



East
Northamptonshire
Council

Planning Policy Committee 1 April 2018

Revision to the Local Development Scheme 2019-2020

Purpose of report

To agree a revision to the Local Development Scheme for East Northamptonshire District.

Attachment

Appendix 1 East Northamptonshire District LDS Revision Timetable 2019 – 2020

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Council resolved to produce a District-wide East Northamptonshire Local Plan Part 2 (the Local Plan), with a plan period to 2031, at its meeting on 11th April 2016.
- 1.2 A Local Development Scheme (LDS) is required under Section 15 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011) to set out the purpose, scope and project plan for the Local Plan.
- 1.3 This report presents a revised LDS which sets out a realistic timescale for the council to move through the key statutory processes required to enable the final draft Local Plan to be 'submitted' for an Examination in Public by the Planning Inspectorate, working on behalf of the Secretary of State.

2.0 Local Plan Position

- 2.1 The draft Local Plan was subject to a six week public consultation between 2nd November 2018 and 17th December 2018. This period was extended from 18th December 2018 to 18th February 2019 to allow further representations to be submitted particularly in relation, but not limited to, proposed site allocations at Oundle. A significant number of representations were submitted during the consultation process.
- 2.2 Each representation is to be subject to scrutiny by the Planning Policy Committee, on the basis of a series of officer reports which recommend whether the representations should be accepted, rejected, or subject to further consideration.
- 2.3 This process started at the Planning Policy Committee meeting on 11th March 2019, and will continue until the Planning Policy Committee has considered all of the representations. Once this is completed, the Planning Policy Committee will receive a consolidated revised version of the draft Local Plan for consideration in moving towards the submission version of the Local Plan.

3.0 The Local Development Scheme

- 3.1 At its meeting on 4th June 2018, the Planning Policy Committee agreed a revised LDS timescale that sought to deliver an adopted Local Plan prior to the anticipated cessation of East Northamptonshire Council on 31st March 2020 and its replacement by a proposed new North Northamptonshire unitary authority, covering the current council administrative areas of Corby, Kettering, Wellingborough and East Northamptonshire.
- 3.2 It is envisaged that the Local Plan, once adopted, will become part of the suite of Local Development Documents from the former constituent authorities that will form

the basis of the Statutory Development Plan Framework for the proposed new North Northamptonshire unitary authority.

- 3.3 These will remain in place until they are reviewed and replaced by a new North Northamptonshire planning framework which will be developed by the new unitary authority. The Statutory Development Plan Framework for the proposed new Unitary authority is likely to consist of the adopted North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, a range of Local Plans as prepared by the constituent authorities (including minerals and waste), and Neighbourhood Plans prepared by local communities.
- 3.4 However, the current LDS timetable (agreed 4th June 2018) is not now achievable, as the volume and quality of the representations received requires proper scrutiny to enable the council to consider revisions to the Local Plan prior to formally submitting it to the Secretary of State.
- 3.5 Therefore, the Committee's agreement is sought for a revised LDS timetable, which will be made publically available on the Council's website and is required to be kept up to date to enable local communities and interested parties to keep track of progress.
- 3.6 The proposed revised LDS stages and timescales are set out in Table 1 below:

Table 1: Proposed Revised LDS Stages and Timescales	
Stage	Timescale
1. Pre-Submission Local Plan public consultation (Regulation 19)	August / September 2019
2. Submission of Local Plan to Secretary of State (Regulation 22)	October 2019
3. Local Plan Examination in Public Hearings (Regulation 24)	January / February 2020
4. Public Consultation on Main Modifications to the Local Plan	March / April 2020
5. Receipt of Planning Inspector's Report (Regulation 25)	May / June 2020
6. Adoption of Local Plan (Regulation 26)	Summer 2020

- 3.7 It is important to note that Stages 1 and 2 are under the direct control of the council. The council has no direct control of the stages and timescales once the Local Plan has been formally submitted to the Secretary of State. The Planning Inspectorate controls the further stages, working with the council and other parties as necessary.
- 3.8 The proposed revised LDS stages and timescales for the production of the Local Plan as set out in Table 1 would therefore replace the LDS timescales that were approved by the Committee on 4th June 2019.

4.0 Equality and Diversity Implications

- 4.1 The production of a Local Plan document requires a comprehensive analysis of its policies to assess any impact on issues of equality

5.0 Legal Implications

- 5.1 The LDS is subject to legislative requirements set out in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and The Localism Act 2011(as amended).

6.0 Risk Management

- 6.1 The main risk is in ensuring that the preparation of the Local Plan is appropriately resourced and satisfies the tests for Examination, in that it has been: positively prepared; is justified: effective: and consistent with national policy.

7.0 Resource and Financial Implications

- 7.1 Sufficient financial resources are in place to enable the preparation, submission, and adoption of a sound Local Plan on the revised LDS timescales.
- 7.2 However, it is possible that staff resources could be difficult to replace if team members decide to leave, the main risk being the potential uncertainties related to the transition to the new unitary council, currently proposed to be in April 2020.

8.0 Constitutional Implications

- 8.1 None arising from this report.

9.0 Customer Service Implications

- 9.1 The preparation, submission and adoption of a Local Plan would ensure a clear policy steer for assessing future planning applications that impact on communities. This would continue to be relevant, as part of the 'up-to-date' statutory Development Plan, through the transition process into the proposed new unitary council.
- 9.2 The process for preparing a new North Northamptonshire Development Plan or plans to replace all aspects of the inherited adopted Local Plans and related planning policy framework will need to be decided by the proposed new unitary authority.



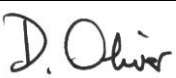
10.0 Corporate Outcomes

- 10.1 The preparation of the Local Plan is a comprehensive project, and is anticipated to have an impact on most of the Corporate Plan outcomes, but in particular as follows:
- Good Quality of Life: For example through policies relating to sustainable development, economic prosperity, healthy communities, and design.
 - Effective Partnership Working: Local Plan 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 Local Development Scheme timetable for the preparation of the East Northamptonshire Local Plan Part 2, as detailed in Appendix 1 to this report.

(Reason – To inform the legislative requirements, which are to be included in the revised Local Development Scheme)

Legal	Powers: Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. The Localism Act 2011(as amended). All other related planning legislation and regulations.	
	Other considerations: National Planning Policy Framework	
Background Papers: None		
Person Originating Report: Paul Bland, Head of Planning Services ☎ 01832 742218 ✉ pbland@east-northamptonshire.gov.uk		
Date: 19/3/2019		
CFO 21/03/19 	MO 20/03/19 	CX 20/03/19 

Local Development Scheme 2019-2020

APPENDIX 1

Local Plan: Part 2	2019											2020											
				A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
Local Plan - timeline of key milestones																							

KEY:

- Pre-submission Local Plan public consultation (Reg 19)
- Submission of Local Plan to Secretary of State (Reg 22)
- Local Plan Examination in Public Hearings (Reg 24)
- Public consultation on Main Modifications
- Receipt of Inspector's Report (Reg 25)
- Adoption of Local Plan Part 2 (Reg 26)