

Oadby and Wigston Borough Council

Local Development Scheme

2018



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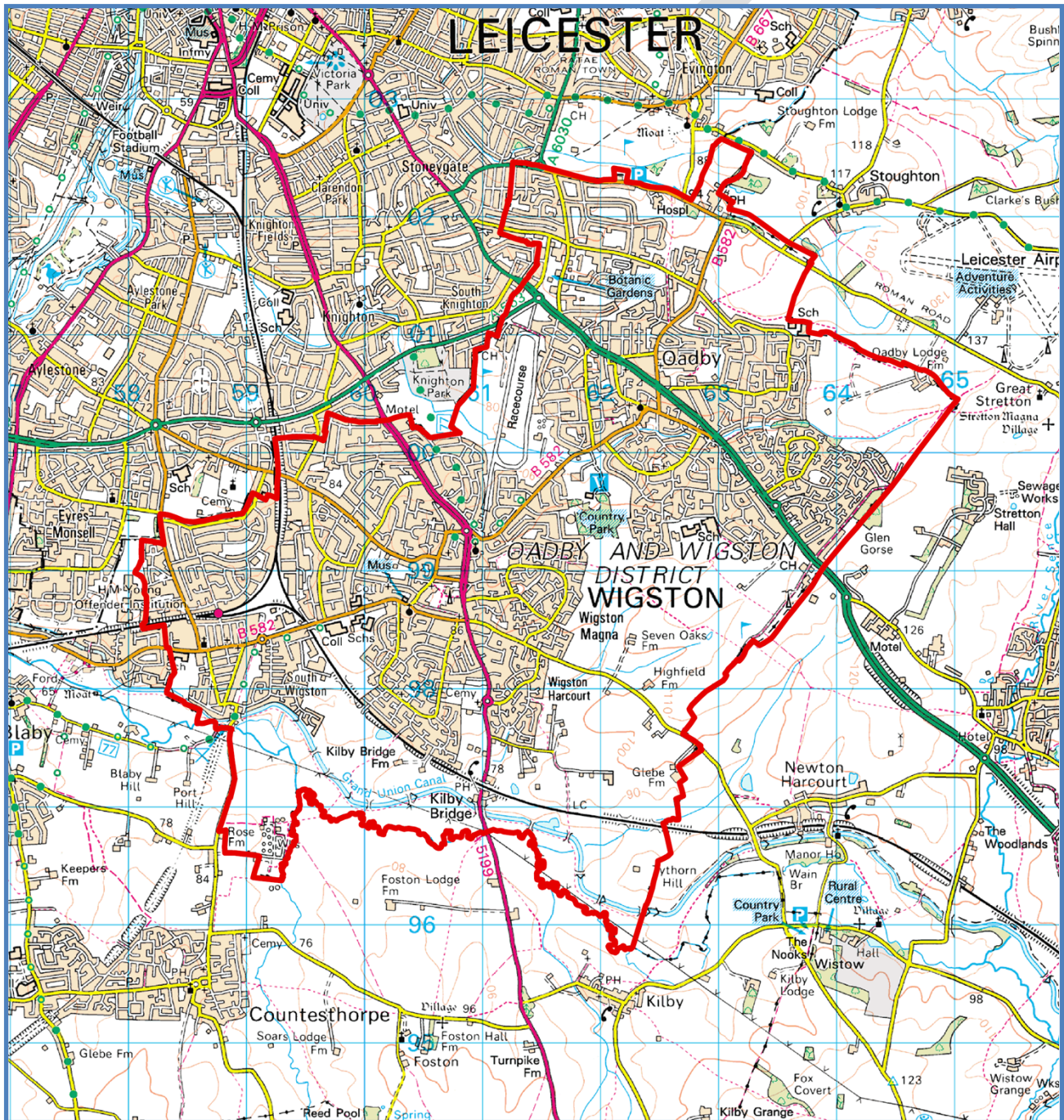
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1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Local Development Scheme (LDS) is a document which contains a local authority's timetable / programme of works for the production of their Development Plan and other planning related documents. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011) requires local planning authorities to prepare, maintain and publish an LDS. This enables local communities and stakeholders to find out which key planning documents are to be prepared for the area within the foreseeable future.
- 1.2 The Council seeks to update its LDS at least every two years, with this LDS updating the Council's previously adopted LDS of spring 2017. This LDS covers the period autumn 2018 to autumn 2020.
- 1.3 This LDS reflects the Council's progress made in adopting the new Local Plan. It also provides information on other relevant planning related documentation, such as Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD) (and planning guidance), that the Council intends to produce and the timetable for their production. Having such information and timetabling enables the community, businesses, developers, service and infrastructure providers and other interested organisations to know which planning related documents are being and / or are to be prepared for the Borough area and when they will be able to participate in public consultation.
- 1.4 The Council is committed to working with its partners, stakeholders and all members of the local community in the preparation of new planning policy. Together, the LDS and the adopted Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) set out how and when the aforementioned can participate in the process. External participation throughout the process is integral to shaping the Boroughs future.
- 1.5 The Council's most up to date LDS will be published on its website – www.oadby-wigston.gov.uk

2. Geographical coverage area

- 2.1 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011) requires local planning authorities to set out the geographical area to which each planning document set out in this Local Development Scheme (LDS) applies.
- 2.2 The extent of the coverage area for the Development Plan, is the administrative local authority boundary of the Borough of Oadby and Wigston (see map below). The coverage area of Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD) is set out in the tables of Chapter 6 of this document.



3. The Planning System

- 3.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was first published on 27th March 2012 and came into immediate effect. The NPPF review document was published on the 24th July 2018 and supersedes the previous version. The NPPF sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. It also provides a framework in which local authorities can produce their own distinctive Local Plans.
- 3.2 The NPPF confirms that the planning system is “plan-led” which means that planning applications have to be determined in accordance with the Development Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.
- 3.3 The NPPF also confirms that the policies in emerging plans will gather more weight as development plans progress towards adoption.
- 3.4 During March 2014 the government published the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) which gives further guidance on specific aspects of the planning system, for example the Duty to Cooperate and housing and economic land availability assessments. The NPPG is a web-based ‘live’ resource and is updated on a regular basis by national government as and when required to do so.

4. The Council's Development Plan

- 4.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states that a local authorities Development Plan comprises adopted Local Plans, Neighbourhood Plans, and the London Plan (where relevant). A local authorities Development Plan can also be supplemented by Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD) and relevant local planning guidance.
- 4.2 The Council's Development Plan comprises the adopted Local Plan (and its associated Adopted Policies Map) that sets out the spatial and development strategy for the Borough area for the period up to 2031. The Borough area does not currently have any adopted Neighbourhood Plans. The Council's Local Plan is supplemented by the following SPD and local planning guidance:
- Residential Development SPD
 - Conservation Areas SPD
 - Developer Contributions SPD
 - Public Realm guidance
 - Employment Sites guidance
 - Town and District Centre guidance
 - Supplementary local development control planning guidance
- 4.3 The Council forms part of a two tier local government structure. The Council comprises the lower tier and the planning function for the local authority area; the upper tier is coordinated by Leicestershire County Council. It is therefore the County Council that produce and manage the delivery of Minerals and Waste Plans.

5. The Council's Local Plan

- 5.1 National planning policy places Local Plans at the very heart of the planning system. It is essential that they are in place and kept up to date. The Council's Local Plan is due to be adopted during November / December 2018.
- 5.2 The Council's Local Plan sets out the vision, framework and spatial strategy for the future development of the entire Borough area for the period 2011 to 2031. The Plan addresses the needs and opportunities in relation to housing, the economy, community facilities and infrastructure; it also safeguards vital green open spaces and the environment, and illustrates how the Borough area can secure high quality sustainable design.
- 5.3 The Local Plan is also a critical tool in guiding decisions about individual development proposals, as the Plan is the starting-point for considering whether applications for development can be approved.
- 5.4 Government planning policy and guidance sets out the local planning authorities should review their Local Plans at least every 5 years from the date of adoption, to ensure that they are up to date and based on the most reliable and up to date evidence. It is also clear from national planning policy and guidance that relevant local policies for the supply of housing should not be considered up to date if the local authority cannot demonstrate a 5 year supply of deliverable housing sites.

6. Timetable for Development Plan and related documents

- 6.1 The following tables set out the delivery of the Council's Local Plan and the related planning documents that the Council will be preparing over the next 2 year period.
- 6.2 A profile for each document is provided, that sets out the documents role and subject, its geographical coverage and its planning status. A timetable of preparation is also illustrated for each document. It should be noted that although the Council will seek to follow the preparation timetables, it is difficult to be precise at the outset, therefore timings should be regarded as indicative. Should there be a need to update the preparation timings of a particular document this will be done so through regular review and will be highlighted on the Borough's dedicated Local Development Scheme (LDS) webpage.
- 6.3 It should be noted that the production of each of the documents set out in this chapter will be done so in conformity with the Duty to Cooperate, as well as the Council's adopted Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).

New Local Plan – Overview

Role and Subject	The Oadby and Wigston Local Plan document provides the overall spatial and development strategy for the Borough area for the period up to 2031. It contains both strategic and specific planning policy, as well as relevant designations and allocations. All planning decisions made within the Borough will need to be consistent with the Council's Local Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.
Geographical coverage area	The entire Borough area
Planning status	Development Plan Document
Conforms to	the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)
Timetable (key stages)	
SA/ SEA Scoping Report commencement	May 2014
Initial Call for sites	March 2015
Regulation 18 (Issues and Options)	October to November 2015
Regulation 18 (Preferred Options)	November to December 2016
Pre-Submission Consultation	November to December 2017
Submission to the Planning Inspectorate	January 2018
Examination Hearing Sessions	April to June 2018
Receipt of Inspectors Report	November 2018
Adoption	November / December 2018
Production arrangements	
Lead section	Planning Policy and Regeneration
Project Manager	Planning Policy Team Leader
Internal resources	All internal Council departments
External resources	Specific expert consultants
Community Involvement	As per the Council's SCI

Adopted Policies Map – Overview

Role and Subject	The Adopted Policies Map is directly related to the Council's new Local Plan and illustrates the Plans key proposals, relevant policy areas, designations, allocations and locations of development within the Borough area.
Geographical coverage area	The entire Borough area
Planning status	Local Plan Adopted Policies Map
Conforms to	The new Local Plan and NPPF
Timetable (key stages)	The Adopted Policies Map is produced alongside the Council's Local Plan and will be published alongside the Council's Local Plan during November / December 2018.
Production arrangements	
Lead section	Planning Policy and Regeneration
Project Manager	Planning Policy Team Leader
Internal resources	Planning Policy and Regeneration
External resources	Leicestershire County Council
Community Involvement	As per the Council's SCI

Residential Development SPD – Overview

Role and Subject	The Council's Residential Development SPD provides further guidance and information to that contained within the new Local Plan. The SPD sets out what the Council will consider when applications for residential development are submitted through the planning process.
Geographical coverage area	The entire Borough area
Planning status	Supplementary Planning Document
Conforms to	The Council's new Local Plan
Timetable (key stages) Evidence base gathering and drafting Draft for 6 week Consultation Consultation period Consideration of representations received Final draft for adoption Adoption	March to August 2018 20 th September 2018 8 th October to 19 th November 2018 December 2018 to February 2019 3 rd April 2019 16 th April 2019
Production arrangements Lead section Project Manager Internal resources External resources Community Involvement	Planning Policy and Regeneration Planning Policy Team Leader Planning Policy and Regeneration, and Planning Control Leicestershire County Council As per the Council's SCI

Conservation Areas SPD – Overview

Role and Subject	The Council's Conservation Areas SPD provides further guidance and information to that contained within the new Local Plan. The SPD sets out how the Council will seek to retain, enhance and manage the historic assets situated within the designated conservation areas.
Geographical coverage area	Conservation areas within the Borough
Planning status	Supplementary Planning Document
Conforms to	The Council's new Local Plan
Timetable (key stages)	
Evidence base gathering and drafting	March to August 2018
Draft for 6 week Consultation	20 th September 2018
Consultation period	8 th October to 19 th November 2018
Consideration of representations received	December 2018 to February 2019
Final draft for adoption	3 rd April 2019
Adoption	16 th April 2019
Production arrangements	
Lead section	Planning Policy and Regeneration
Project Manager	Planning Policy Team Leader
Internal resources	Planning Policy and Regeneration, and Planning Control
External resources	Leicestershire County Council
Community Involvement	As per the Council's SCI

Developer Contributions SPD – Overview

Role and Subject	The Council's Developer Contributions SPD provides further guidance and information to that contained within the new Local Plan. The SPD sets out how the Council will consider developer contributions through the planning process.
Geographical coverage area	The entire Borough area
Planning status	Supplementary Planning Document
Conforms to	The Council's new Local Plan
Timetable (key stages)	
Evidence base gathering and drafting	March to August 2018
Draft for 6 week Consultation	20 th September 2018
Consultation period	8 th October to 19 th November 2018
Consideration of representations received	December 2018 to February 2019
Final draft for adoption	3 rd April 2019
Adoption	16 th April 2019
Production arrangements	
Lead section	Planning Policy and Regeneration
Project Manager	Planning Policy Team Leader
Internal resources	Planning Policy and Regeneration, and Planning Control
External resources	Leicestershire County Council / Sport England
Community Involvement	As per the Council's SCI

7. Other documents

- 7.1 In addition to the documents highlighted in Chapter 6 of this document, the Council will also be producing a number of other planning related documents that will assist in the delivery of the new Local Plan.
- 7.2 The additional planning related documents that the Council will be producing over the next two years will include; the Public Realm guidance, which will replace the existing Public Realm Strategy SPD; the Employment Sites guidance which will replace the Employment Sites SPD; and, the Town and District Centre guidance which will aid delivery of the town and district centre policies set out within the Local Plan.
- 7.3 In addition to the guidance documents set out above, the Council regularly update its evidence base documents, and will continue to do so. For example, over the next two years, the Council will be updating the Playing Pitch Strategy; and, the plethora of annual monitoring documents.
- 7.4 It should be noted that a Sustainability Appraisal (incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Regulation Assessment) will be produced for each Development Plan Document (DPD) that the Council produces, as well as Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD) where relevant to do so.

8. Resourcing document production

- 8.1 The successful completion of the programme of works outlined in Chapter 6 of this document will be challenging for the Council. The programme of works will be completed in the main by the Council's Planning Policy team and Economic Regeneration team. The Planning Policy team consists of; a Planning Policy Team Leader post; a Planning Officer (Senior) post; a Planning Officer post; and, a joint Planning Policy / Planning Control Officer post. The Economic Regeneration team consists of; an Economic Regeneration Team Leader post; an Economic Regeneration Officer post; and, a Town Centre Manager Officer post.
- 8.2 Of the posts illustrated above, the following resources will be made available to ensure delivery of the programme of works.

Post	Percentage of Time (%)
Planning Policy Team Leader	65 %
Planning Officer (Senior)	80 %
Planning Officer	80 %
Planning Policy / Planning Control Officer	40 %
Economic Regeneration Team Leader	20 %
Economic Regeneration Officer	20 %
Town Centre Manager Officer	10 %

- 8.3 In addition to that highlighted above, limited staff resources will be required from the Planning Control team, the Technical and Administration team, as well as the ICT and Legal Departments of the Council.

Councillors

- 8.4 As well as Council officer time, the successful completion of the programme of works outlined in Chapter 6 of this document will require some Councillor time. A cross party Place Shaping Member Working Group involving elected Members meets throughout the calendar year to discuss the Local Plan as well as other planning related projects. The group has the following terms of reference:
- Provide input in relation to issues where guidance from Councillors is required
 - Provide advice on issues where guidance is needed quickly in order to meet milestones set out in this Local Development Scheme (LDS)
 - Provide advice on the various methods for undertaking public consultation
 - Represent the Council in relation to Local Plan issues, including chairing meetings and providing statements to the press through official press releases and interviews.
- 8.5 Place Shaping Member Working Group do not make decisions regarding the Council's Development Plan or related documentation. Such decisions are made at Full Council or Policy, Finance and Development Committee depending on the nature of the decision required. Through reporting to the aforementioned committee's and working group Councillors will have the opportunity to shape the planning related documents set out in this LDS. It is vitally important that Councillors have these opportunities.

9. Risks to delivery of the programme of works

9.1 A number of 'risks' could arise over the next two year period, which could affect the delivery of the programme of works set out in this Local Development Scheme (LDS). A number of potential risks are outlined below.

Potential Risk	Likelihood	Notes	Action
Loss of financial and staff resource due to government funding cuts.	Medium to High	Government funding cuts have already required the Council to review its staffing structure. Further structure reviews could be required.	Continue to work as efficiently as possible. Always seek cost savings where possible as well as 'value for money' opportunities.
Missing project milestones and deadlines set out in this Local Development Scheme.	Low	The Planning Policy team is undertaking an ever increasing and diverse workload, however is confident that the milestones and deadlines will be met.	Continue to work as efficiently as possible. Continue to develop in house expertise to reduce the need for external resourcing.
Lack of public interest in the planning process.	Medium	The general public may not want to get involved in the planning process.	The Borough Council's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) sets out how the Council will consult with the public. The SCI sets out how the Council goes 'above and beyond' when consulting the public to ensure that as many people as possible can get involved.
Impact of other work on the Planning Policy team	High	The Planning Policy team is involved in an ever broadening work programme.	The completion of the work programme outlined in this LDS is the priority for the Planning Policy team and resourcing is scheduled accordingly.
Duty to Cooperate delays	High	The Duty to Cooperate requires local authorities to work together spatially and produce joint pieces of evidence base work. Delays can occur from the different governance processes.	The Council will continue to work closely with local authorities and will timetable work and projects accordingly, taking account of potential delays.

10. Monitoring and review

- 10.1 A number of planning monitoring reports, for example the Residential Land Availability Assessment and the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment, are produced on an annual basis by the Council to feed into the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR). This all-encompassing report (AMR) is produced each year and published on the Council's website. The report assesses progress towards the implementation of the Local Development Scheme, and the extent to which the policies in Council's Development Plan are being achieved. If necessary, the Local Development Scheme will be revised in light of these monitoring reports.

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