.0 Resource and Financial Implications

6.1 In addition to existing staff costs, the main costs in the preparation of a district-wide Local Plan Part 2 documents are the production of the evidence base and funding the independent examination process, which is undertaken by the Planning Inspectorate.

6.2 The cost of producing the evidence base is covered by existing budgets but provision of approximately £75,000-£100,000 will need to be made in 2019/20 for the cost of the examination process. This will need to be factored into the MTFP as appropriate. A report will be prepared for consideration by the Policy and Resources Committee following the resolution of this report.

7.0 Constitutional Implications

7.1 None arising from this report.

8.0 Privacy Implications

8.1 There are no privacy implications raised through this report

9.0 Customer Service Implications

9.1 The adoption of a district-wide Local Plan Part 2 will ensure that the council, and its successor council, will have a clear and up-to-date statutory planning policy framework to inform decisions on planning applications which take into account the needs of local communities, particularly in respect of availability of housing.

10.0 Corporate Outcomes

10.1 The preparation of a District-wide Local Plan Part 2 will deliver the following Corporate Plan outcomes:

- Good Quality of Life: maintenance or improvement of healthy and safe lifestyles through sustainable development via policies relating to landscape, green infrastructure, and design.
- Effective Partnership Working: District-wide Local Plan Part 2 preparation involves close partnership working with a wide variety of stakeholders to inform the evidence base.
- Effective Management: Fulfilling legal requirements and maximising the effectiveness of the planning service.

11.0 Recommendation

11.1 The Committee is recommended to:

Agree the revised timetable for the preparation of the District Wide Local Plan as set out in detail in appendices 1 and 2, attached to this report.

(Reason – to ensure that the Council identifies the most effective timescale and use of resources with regard to making progress with the completion of the statutory Development Plan for East Northamptonshire in the period leading up to the transition to a new North Northamptonshire unitary authority.)

Legal	Power: Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012; Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004; Localism Act 2011(as amended).				
	Other considerations: National Planning Policy Framework				
Background Papers: None					
Person Originating Report: Name, Richard Palmer Planning Policy and Conservation Manager ☎ 01832 742142 ✉ rpalmer@east-northamptonshire.gov.uk					
Date: 19/06/2018					
CFO		MO		CX	

East Northamptonshire District Local Development Scheme February 2018- 2021

1.0 Introduction

1.1 A Local Development Scheme (LDS) is required under Section 15 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (as amended by the Localism Act 2011). The LDS provides a project plan which identifies the development plan documents which, when prepared, will make up the Local Plan for the area. It must be made publically available and regularly reviewed (which is undertaken through the Joint Annual Monitoring Report). It will enable the public and stakeholders to find out about planning policies in their area, the status of policies and the details of and timescales for producing the relevant documents.

1.2 The LDS covers a 3 year period from February 2018 to February 2021, which will be subject to annual review, as indicated above.

1.3 This LDS specifies:

- The documents to be prepared over the 3 year period from the date it comes into effect and which of those documents will form part of the development plan
- The subject matter and geographical area to which each development plan document relates
- The timetable for the preparation and revision of the development plan documents
- Resource and management arrangements
- How monitoring and review of the LDS will occur

1.4 Development Plan Documents must be prepared in accordance with the LDS.

2.0 Statutory planning framework and additional documents

2.1 A number of planning documents are already in place, which provides policy guidance for the Council when determining planning applications. These form the statutory development plan for East Northamptonshire. As they are already adopted they do not form part of the formal schedule set out in this

LDS. However, they are included below in order to provide a comprehensive position of the planning policy documents which apply in East Northamptonshire District.

North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy (2011-2031)

- 2.2 The JCS was adopted in July 2016. It was prepared by the North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit on behalf of and with input from East Northamptonshire Council, together with Corby Borough, Kettering Borough and Wellingborough Councils, representing the administrative areas that the document provides strategic policy direction for. The JCS will inform the content for the Local Development Plan documents for East Northamptonshire District.

East Northamptonshire District Local Plan (1996) – Saved Policies

- 2.3 This Plan was originally adopted in 1996 to cover the period up to 2006. However, a number of its policies were saved by Direction of the Secretary of State in 2007, with the adoption of the RNOT plan (see below) and JCS only a small number of policies are extant, all of which will be superseded following the adoption of the District Wide Local Plan Part 2, which is subject to this LDS.

Rural North, Oundle and Thrapston Local Plan (2011)

- 2.4 The RNOT Plan was adopted in July 2011, providing policy direction at a local level for the northern part of the District. Whilst a number of its policies remain in force, the progression of the District Wide Local Plan Part 2 will eventually replace any remaining policies in the RNOT Plan upon its adoption.

Supplementary Planning Documents

- 2.5 There is a range of emerging and adopted supplementary planning documents that amplify adopted plan policy. Those that are currently intended to be taken forward as part of the Local Plan programme are set out in section 4 of this LDS.

Neighbourhood Plans

- 2.6 The Council supports the development of Neighbourhood Plans, which upon “being made” form part of the development plan for the District. As at June 2018 the following Neighbourhood Plans have been made and now form part of the statutory planning framework for the relevant parishes in East Northamptonshire District:

Made Plans:

- *Higham Ferrers April 2016*
- *Stanwick July 2017*
- *Chelveston cum Caldecott July 2017*
- *Raunds November 2017*
- *Rushden July 2018*

- 2.7 The progress of Neighbourhood Plans is updated regularly on the Council's website:
www.eastnorthamptonshire.gov.uk/downloads/file/9755/table_of_neighbourhood_plans_progress

Statement of Community Involvement

- 2.8 The North Northamptonshire planning authorities prepared a Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) to help set out how interested parties can get involved and will be consulted in the preparation of plans and planning applications. This Statement replaces the previous SCI that was adopted in 2006.
- 2.9 The North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Committee adopted the Statement of Community Involvement in relation to jointly prepared documents on the 14th November 2013; this Council adopted the SCI on 16th December 2013, with some minor amendments.

Authorities Monitoring Report

- 2.10 To ensure that plans and policies are effective, an annual authorities monitoring report is produced to record progress on implementing the development plan policies and objectives. A joint authorities monitoring report is published by the Joint Planning Unit on behalf of each of the constituent planning authorities of North Northamptonshire.

Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal

- 2.11 All development plan documents are subject to the requirements of undertaking a Sustainability Appraisal, this is a mandatory requirement imposed by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. It is also necessary to conduct an environmental assessment in accordance with the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (European Directive 2001/42/EC). The requirements to carry out SA and SEA are

distinct, although it is possible to satisfy both using a single appraisal process. The aim of the process is to appraise the social, environmental and economic effects of the plan strategies and policies and to ensure that they accord with the objectives of sustainable development

- 2.12 The SA, incorporating the SEA, will be undertaken as an integral part of preparing local plans and will help arrangements for monitoring and implementation.

Adopted Policies Map

- 2.13 A map of East Northamptonshire District which illustrates geographically the application of the policies in the adopted Development Plan.

3.0 The Local Development Scheme: Programme Plan

- 3.1 The District Council proposes to adopt the following key document within the period covered by this LDS:

- East Northamptonshire District Wide Local Plan Part 2

- 3.2 The programme for preparing the East Northamptonshire District Wide Local Plan Part 2 is set out in the schedule below, whilst an overview of the timetable for preparing the Development Plan Document is provided through the LDS timeline in Table 1.

- 3.3 The Council is expected to progress the preparation of the Development Plan Document in accordance with the schedule. Progress on meeting the programme will be reported annually to through the Joint Annual Monitoring Report. If significant changes occur the LDS will be reviewed.

- 3.4 Following the adoption of the East Northamptonshire District Wide Local Plan Part 2, the Development Plan for East Northamptonshire District will comprise of the following documents:

- North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy Local Plan Part 1 – adopted July 2016
- Any Neighbourhood Plans that have been “made”
- Northamptonshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan – update adopted July 2017

4.0 Supplementary Planning Documents

4.1 The following supplementary planning documents (SPDs) will supplement the development plan document listed in paragraph 3.1:

- Affordable Housing
- Developer Contributions
- Sustainable Design
- Ecosystems Services

4.2 The Affordable Housing and Developer Contributions SPDs will be produced by the District Council. Whilst work on producing the remaining two SPDs will be coordinated by the Joint Planning Unit and provide coverage across the whole of the North Northamptonshire area.

4.3 In addition to the above further SPDs may be required and this position will be kept under review. Currently adopted SPDs which are already used in decision making are listed separately on the Council's website:

- www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/spd

Schedule 1 – East Northamptonshire District Wide Local Plan Part 2	
Purpose and Subject Matter	To set out site specific allocations for the District, including residential and employment uses. To set out clear local policy direction, standards and criteria against which to assess proposals for future development As an example of policy content it will include boundaries of town centres, historic conservation, design and nature conservation
Geographical Area	East Northamptonshire District
Status	Development Plan Document
Chain of Conformity	It must be in conformity with the North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy and the National Planning Policy Framework
Duty to Cooperate implications	Will require cooperation with all adjoining Local Authorities and other key stakeholders listed in the Town and Country planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012
Time Period	Up to 2031
Review Timescale	Annually as part of the Joint Monitoring Report
Management Arrangements	Planning Policy and Conservation Manager overseen by Head of Planning Services
Reporting Arrangements	Head of Planning Services in consultation with the Chair (and/or Vice Chair) of the Planning Policy Committee, together with reports taken to the Planning Policy Committee
Resources Required	Planning Policy team, input from other Council services, neighbouring authorities, consultees, Programme Officer and Planning Inspectorate
Timetable for Production and Conformity with Regulations	
Draft Plan consultation	October – November 2018
Publication of Pre Submission Plan and Consultation (Regulation 19)	February-March 2019
Submission (Regulation 22)	May 2019
Examination (Regulation 24)	August 2019
Receipt of Inspector's Report	November 2019
Adoption (Regulation 26)	December 2019

Appendix 2: LDS timetable

Local Development Scheme 2018-2021

Local Plan: Part 2	2018												2019												2020				
				A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M
Local Plan Part 2 Key Milestones																													

KEY:

	Preparation of draft Plan
	Draft plan consultation (inc site options)
	Public consultation on pre submission Plan (Regulation 19)
	Submission to Secretary of State (Reg 22)
	Examination Hearings (Reg 24)
	Possible consultation on main modifications
	Receipt of Inspectors Report (Reg 25)
	Adoption of Local Plan Part 2 (Reg 26)
	Unitary elections