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Oxford City Council

Local Development Scheme 2019 - 2022

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Introduction

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 introduced the requirement for councils to prepare and maintain a Local Development Scheme (LDS). The LDS sets out the work programme for the preparation of documents to be included in the Local Plan. This document supersedes the Oxford 2018-2021 LDS.

What is the Local Development Scheme?

This LDS is a three year project plan for preparing documents and provides the starting point for the local community, businesses, developers and other interested parties to find out what the City Council's current planning policies are for the area. It includes 'milestones' to inform the public about opportunities to get involved with the plan making process and to let them know the likely dates for involvement. The LDS is published on the City Council's website at www.oxford.gov.uk/lds.

Oxford's Local Plan

Oxford's Local Plan contains a range of documents to guide development within Oxford. The term Local Plan is the collective name for those planning documents produced by the Council which comprise the Development Plan. Applications for planning permission are to be determined in accordance with the Development Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

Documents in the statutory development plan

Council produced documents within the statutory development plan are subject to extensive community and stakeholder involvement, and an independent examination by an Inspector to ensure that the necessary legal requirements for the preparation of the document have been met and the document is 'sound'. All these documents will be subject to the European Strategic Environment Assessment Directive and will incorporate a sustainability appraisal to ensure that they accord with the principles of sustainable development. They must be consistent with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)

SPDs provide further details and guidance to supplement policies. SPDs are adopted by the City Council following public consultation, and are not part of the statutory Development Plan.

Documents in Oxford's Local Plan

Currently, the statutory Development Plan consists of:

- Saved policies of the Oxford Local Plan 2001-2016 (November 2006)
- Oxford Core Strategy (March 2011)
- Sites and Housing Plan (February 2013)
- Barton Area Action Plan (December 2012)
- Northern Gateway Area Action Plan (July 2015)
- Policies Map (2015)

- Headington Neighbourhood Plan (July 2017)
- Summertown and St Margaret's Neighbourhood Plan (April 2019)

In addition, there are the following documents:

- Natural Resource Impact Analysis SPD (November 2006)
- Parking Standards, Transport Assessments and Travel Plans SPD (February 2007)
- Telecommunications SPD (September 2007)
- Balance of Dwellings SPD (January 2008)
- Affordable Housing and Planning Obligations SPD (September 2013)
- Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule (October 2013)
- Oxpens Masterplan SPD (November 2013)
- Jericho Canalside SPD (December 2013)
- Diamond Place SPD (July 2015)
- Statement of Community Involvement in Planning (July 2015)
- Oxford Station SPD (November 2017)

Policies Map

The Policies Map 2015 (previously referred to as the Proposals map) illustrates graphically the policies and proposals of the Local Plan. The Policies Map 2015 will be revised and updated as new policies are adopted.

Other Documents

Oxfordshire Plan 2050

The Oxfordshire Plan 2050 (previously known as the Joint Statutory Spatial Plan) will set out strategic policies to deal with key issues for Oxfordshire with a cross-boundary approach. Work on the Plan will be undertaken during the LDS period, with the intention of adopting the Plan in 2022. This timetable is as per the [latest Oxfordshire Plan Update](#) report submitted to the Oxfordshire Growth Board in September 2019.

Statement of Community Involvement in Planning (SCIP)

The Statement of Community Involvement in Planning sets out how the Council will involve the community in the planning process, including Local Plans and Development Management. It sets out the activities that the Council will undertake to reach stakeholders and the public during the various stages of preparation of Local Plan documents. The most recent SCIP was adopted at City Executive Board on 9th July 2015. It can be viewed at www.oxford.gov.uk/sci.

Consultation has been at the heart of development of the submitted Draft Local Plan at every stage and has helped to inform and shape it. The most recent consultation was undertaken in December 2018 prior to submitting the Draft Local Plan to the Planning Inspectorate (otherwise known as Reg 19 consultation). The [Consultation Statement](#) and a [summary of the responses received to the Draft Local Plan](#) have been published on the Council's website.

Annual Monitoring Report

Each year the City Council produces an Annual Monitoring Report, which is approved at the City Cabinet in the autumn. The Annual Monitoring Report has the following main functions:

- to measure progress made in respect of the planning documents being prepared;
- to review the effectiveness of the adopted planning policies;
- to monitor the extent to which policies and targets in adopted documents are being achieved against a range of indicators.

All of the Annual Monitoring Reports produced by the City Council can be viewed on the City Council's website at www.oxford.gov.uk/amr.

Neighbourhood Plans

The Localism Act introduced new rights and powers to enable communities to get directly involved in planning for their areas. Neighbourhood planning allows communities to come together through a parish council or formal neighbourhood forum and produce a neighbourhood plan. Neighbourhoods can decide what they want to cover in their neighbourhood plan. They may allocate land for development, or influence the type and design of development that comes forward. Neighbourhood plans must however be in general conformity with the strategic planning policies already adopted by the City Council. They should not promote less development than set out in the Local Plan and/or undermine its strategic policies. They are also subject to an independent examination and need to be approved by a majority vote in a local referendum.

Once plans are adopted they will become part of the Development Plan. To date, Oxford City Council has formally designated four neighbourhood areas where plans are being led by neighbourhood forums. Two Neighbourhood Plans, Headington and Summertown and St Margaret's are made. The remaining neighbourhood areas, which are at various stages of plan production, are:

- Littlemore; and
- Wolvercote.

Technical Advice Notes (TANs)

Oxford City Council is producing a series of Technical Advice Notes (TANs). These provide technical advice to developers and decision-makers. TANs are not adopted planning policy documents. TANs may be updated from time to time, to reflect changing circumstances or in light of new examples of best practice. To date the following TANs have been published:

- Tan 1A: Space Standards for Residential Development
- TAN 2: Energy Statement
- TAN 3: Waste Storage
- TAN 4: Community Pubs
- TAN 5: External Wall Insulation
- TAN 6: Residential Basement Development
- TAN 7: High Buildings

- TAN8: Biodiversity

All of the technical advice notes produced by the City Council can be viewed on the City Council's website at:

<http://www.oxford.gov.uk/PageRender/decP/PlanningPolicyTechnicalAdviceNotes.htm>

Work Programme for 2019-2022

During the period covered by this LDS, the City Council will produce the following documents:

- Oxford Local Plan 2036

Local Plan 2016-2036

The City Council is producing a Local Plan covering the period to 2036, 10 years beyond the current period of the Core Strategy. This will ensure that development in Oxford continues to come forward and be considered in a plan-led system. This Local Plan has now been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for Examination.

The Area Action Plans (AAPs) the City Council has produced work well as stand-alone documents and will remain in place as separate documents. There may be a need for a new specific separate document to be produced in the future. However, the City Council has taken the opportunity to review all its development plan documents (other than the AAPs) and to contain the majority of its policies in one place.

The following table shows the planning policy documents that will be replaced by the Oxford Local Plan 2036. After the council meeting to approve submission of the pre submission draft, that draft will be used as a material consideration in development management decisions on planning applications.

Existing/expired documents	Replacement documents
Saved policies of the Oxford Local Plan 2001-2016 (November 2006)	Policies will be superseded on adoption of Oxford Local Plan 2036
Oxford Core Strategy (March 2011)	
Sites and Housing Plan (February 2013)	
Policies map	Will be updated on adoption of Oxford Local Plan 2036
West End Area Action Plan (June 2008)	Will not be replaced by Oxford Local Plan 2036. Now expired. Policies of the Local Plan will be relevant in the area, and will ensure Station SPD, Oxpens SPD and the Design Code can still be used.
Barton Area Action Plan (December 2012)	Will not be replaced by Oxford Local Plan 2036, although policies of the Local Plan will be relevant in the area and some policies may be superseded.
Northern Gateway Area Action Plan (July 2015)	Will not be replaced by Oxford Local Plan 2036, although policies of the Local Plan will be relevant in the area and some policies may be superseded.

Local Plan policies will be supported by new and existing SPDs and its implementation supported by the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).

Oxford City Council is in the process of reviewing its CIL alongside the Oxford Local Plan 2036. The CIL Charging Schedule was subject to two stages of public consultation before its submission to the Planning Inspectorate for Examination.

The Council's Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule was published for consultation in October 2018 and the Draft Charging Schedule was published for consultation in November 2018.

As part of the process of reviewing the Community Infrastructure Levy, Oxford City Council submitted the Draft Charging Schedule with a statement of Modification and accompanying evidence to the Planning Inspectorate in June 2019. The submission documents and evidence base are located in the Council's [CIL examination library](#).

