



Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council

**Local Development Scheme
2020 – 2025**

February 2024

CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION.....	2
What is the Local Development Scheme?.....	2
Current Hinckley & Bosworth Local Plan	2
Local Development Documents.....	2
Other Key Plans and Strategies	4
Programme of work 2020 – 2025	5
2. THE HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME	8
3. MANAGEMENT OF DEVELOPMENT PLAN PREPARATION	11
4. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT DOCUMENT PROFILES	14
Local Plan Development Plan Document	14
5. Appendix 1	14
Local Development Scheme Programme	14

1. INTRODUCTION

What is the Local Development Scheme?

- 1.1 Section 15 of 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 December 2022. 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 particular 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 allocations 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 November 2023):
 - 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 at following link: [Neighbourhood planning | Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council \(hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk\)](https://www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk/Neighbourhood-planning).

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 particular 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 for example a further revision of the NPPF is published.
- 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 area (HMA) and functional economic market area (FEMA) 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 employment 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 employment 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.
- 1.19 The County Council has recently began the process to prepare LTP4 but no firm timetable for this work has been set at this time.

Other documents

- 1.20 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

- 1.21 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.
- 1.22 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.

- 1.23 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.
- 1.24 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. 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.

Good Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document

- 2.3 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

- 2.4 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

- 2.5 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.
- 2.6 The Hinckley & Bosworth Policies Map will be updated to illustrate Development Plan Documents as they are adopted.

Changes to the LDS Programme since December 2022

- 2.8 Since publication of the previous LDS there has been other relevant changes proposed at national government level that need to be taken

account of. In December 2022, the government published two consultations that affect plan making, these being reforms to national planning policy and proposed changes to the wording of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The changes consulted on were proposed to come into effect once the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill received Royal Assent (this has now happened as of 8 November 2023). Within these consultations was the requirement that government expected all local plans prepared under the current plan making system to be submitted for statutory examination by 25 June 2025 with a view that they are adopted by 31 December 2026.

- 2.9 A further specific consultation on local (and mineral and waste) plans was published in July 2023. Plan-making reforms: consultation on implementation set out proposals to make local plans simpler, faster to prepare and more accessible. The key change is the expectation that more streamlined plans will be prepared in a 30-month timeframe. The government's intention is to bring in the new plan making system once the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act becomes legislation but no strict timetable for secondary legislation to enact the plan making element has been set. However, transitional arrangements allow the council to continue to progress the Local Plan under the current system as long as the 30 June 2025 deadline is adhered to.
- 2.10 Since the previous update to the Local Plan, the Policy Team have revisited the proposed Local Plan evidence base and evidence produced thus far to ensure that it remains relevant and appropriate to inform the Local Plan and the plan timeframe to 2041. Because of the changes set out in paragraph 3.2 there has been a need to update some pieces of evidence such as our housing and employment studies and playing pitch assessment. Other evidence work that was in process such as the highways modelling work, infrastructure capacity study and viability work are progressing well. However, emerging indications from the evidence work and other considerations is indicating that the current development strategy of a 70/30% urban/rural split for new growth may not be deliverable. In order to consider an alternative development strategy, we will need to undertake a further Regulation 18 consultation. It is proposed that this further consultation takes place in summer 2024 and then Regulation 19 pre-submission consultation can take place winter 2024. This allows the council to still meet the government's June 2025 deadline. The previous report to the LDS review in December 2022 highlighted (in paragraph 3.11) that it may be necessary to undertake a further consultation to agree a new development strategy for the plan.
- 2.11 Attached to this report is the proposed new LDS timetable for progressing the Local Plan. The revised timetable sees the production of the plan, submission for Examination and eventual adoption extending into 2025. As detailed above, the amended timescale is considered necessary to allow the council to undertake further Regulation 18 consultation but also to identify sufficient housing and

employment sites to meet our identified needs and complete critical pieces of evidence such as highways and infrastructure. Having a complete evidence base at time of submission reduces risk such as prolonged hearing sessions or being deemed unsound before Examination.

- 2.12 The revised timetable will influence the determination of planning applications, in that the Council will have an increasingly out of date local plan against which decisions will be made. This will mean that there is an increased risk of a longer period during which the Council will be susceptible to NPPF paragraph 11d decisions, especially in the absence of a 5-year land supply.

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 has 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:

Identified Risk	Level of Risk	Potential Mitigation
Staff resources and capacity	High	<p>Consider options on staff retention and skills including converting fixed term contracts to permanent posts.</p> <p>Consider potential for joint working arrangements with other local authorities and other agencies.</p> <p>Review timescales where significant capacity issues arise.</p>
Changes to and/or uncertainty about national policy and/or legislation	High	<p>Keep up to date with national policy and/or legislative change.</p> <p>Make appropriate changes to emerging plans and</p>

		<p>policies as necessary and undertake further evidence gathering and consultation where required.</p> <p>Review timescales where necessary.</p> <p>The forthcoming changes to the planning system in the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023 will have a significant impact on the plan making process. Transitional arrangements have been put in place to allow Ipas to continue to make plans under the current system until secondary legislation is published.</p>
Political issues	Medium/High	<p>Have in place robust political management arrangements.</p> <p>Early and ongoing dialogue with Members, particularly at key stages of the plan preparation.</p>
Lack of capacity/resources within external organisations including the Planning Inspectorate	Medium	<p>Early and ongoing engagement with key organisations will help to identify capacity issues should they seem likely.</p> <p>Enter into a Service Level Agreement with the Planning Inspectorate for the Examination process.</p> <p>Review timescales where necessary.</p>
Financial considerations	Low/medium	<p>Make an annual contributions to Local Plan preparation reserve.</p>

		Keep the Planning department business plan up to date.
Slippage in strategic evidence gathering/planning timetable or other Duty to Cooperate matters	Medium/High	<p>Continued representation and engagement in strategic work will ensure any slippage is identified early.</p> <p>Ensure positive discussion and agreement where possible regarding cross-boundary issues.</p> <p>Review timescales where necessary.</p>
Legal compliance and soundness tests not met at examination or post examination legal challenge	Medium	<p>Ensure legal and procedural requirements as set out in the relevant regulations have been met.</p> <p>Seek appropriate legal advice as necessary.</p>

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 start 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 – February 2025
Public consultation on Draft Plan (Regulation 18)	June – July 2024
Public consultation on submission Draft Plan (Regulation 19)	January – February 2025
Submission to Secretary of State (Regulation 22)	By 30 June 2025 (at the latest)
Estimated date for examination	September 2025 to November 2025
Programmed date for adoption	January/February 2026

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.

