



Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council

**Local Development Scheme
2020 – 2025**

October 2022

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1. INTRODUCTION

What is the Local Development Scheme?

- 1.1 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011) requires local planning authorities to prepare, maintain and publish a Local Development Scheme (LDS).
- 1.2 The LDS establishes the programme for the production of Development Plan Documents (DPDs) such as the Local Plan and other supporting planning documents and sets out the key stages for their production including public consultation. This enables local communities, businesses, developers, service and infrastructure providers and anyone else with an interest in the borough to know what is being prepared for their area and when they will be able to get involved.
- 1.3 This LDS covers the period from 2020 to 2025 and supersedes the previous LDS published in July 2020. It provides information about the Hinckley & Bosworth Local Plan 2020-2041 and other related documents that may be produced.

Current Hinckley & Bosworth Local Plan

- 1.4 The adopted Hinckley & Bosworth Local Plan consists of:
 - Core Strategy (2009)
 - Hinckley Town Centre Area Action Plan (2011)
 - Earl Shilton and Barwell Area Action Plan (2014) and
 - Site Allocations and Development Management Policies (2016).

Local Development Documents

- 1.5 All documents which comprise or support the delivery of the Local Plan are Local Development Documents. These include -

Development Plan Documents

- 1.6 Development Plan Documents (DPDs) detail the planning strategies for development within the borough. They set out policies and guidance for the use, protection and/or development of land and will normally include the allocation and designation of land for uses such as housing or play and open space. These must be in general conformity with government guidance, in particular the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). DPDs carry the most weight for determining planning applications and

form the 'Development Plan' for the borough in conjunction with any made Neighbourhood Development Plans. The new Local Plan will eventually replace Core Strategy and Site Allocations and Development Management DPDs listed at 1.4 above. The Earl Shilton and Barwell Sustainable Urban Extension AAPs will be saved as existing applications and ongoing town centre masterplan work is predicated on their contents.

Neighbourhood Development Plans

- 1.7 Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDP) are community-led plans for guiding the future development and growth of a local area. They were introduced by the Localism Act (2011) and, although not compulsory, once they are duly prepared and legally come into force, they become a statutory document that forms part of the Development Plan. An NDP can be used to set a shared vision for an area, shape and direct sustainable development and set policies to aid determination of planning applications.
- 1.8 NDP's must be in general conformity with the strategic policies of the Local Plan and are prepared to a timescale that is set by the Parish, Town Council or Neighbourhood Forum that is producing it. As local planning authorities are not responsible for the preparation or timetabling of any NDPs that are proposed, they are not detailed in this LDS. The Council provides, statutory and discretionary, officer support and advice in preparing these plans.
- 1.9 A number of parishes are in the process of producing Neighbourhood Plans and there are seven 'made' plans (as at October 2022):
 - Market Bosworth (made September 2015)
 - Burbage (made May 2021)
 - Desford (made May 2021)
 - Markfield (made September 2021)
 - Stoke Golding (made March 2022)
 - Sheepy Review (made May 2022)
 - Barlestone (made June 2022)

More information about Neighbourhood Planning and a full list of 'made' plans can be found on the borough council's web site.

Supplementary Planning Documents

- 1.10 Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) are documents which add further detail to the policies in the Local Plan. They can be used to provide further guidance for development on specific sites, or on issues, such as design. SPDs are capable of being a material consideration in planning decisions but do not form part of the development plan. The Borough Council may decide to produce SPD as and when the need for such further guidance arises. More information about and a full list of SPDs can be found on the borough council's web site.

Statement of Community Involvement

- 1.11 The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) document sets out the standards to which the local planning authority will engage and consult the public and other stakeholders during the production of the Local Plan and when dealing with planning applications. The SCI was most recently revised in July 2019, and additional supplementary guidance was published in May 2020 related to the impact of Coronavirus on community involvement. The SCI is revisited regularly to ensure it is up to date and responds to circumstances that may require new or different engagement approaches. The most up to date version is available on the council's website.

Authority Monitoring Report

- 1.12 The council is required to monitor annually how effective its policies and proposals are. An Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) is published by the council each year to inform LDS reviews.
- 1.13 As part of the monitoring process, the council will assess:
- Whether it is meeting, or is on target to meet, the milestones set out in the LDS and, if not, the reasons why
 - What impact Local Development Documents are having on other national and locally set targets
 - Whether any policies need to be reviewed or replaced to meet sustainable development objectives
 - What action needs to be taken if policies need to be replaced
- 1.14 As a result of monitoring, the council will consider what changes, if any, need to be made. If changes are appropriate these will be brought forward through the review of the LDS.

Other Key Plans and Strategies

Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Growth Plan (December 2018)

- 1.15 Hinckley & Bosworth is part of the defined wider housing market for Leicester and Leicestershire. The seven local authorities in Leicester and Leicestershire, Leicestershire County Council and the Local Enterprise Partnership are working together to determine the future need for homes and jobs and agree how these should be distributed across Leicester and Leicestershire. A Strategic Growth Plan has been jointly prepared to demonstrate these needs post 2031 up to 2050, and detail how jobs and homes can be planned for in a coordinated way through local plans.
- 1.16 The Strategic Growth Plan is a positive response to the Duty to Cooperate requirement introduced by the Localism Act 2011. The

broader strategy and the jobs and homes forecasts contained in the Strategic Growth Plan are reflected in Hinckley & Bosworth Local Plan.

Minerals and Waste Local Plans

- 1.17 Leicestershire County Council is responsible for preparing Minerals and Waste Local Plans and determining planning applications for minerals and waste development across Leicestershire. The Minerals and Waste Local Plan was adopted by the County Council in September 2019 and it forms part of the Development Plan for the borough.

Local Transport Plan

- 1.18 Leicestershire County Council, as the highways authority is responsible for preparing the Local Transport Plan (LTP). LTP 3 was published in 2011 and sets out how the highways authority will seek to ensure that transport continues to play its important role in helping Leicestershire to continue to be a prosperous, safe and attractive County up to 2026.

Other documents

- 1.19 A number of other important Borough Council, County Council and external strategies and evidence base documents are also taken into account when preparing DPDs and SPDs. The documents are considered during the scoping of a DPD/SPD and throughout the Sustainability Appraisal process.

Programme of work 2020 – 2025

- 1.20 The council's priority over this period is to prepare and submit for examination a single Local Plan. The Local Plan will use the existing suite of adopted development plan documents as the starting point for developing the strategy and vision for Hinckley & Bosworth to 2041. New, up to date, national policy compliant evidence will be prepared and alongside wide-ranging consultation, will help formulate the new local plan for the borough. Existing commitments for housing, employment and other land uses will also be taken into account and the new plan will identify further sites in the borough to meet the identified needs of its communities. The Local Plan will include specific policies to aid the determination of planning applications for the development of land and buildings as well as an accompanying policies map.
- 1.21 As with previous development plan documents, the new Local Plan will be produced in stages with several opportunities for the public and other interested parties to participate in the decision-making process on a wide range of planning issues. Aligned with this, the council will continue to engage with specific prescribed bodies such as national agencies, service providers and neighbouring local authorities in line with the Duty to Co-operate requirements.

- 1.22 Section eight contains a detailed preparation profile for the Local Plan, although it should be noted that the timetable for production could change during preparation of the Plan, which will be reflected in an update to the LDS.
- 1.23 The full regulatory and consultation requirements for the production of a Local Plan can be found in the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. Whilst there is some flexibility in the production of DPDs the general process is summarised in Figure 1 below:

Figure 1: Stages for Preparing a Development Plan Document



2. THE HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

- 2.1 The LDS programme for the preparation of the Local Plan is provided in Appendix 1. It identifies the delivery of the Local Plan as the priority along with potential Supplementary Planning Documents considered necessary to amplify local planning policy. It is proposed that the Local Plan (2020 – 2041) for the borough will comprise of the following:

The Local Plan Development Plan Document

- 2.2 Will provide the strategic policies in order to deliver the vision for Hinckley & Bosworth Borough up to 2041. The plan period has been extended from the previous 2039 to 2041 to accord with the new estimated adoption date of late 2025 to ensure there is a minimum 15 year plan period post adoption. It will take account of the Strategic Growth Plan for Leicester and Leicestershire and will include the identification of sites to meet any recognised development needs as well as land use designations and policies by which to determine planning applications. As noted above, the Local Plan will replace the Core Strategy and Site Allocations and Development Management Development Plan Documents.

Gypsy and Traveller Allocations and Site Development, Development Plan Document

- 2.3 Will provide the planning policy framework and allocation of land to meet identified needs for residential pitches reflecting the most up to date evidence of accommodation needs and site capacity.

Good Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document

- 2.4 This provides guidance for the future development of the towns, villages and wider rural areas of Hinckley & Bosworth Borough. The intention is not to set out prescriptive requirements or standards, but rather to seek to encourage developers and designers to think about the context of a site and how a development might contribute to and enhance an area. The aim is to ensure high quality development throughout the district regardless of scale or location. National guidance and good practice from other sources will be signposted alongside more detailed local guidance specific to particular areas. The Design SPD was adopted by the council in March 2020.

Land South of Station Road, Market Bosworth Masterplan SPD

- 2.5 The SPD is a masterplan to help guide development and delivery of this allocated mixed use development site. The Masterplan covers design, highways, public open space and other relevant issues and the SPD was adopted by the council in May 2021.

Other documents

- 2.6 The Council may decide to produce additional SPDs should the need arise. The requirement for additional SPDs will be kept under review and will be reflected in future versions of the LDS.
- 2.7 The Hinckley & Bosworth Policies Map will be updated to illustrate Development Plan Documents as they are adopted.

Changes to the LDS Programme since 2020

- 2.8 The main changes are that firstly there was a consultation undertaken on a regulation 18 draft on the proposed strategy and emerging local plan policies during summer 2021. Then in February 2022 the council undertook a Regulation 19 consultation which included the sites proposed to be allocated.
- 2.9 Following conclusion of this consultation, several other relevant issues to address in the Local Plan became apparent. In March 2022 the Office for National Statistics (ONS) released data for 'Housing Affordability in England and Wales: 2021', referred to as the 'affordability ratios. This meant that the annual figure for new houses to be provided in the Local Plan has risen from 444 per annum to 472 under the Standard Methodology calculation.
- 2.10 Following the council's Reg 19 consultation, the quantum of unmet need from Leicester City was finalised. Although the matter was understood in principle at the Reg 19 consultation stage, there had been no distribution finalised. This was based on a Leicestershire-wide Housing and Economic Needs Assessment (HENA) study. The share of the unmet need apportioned to Hinckley and Bosworth was an additional 187 dpa to be added to the council's annual housing figure of 472 dpa equating to 659 dpa. The borough council accept that as a member of the Leicester and Leicestershire housing market area (HMA) we have a duty to help address any unmet need, the figure of 187 dpa is disputed due to the final manual adjustment that is made to the formula behind the distribution.
- 2.11 The HENA attributes an initial 102 dpa to the borough as part of the overall redistribution. However, due to a manual cap on Charnwood Borough Council's share, the borough council object to the additional 85 dpa this would result in. This objection is an 'area of disagreement' contained within an updated Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) between all of the Leicestershire district and borough councils together with the City and County Council. The SoCG has not yet been formally agreed by the council as of October 2022.
- 2.12 The council will need to find additional sites to accommodate these additional houses and will need to ensure that the evidence base including the transport modelling, infrastructure delivery plan, viability modelling and the sustainability appraisal all reflect and support these additional sites. The evidence base modelling cannot be commenced until the Council has identified all the proposed sites to accommodate

the new housing numbers. It is estimated that the transport modelling will take around 12 to 15 months to complete and the IDP and viability modelling can only be completed once the transport modelling is near completion (draft report stage), so it is anticipated that it will be around 18 months before all these parts of the evidence base could be completed prior to submission of the plan for examination.

- 2.13 A further Reg 19 consultation will be required once this work has been completed before the Plan could be submitted. If the quantum of additional housing sites can't be found within the current overall strategy, then it may mean a further Reg 18 consultation needs to take place. If this is the case the LDS will be reviewed again to set this out at the appropriate time.
- 2.14 In April 2022 the borough council became one of 42 councils advised by Natural England that we would be affected by nutrient neutrality requirements. This is where new development that may increase wastewater run off must achieve 'nutrient neutrality,' and this is achieved when the nutrient load created through additional wastewater (including surface water) is mitigated in the development. This new requirement will require relevant policies in the plan and the area subject to nutrient neutrality requirements illustrated on the Proposals map. Nutrient neutrality must also be factored into the preparation of the Local Plan through the Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulation Assessment.
- 2.15 To further compound the above matters, following the March Reg 19 consultation, the quantum of unmet need from Leicester City was finalised. Although the matter was understood in principle at the Reg 19 consultation stage, there had been no quantum finalised. A Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) between all of the Leicestershire district and borough councils, together with the City and County Council was initially drafted in April 2022 but has since been re-published in July 2022. The SoCG is the culmination of joint working between the partners on this matter since 2017. However, as stated at paragraph 2.11, the SoCG has not yet been formally agreed by the council as of October 2022.
- 2.16 Since the Regulation 19 consultation in early 2022, there has been further uncertainty about the direction that local planning will be going following the launch in May 2022 of the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill (LURB) which includes the idea of abolishing the legal Duty to Cooperate. Alongside the Committee stage of the LURB, a prospectus of NPPF changes that would set out the rationale behind the direction of policies was due to be published in summer 2022. This has not materialized to date. Further, during her campaigning to be the UK's next prime minister, Liz Truss stated she would "abolish the top-down, Whitehall-inspired Stalinist housing target. Since becoming PM, her appointed ministers have hinted heavily at imminent announcements of changes which will affect the role of planning as part of the 'supply side' reforms aimed at boosting growth, including the possibility of scrapping

the Government's target of building 300,000 homes per year. Due to the current uncertainty and confusion about how to effectively plan for housing needs and whether there will be a continuing obligation to accept some of Leicester City's unmet need the council plans to re-timetable the production of the Local Plan in order to better understand and respond to the current uncertainty and thus avoid abortive work and the risk of submitting an unsound plan.

3. MANAGEMENT OF DEVELOPMENT PLAN PREPARATION

Project Management and Resources

- 3.1 The Planning Policy Team is responsible for preparing the Local Plan and coordinating work required to support the delivery of the documents set out in this LDS on a day to day basis. The council will work closely with colleagues from other service areas and external agencies to prepare evidence base documents and inform policies in the Local Plan.
- 3.2 Consultants will be engaged on specific projects to provide technical expertise or where there is a need for independent advice. Where opportunities arise work may be undertaken in conjunction with other Leicestershire authorities to avoid duplication of effort and maximise value for money across the county.
- 3.3 The council makes annual contributions from its revenue budget to an earmarked reserve to fund the plan preparation process. The Development Services department has a business plan which provides a framework for project delivery and this plan is reviewed annually.

Risk Assessment

- 3.4 A risk assessment has been carried out as part of the preparation of the LDS to identify key factors that could impact on the ability of the council to deliver the Local Plan in line with the specified programme. The key risks and mitigation measures include:

Nature of Risk	Consequence of Risk Occurring	Level of Risk	Mitigation
Staff Resources to produce new Local Plan - loss of key staff due to sickness, maternity, moving to another job, reliance on agency staff	Insufficient resources to progress Local Plan timetable and provide consistency in developing content and analysis	High	Regular review of staff work-loads but also provide challenge and development to retain staff. Build in resilience where possible to cover short-term and long-term priorities. Ensure sufficient financial resources to cover staffing gaps with agency support.
Failure to development a comprehensive, compliant and up-to-date evidence	Allocations and policies are not supported by robust evidence will not deliver	High	Ensure rigorous assessment of what evidence is required to support the Local Plan. Ensure

base to support the Local Plan.	good place making and the homes and jobs needed in the borough. This would also lead to the Local Plan being found unsound.		sufficient resources (personnel and funding) available to develop evidence base requirements.
Employment of external consultants and agencies to carry out technical/specialist areas of the evidence base.	In-sufficient capacity to draft appropriate project briefs and procure services from consultants	Medium	Ensure team members have skills and abilities to procure relevant studies and are supported to do this, also with support to undertake procurement exercises within the council's financial procedure rules.
Dependence on external consultants and other external organisations for completion of evidence studies and successful partnership working	The inability of others to fulfil project obligations in an efficient, effective and timely manner could cause unacceptable delay and/or result in incomplete evidence and support through Examination.	Medium	Proactive and appropriate project management, cooperation and monitoring of project. Appropriate service level agreement between parties. Ensure regular updates and support at Examination is a component of the contract.
Changes to spatial strategy as a result of evidence indicate that the current spatial strategy is not the most sustainable option or the council may decide to take a different approach to delivering place making and	Slippage to the timetable would occur and further consultation would need to be undertaken	Medium	The timetable would have to reverse a step and a further Regulation 18 consultation stage of the plan would need to be undertaken.

growth in the borough			
Changes to legislative framework or regulations – including Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill (LURB), review of NPPF and standard methodology for calculating housing need	Additional work to comply with changes to requirements for Local Plan and/or significant changes to the planning process would result in delays to plan production and the need to carry out further consultation	High	Ensure staff keep up to date with progress of the LURB etc especially any transitional arrangements and engage in any consultations/training events to anticipate incoming changes. Ensure work programme and
Reduction in Financial Resources required for Local Plan production (either in house council budgets or other external funding)	Delays in the production of the required evidence base and submission for Examination	Medium/High	Ensure that production for the Local Plan is appropriately budget profiled and funding ring fenced to complete the project. Look to make savings where possible, such as joint commissioning of any additional studies. Ensure regular budget monitoring to identify any funding gaps or savings to be made. See additional grant funding where possible.
Political change (borough) – following May 2023 local elections	Political priorities may shift, new portfolio holder/members take time to get up to speed, new administration may request substantial amendments to the plan	Medium/High	Ensure regular briefings are well attended by Members from all political parties, ensure early Member engagement on Local Plan issues soon after elections, SLT support Local Plan production and engagement with Members
Delays in formal decision making	Would result in slippage to	Low/Medium	Ensure all Members are fully briefed and

	timetable and potentially miss key milestones		engaged with prior to formal decision making. Early and regular engagement with SLT and Democratic Services where a formal decision needs to be accommodated within the democratic process.
Failure to meet the legal Duty to Cooperate	Could result in lengthy delays to plan production and potential for significant challenge at Examination and plan being found unsound	Medium/High	Ensure ongoing and effective engagement with DtC partners at officer and Member level where appropriate
Policy team required to do other un-programmed work including ad hoc requests such as advice on planning applications or appeals plus support of neighbourhood planning	Diverts team resources which may impact on progress and meeting key milestones.	Low/Medium	Local Plan recognition as a corporate priority and non-essential work minimised. Ensure early and regular engagement between planning colleagues to highlight where team capacity to take on other tasks will be limited. Clear service level agreement with neighbourhood planning groups and regular communication.
Joint working with neighbouring authorities and other organisations	Potential delays if key evidence base studies or Statements of Common Ground are not signed off by all relevant parties	Low/Medium	Ensure a robust approach to agreeing briefs, project timescales and contributions for any jointly commissioned work. Ensure early engagement on Statements of Common Ground with relevant parties.
Poor	Lack of	Medium	Ensure effective

communication with Parishes, residents and other community stakeholders	understanding and resultant support for vision and policy direction could lead to strong objections and challenges at Examination. Could lead to plan being found unsound. Potential for reputational damage and poor media coverage.		engagement with parishes and other key community stakeholders through the further development of the plan. Explain the importance of having an effective Local Plan in place. Undertake effective communication aimed at a wide-demographic.
Higher than expected response to formal Local Plan consultation	Analysis of responses is very time consuming and may result in significant changes to the plan to be made which would also affect the timetable and key milestones	Medium	Have a contingency in place to deploy additional resources for recording and appraising responses. Build in sufficient capacity within timetable to analyse responses.
Planning Inspectorate capacity to examine Local Plan	Delay in Examination of the Local Plan or receipt of the Inspector's Report will delay its adoption.	Medium/High	Close liaison with the Planning Inspectorate in the run up to submission of the plan for Examination. Take advantage of exploratory meeting invitation from PINs prior to submission
Additional requirements from the Inspector during Examination	Likely to cause delay to the hearing sessions and may require additional consultation to be undertaken. This may incur additional costs	Medium	Ensure submitted plan meets statutory requirements and national guidance and is based on robust evidence. Ensure team members and other support agents are thoroughly prepared to defend the plan through

			Examination
Potential third party challenges to the emerging new Local Plan (including any legal challenge when the plan is found sound)	Delays adoption of the Local Plan and delivery of the plans vision and objections. Possibility of the whole or part of the plan being quashed and therefore the need to start afresh.	Medium	Ensure plan complies with legislation and guidance and a robust evidence base underpins policies and spatial approach of the Local Plan. Seek Counsel advice early if a challenge is likely and anticipated.

4. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT DOCUMENT PROFILES

Local Plan Development Plan Document

Overview	
Role and subject	The Local Plan will set out the overall development strategy for Hinckley & Bosworth Borough for the period up to 2041. It will include strategic policies and allocate sites to meet identified development needs for homes, jobs retail, recreation/open space, nature conservation and other required land uses as identified by evidence. It will provide appropriate policies and guidance by which to determine planning applications for example design guidance, climate change adaptation, conservation, and protection of natural resources.
Geographical coverage	Borough-wide
Document type	Development Plan Document
Chain of conformity	It must be in conformity with the National Planning Policy Framework and reflect the Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Growth Plan
Timetable	
Stage	Target date
Consultation on the Scope and Issues and Options	January-February 2018
Public consultation on New Directions for Growth paper	January- February 2019
Public consultation on Draft Plan (Regulation 18)	June-August 2021
Public consultation on submission Draft Plan (Regulation 19)	February – March 2022
Completion of outstanding evidence	December 2022 – May 2024
Public consultation on submission Draft Plan (Regulation 19)	May – June 2024
Submission to Secretary of State (Regulation 22)	August 2024
Estimated date for examination	December 2024/January 2025
Programmed date for adoption	August 2025

Arrangements for Production	
Organisational lead	The Planning Policy Team
Management arrangements	The Planning Policy Team will co-ordinate and manage work on a day to day basis. Elected Members will be briefed at pertinent stages in order to be appraised of the evidence findings and inform plan development.
External resources	<p>Support from Leicestershire County Council</p> <p>Formal and informal consultation responses from external stakeholders and service and infrastructure providers.</p> <p>Consultants to assist with the preparation of evidence-based documents and attendance at examination as required.</p>
Stakeholder and community involvement	Stakeholder and community engagement and consultation will be essential at each stage of production and the arrangements for this will be in line with the Local Plan Regulations and the Council's Statement of Community Involvement.
Monitoring and review	The DPD will be subject to regular monitoring and review to test the effectiveness of the policies and delivery of site allocations and the findings reported on an annual basis through the Authority Monitoring Report.

Gypsy and Traveller Allocations and Site Development, Development Plan Document

Overview	
Role and subject	To provide a policy framework containing land allocations and site specific guidance for gypsy and traveller pitches/sites up to 2041, in accordance with identified needs and evidence and the vision and spatial strategy set out in the Local Plan. The DPD will include the identification of sites for gypsy and traveller accommodations and will contain policies relating to proposals that require site specific conditions such as design guidance, conservation and protection of open spaces and criteria based policies against which planning applications for the development and use of land and buildings will be considered.
Geographical coverage	Borough-wide
Document type	Development Plan Document
Chain of conformity	It must be in conformity with the Local Plan and the National Planning Policy Framework and Planning Policy for Traveller Sites
Timetable	
Stage	Target date
Consultation on the Scope and Issues and Options	October 2024
Public consultation on Draft Plan (Regulation 18)	March 2025
Public consultation on submission Draft Plan (Regulation 19)	October 2025
Submission to Secretary of State (Regulation 22)	December 2025
Estimated programmed date for examination	April 2026
Programmed date for adoption	December 2026

